

2020 A YEAR OF BREAKING RECORDS IN THE HANDLING OF REEFERS

[Durban – Thursday, 13 August 2020] The Transnet Port Terminals (TPT) in Durban and Ngqura recently handled an export record of over 900 refrigerated containers (reefers) packed with South Africa's citrus fruits that were destined for the Far East markets. According to General Manager of Sales and New Business Development Siyabulela Mhlaluka, "This is a 40.6% increase from the previous record of 535 – volumes carried aboard shipping line Maersk".

This is the fifth record in the current calendar year, an achievement Mhlaluka attributes to solid planning, flexibility, agility and good customer interaction. Twice, grape exports to the European market exceeded previous records through the Cape Town Container Terminal (CTCT). This citrus season has already bagged a record of over 1700 reefers handled at the Port Elizabeth Container Terminal (PECT); another additional record is the movement of 600 reefers to the Middle East destinations in one week via the Durban Container Terminal (DCT), for the first time ever. "We run a tight ship and circumstances have not always been favourable especially as we navigate COVID-19. But through integrated approaches with our customer and the commitment of an outstanding team, we've been able to put our best foot forward for both the customer and South Africa," said Mhlaluka.

Transnet Port Terminals (TPT) is tracking ahead of a planned 13% citrus export volume increase in 2020 across four of its 19 terminals. In the face of COVID19, actual citrus volumes are 29.4% higher across all terminals combined when compared to prior year volumes.

In a separate incident, South Africa's wine producers have commended TPT efforts in Cape Town that improved capacity and turnaround times. This resulted in the wine industry exporting 38 million litres of wine in July this year, 31% more than the previous month of June. "When customers share their feedback with us, it goes a lot way in improving employee morale and we always ensure to cascade it back to the team," said Mhlaluka.

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Transnet Port Terminals (TPT) is South Africa's leading terminal operator responsible for loading and offloading cargo aboard vessels calling the seven South African ports. Boasting a staff compliment of over 9000 across 16 sea terminals and 3 inland terminals, TPT's

operations target four major market sectors namely: automotive, containers, bulk and break bulk. Current plans are focused on geographic expansion, service innovation and diversification aided by competitive approaches hinted by the fourth industrial revolution.

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