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**FTA**  
FREIGHT & TRADE ALLIANCE

## JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

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### Don't Let Container Detention Dampen Easter and ANZAC Spirit

Leading industry representative bodies Freight & Trade Alliance (FTA) and Container Transport Alliance Australia (CTAA) have received feedback from major shipping lines that they will consider extending container detention over the Easter and ANZAC Day public holiday period only on a "case by case" basis.

FTA Director, Paul Zalai argues that a revised response is warranted seeing that the empty container depots contracted by the shipping lines will be closed on the upcoming public holidays. "So, where do they expect the empty containers to be returned? Perhaps we should just have them stacked outside the shipping lines' plush city offices."

Zalai stated that FTA would be delighted to showcase any shipping line that offers a blanket extension of container detention over the next two weeks.

"In the absence of such advice, importers, freight forwarders and customs brokers should review their consignment timings and immediately test shipping lines by requesting empty container "free time" extensions to avoid significant container detention bills."

In addition, continuing union work bans are still affecting some container terminals delaying the container logistics chain even further.

CTAA Director, Neil Chambers added that "it's unrealistic for the import sector or shipping lines to believe that transport operators will work miracles and magically be able to de-hire all the empties within the times imposed."

"Transport companies are frankly over this burden. They are enforcing their terms to require adequate business days' notice of empties being available for de-hire. Also, they are telling their clients that they will not be responsible for the added costs of container detention where the delays are due to depot closures / lack of operating hours, or other reasons outside of their control."

"The spirit of Easter and ANZAC Day could be easily dampened by costly container detention bills from shipping lines. Time for importers and their freight forwarding and logistics providers to push back."

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*Freight & Trade Alliance (FTA) is Australia's leading representative body for the international supply chain sector bringing together importers, exporters, customs brokers, freight forwarders, logistics service providers and industry groups.*

*Container Transport Alliance Australia (CTAA) is strong Alliance of leading businesses engaged in the container transport logistics industry. CTAA Alliance companies account for the majority of containerised freight handled in capital city ports in Australia.*