

Dredging Industry Report

AIMPE Federal Council 2023



Prepared by

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Industry overview

The dredging industry has continued in the doldrums since 2015 and AIMPE membership in the sector reflects that downturn. There have been none of the massive capital dredging projects which took place during the so-called 'resources boom' between 2012 and 2014. Since then, the number of SD category members has dropped from 114 to just 5. The remaining SD members are mainly those who work on dredging vessels for Port Authorities.



RND Crewing

AIMPE has been able to gain two new members working for RND Crewing following intervening in the company application for a new Enterprise Agreement to cover the Modi R and the Viking R. The Rohde Neilsen group has the contract for dredging sand for Cockburn Cement in WA and has used the Modi R to deliver on this contract. They have also obtained some short term maintenance contracts including in Adelaide and the Tweed River.

However, when it came time to negotiate a new Agreement RND Crewing effectively excluded the unions. AIMPE and MUA opposed the company's application to terminate their old Agreements and were able to intervene in the application to approve the new Agreement.

After some to and fro, RND advised the Commissioner that they did not oppose MUA and AIMPE being covered by the Agreement so both unions will be able to assist our members who have any issues under the Agreement. The *RND Crewing Pty Ltd Agreement 2023* was made on 15 May 2023 and became effective 7 days later on 22 May 2023. The nominal expiry date of the Agreement is 14 May 2027.

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AOS Dredging Agreement

AIMPE has negotiated a new Dredging Agreement with AOS following advice that the company obtained a contract for supplying personnel for the Boskalis dredge Gateway. The Agreement is to be called *Australian Offshore Solutions (AOS) Pty Ltd and The Australian Institute of Marine and Power Engineers (AIMPE) Propelled Dredging Enterprise Agreement 2023*.

This will be the first new Propelled Dredging Agreement that AIMPE has achieved since the last major dredging boom a decade ago.

The dredge Gateway mobilised from Singapore on 12th May and arrived in Melbourne on 25th May to undertake maintenance dredging there. After that work it is due to go to Douglas Shoal and subsequently to the Scarborough Project for trenching. AOS advise that the Gateway will spend 100 days in Australia.