

Maritime lawyers join forces

BY Alan Peat

A new force has emerged on the Durban maritime legal scene – with the amalgamation of two established outfits already specialising in the shipping, transport, logistics and insurance fields.

Durban maritime lawyers Andrew Pike and Mark van Velden are the two partners.

Andrew Pike



Pike is also known for his recent appointment as a board member of the Port Regulator, while Van Velden has notched up a decade of practice in London in the legal and P&I (protection and indemnity) sectors.

Van Velden Pike & Partners will effectively open their door on October 1, with a five-strong legal team, containing added maritime law experience.

Mark van Velden

Carbon footprint concern over exports

A recent CSIR carbon balance study provides some concerning comments for South Africa's export industry.

According to the study at least 129% more carbon is associated with a dollar earned with exports than a dollar spent on imports, and the carbon footprint of the outflows equates to 37%, on emissions of the total carbon of the economy.

"Such figures have serious policy-related implications in a future where international climate-change trade limitations will become stricter and binding," argue CSIR researchers Drs Alan Brent, Russell Wise and Sibbele Hiekkamp in a paper to be published shortly.

"A consequence of these stricter international requirements is that they will make South African exports with large associated carbon footprints uncompetitive."

Spreading the HIV message through innovation

BY Liesl Venter

Getting information to truckers who spend most of their time on the road can be challenging, but not for the Walvis Bay Corridor Group (WBCG) which is implementing innovative new ways to deliver necessary messages.

According to Agnetha Mouton, business development officer for WBCG, the recently launched Truckers' Health Information Toolkit is one such initiative.

"It is an absolute challenge to reach truckers at their respective workplaces, which is why it has become increasingly necessary to develop strategies that can reach them while they are on the road."

The toolkit, developed by the WBCG HIV/Aids Help Desk with the support of the German Development Agency (GTZ), consists of some basic first aid items as well as HIV/Aids wellness-related items such as brochures, male and



Truckers receive the Health Information Toolkit.

female condoms, and HIV/Aids policy booklets.

"The idea is to make these toolkits available to the entire

transport sector, but in the first phase they will be distributed amongst transport companies belonging to the Help Desk."



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