

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **New \$2.3M Pilot Boat Commissioned by Darwin Port**

Today, Darwin Port commissioned its new \$2.3 Million purpose-built pilot transfer vessel, wholly constructed in Australia by Norman Wright and Sons.

Officially named by Mrs Marie Hardy in honour of the tradition in ship naming, ‘Delirra’ was welcomed with the pouring champagne on her bow and a traditional Larrakia smoking ceremony, to honour her important role in Darwin Harbour.

Delirra, named following consultation with the Larrakia, synergises the role of the pilot boat and its relationship with the traditional custodians of the land and sea on which it will operate. The name itself means ‘guiding light’.

“Delirra takes port capability in pilotage to a whole new level, the state of the art design and navigation technology is leading edge. The 15 metre vessel was constructed over the last 12 months and was purposely designed to meet the sea conditions experienced in Darwin harbour”, said Terry O’Connor, Darwin Port Chief Executive.

Landbridge Darwin Port continue to recognise the importance of investing in port capability and the local economy. The construction of Delirra was subject to a wholly Australian design and build approach, with some of the safety equipment sourced locally from Darwin.

“Historically, Darwin Port has operated one full time pilot boat, the Lamaroo, which was commissioned in 2012. In her short time, she has performed more than 7,262 pilot transfers and worked around 8,147 hours. Today we welcome the newest pilot vessel to our fleet, Delirra. Together with Lamaroo, Delirra allows Darwin Port to offer a high quality and effective service, which has been deliberate in our meeting the demands with the commencement of the new INPEX LNG ships, which will realise one LNG tanker a day through Darwin Harbour from towards the end of 2017”, said Mr O’Connor.

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