



# Case Study:

## Future proofing Port Adelaide

The shipping channel at Outer Harbor, Port Adelaide, is a busy hub that sees hundreds of trade and cruise vessels come and go each year, transporting goods and tourists into and out of South Australia.

### Objective

The Port was facing future challenges with infrastructure unable to accommodate the global trend of shipping liners using larger, more economical vessels. There was a need to widen the channel and swing basin to maintain competitiveness with other Australian capital city Ports – most of which were already able to accommodate wider Post Panamax vessels without operational restrictions.

### Activity

In May 2018, the State Government granted Flinders Ports development approval to widen the Outer Harbor shipping channel. After extensive community and stakeholder consultation and with all relevant licences and clearances in place, dredging began in June 2019.

In collaboration with internationally recognised dredging and marine expert Boskalis, the channel was widened to 170 metres with the swing basin widened to 560 metres.

### Result

Outer Harbor can now accommodate container ships and cruise ships with a maximum width of 49 metres without operational restrictions.

The project was completed on schedule within 5 months and in line with all environmental requirements. In 2020, the Environment Protection Authority's independent monitoring survey also confirmed that the project resulted in no adverse impacts on seagrass.

### Port Adelaide is a tidal port with the geographic coordinates:

Latitude 34 degrees 51 minutes south

Longitude 138 degrees 30 minutes east



Upgrading  
infrastructure to  
future proof Port  
Adelaide