

WHAT IS NCOS ONLINE?

NCOS ONLINE, is an integrated next generation traffic management system that allows Ports to safely cater for larger cargo ships and avoid environmentally sensitive dredging programs.

Many Ports use older generation under keel clearance (UKC) systems that do not incorporate the full 3D characteristics of modern larger vessels to allocate sailing windows. Therefore, they are not able to maximise the capacity of existing shipping channels resulting in regular larger-scale dredging programs.

NCOS ONLINE is the world's first vessel UKC forecast management system with the same high level of accuracy as a Full Mission Bridge Ship Simulator SIMPLEX by FORCE Technology, utilised to train pilots and mariners.

The cloud based system makes millions of calculations a second based on channel depth,

weather conditions, and vessel configurations to more accurately produce optimal sailing windows for larger ships.

This dramatically increases operational flexibility and safety for shipping customers, and reduces dredging requirements.

In the first eight months of NCOS ONLINE operation at The Port of Brisbane, the Port has tripled the number of bulk carriers departing with a draft greater than 14 metres, and achieved a 233% increase in container ships with a draft greater than 13 metres compared to the year prior dynamic under keel clearance system.

Port of Brisbane Chief Executive Officer, Roy Cummins, said the Port of Brisbane was determined to ensure its capacity for catering for larger vessels continues to grow.

"Our new channel clearance system (NCOS ONLINE) has been in place since August (2017), and the recent record-breaking visit by the first 9500 TEU vessel to visit the port, the Susan Maersk, is a testament to its capability,"

Mr Cummins

"It means that we can more safely and accurately determine the under-keel clearance needed to cater for larger vessels, providing safety and flexibility benefits for customers and reducing the need for additional, expensive dredging. "By implementing NCOS and working with our partners, we are delivering on our commitment to never be the limiting factor for shipping on the east coast of Australia."

