



05 March 2010

## **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **Introduction of an Equipment Handling Fee (EHF) for all inbound containers going into Papua New Guinea.**

Dear Valued Papua New Guinea Customers,

With effect from the end of March 2010, Sofrana will be introducing an Equipment Handling Fee (EHF) on all inbound containers going into Port Moresby, Lae and Rabaul.

This new charge has arisen from sweeping changes that have been made at all three PNG Ports. With effect from 01 February 2010, PNG Ports Corporation Limited has brought in significant changes to both the storage of full containers and empty containers within the Port Area.

Free time for full import and export containers has been markedly reduced. Whilst on the other hand, empty containers now have to be stored off wharf, until 5 days before the repatriating vessel arrives. Rabaul is the exception to this rule, however storage rates here have dramatically increased, with the free time now down to 5 days.

We are advised by PNG Ports Corporation that these changes have been brought about by a major increase in trade through the ports over recent years and a resulting increase in the number of empties being stored within the wharf area, thereby causing major space shortages for PNG PC going forward.

Sofrana has now concluded alternative long term off wharf depot agreements at Port Moresby and Lae. Though in order to recover the significant additional costs faced, we are introducing an EHF, at the following levels.

- |                     |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| ❖ Per 20' container | Kina 350.00 |
| ❖ Per 40' Container | Kina 560.00 |

The aforementioned Equipment Handling Fee is plus VAT and comes into effect from:

**Sofrana Tourville V138**

**eta Port Moresby: 26/03/2010**  
**eta Lae: 29/03/2010**  
**eta Rabaul: 02/04/2010**

We do apologise for the relatively short notice given, however we have been absorbing these increased charges since their inception and can no longer afford to do so.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact, our representatives in Papua New Guinea, Express Freight Management (EFM).

Your faithfully

Sofrana Unilines NZ Ltd.