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### **AUSTRALIAN FLOATING DECKS LAUNCHED IN THE PILBARA**

A new Western Australian company has been established to provide highly innovative marine infrastructure and logistics models.

Australian Floating Decks founder Captain Paul Toussaint-Jackson has designed and developed the concepts for innovative, rapidly constructed marine infrastructure that provides greatly expanded capacity for a much lower cost than conventional infrastructure.

Readily adaptable for coastal or riverine environments, two of Captain Toussaint-Jackson's concept models are under development by private proponents at the Port of Dampier and have attracted significant investment.

Several of the concept models use either fixed or moving giant platforms termed 'floating decks' to provide valuable wharf and handling space. The moving system is designed to facilitate direct shipping between Asia and the Pilbara and will be a logistics game changer for project and general cargo in the Pilbara, Captain Toussaint-Jackson said.

The floating deck concept models can remove the need for dredging yet enable the port to accommodate very large cargo vessels.

"Shallow water is now a logistics opportunity rather than a problem," Captain Toussaint-Jackson said. "My models are designed to greatly reduce the intrusion on the environment and heritage areas but provide industry with expanded capability."

Australian Floating Decks has been awarded a contract with the newly-created Pilbara Ports Authority to facilitate development of the floating deck projects at Dampier.

The innovative solution to marine logistics constraints has also sparked interest further afield and Australian Floating Decks is doing marine supply chain and infrastructure design work for several overseas clients.

"Australian Floating Decks' innovative solutions provide unique, cost-effective, rapid development installations with a high degree of flexibility and adaptability," Captain Toussaint-Jackson said. "They provide the same or better capability as conventional infrastructure for a much lower cost. They are equally as useful in developed ports or greenfield sites."

"These are affordable, robust infrastructure solutions that can be very long-term installations or easily packed away to be used elsewhere," he said. "They are readily adaptable to cyclone-prone areas."

The floating decks are highly adaptable for a wide range of cargo use including forward supply base, general stevedoring, project cargo and bulk handling. The floating decks can handle giant pre-assembled modular cargo weighing thousands of tonnes.

These solutions provide crucial relief to supply chain constraints for the oil and gas, mining and general freight industries.

For more information go to [www.australianfloatingdecks.com.au](http://www.australianfloatingdecks.com.au)

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