



# Utah Pt deal signals high mark for M&CC

**Rob McKay**

PERTH coastal building firm Marine & Civil Construction was enjoying its latest port contract late last month but keeping a weather eye on dark economic clouds on the horizon.

The company had made a \$35m Port Hedland Port Authority deal to build a new 17mtpa multi-user, small cape wharf facility at Utah Point as part of a \$225m development.

Marine & Civil was awarded the contract in late December and it was signed early last month, the Port Hedland Port Authority confirmed.

Marine & Civil business development director John Neylon said it was the biggest deal the firm had nailed at Port Hedland and was in its top three overall.

It had undertaken the extension of Berth 1 at the port in 2004, featuring a composite, in situ pre-cast deck.

"That plan, which was a design we instigated, was the same as Utah Point was based on," Mr Neylon said.

"I think it put us at the front of the pack as far as constructability was concerned."

Other important projects have included the Geraldton Port Authority's Berth 5 extension, construction of an iron ore load-out facility at Koolan Island, the Underwater Observatory in Busselton, the Cable Beach artificial



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surf reef, the Graham Farmer Freeway bridge piling and the Narrows Bridge Duplication piling and pile caps.

At Port Hedland, the company will build a 270-metre small cape berth for the export of iron ore, manganese and chromite adjacent to 14.2 metre deep berthing pocket that has already been dredged.

Other assets to be built include:

- a 7,500tph travelling shiploader;
- a 6 metre high elevated tripper conveyor;
- a 1.5 km conveyor system including transfer towers from stockyard to shiploader;
- a weightometer and sample station;

- a 800 metre x 180 metre multi-user stockyard with banded seawall;
- a material reclaim system from multi-user stockpiles;
- road train unloading facilities;
- roads, water and power mains;
- environmental protection and water treatment;
- buildings and other infrastructure.

While admitting "flying under the radar" in the past, Civil & Marine has raised its profile of late, being a sponsor of the Fremantle Football Club, along with Oakajee preferred tenderer Oakajee Port and Rail.

Mr Neylon said he was confident that Oakajee would go ahead, given the state government's backing, though other projects were now a harder sell than they were six months ago.



WINNER: John Neylon.