



Global Seafood Australia LTD

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Global Seafood Australia signs major Tuna Deal

An agreement between Global Seafood Australia Limited and Viking Industries Ltd is expected to see Brisbane establish itself as a major tuna port in Australia.

In a deal finalised today, Global Seafood will have the use of 15 Berths at Hemmant, near its processing facility, to accommodate long line fishing vessels up to 35 metres long.

The Berths will be built by BMIP subject to them obtaining all required development and regulatory approvals.

If all goes to plan the berths should be up and running within months giving Brisbane its only purpose built facility to receive tuna and swordfish.

The development, while boosting Global Seafood's tuna operations substantially, will have flow-on benefits for the community.

The Executive Director of the East Coast Tuna Boat Owners Association, Hans Jusseit, says it's a positive development for Queensland, which receives most of the country's tuna.

"We need extra infrastructure to allow the industry to reach its full potential. Mooloolaba is currently the nation's biggest tuna port but it's nearing its capacity. Brisbane will now have the potential to become a major port. The competition can only be good for the industry," Mr Jusseit said.

"This is an exciting step for us because we will create a direct exclusive supply chain between long-line fishing vessels and our processing centre. Add to that our four valuable Tuna Fishing Permits which will become Statutory Fishing Rights and the future is looking good", Global Seafood Managing Director Neal Harris said.

Global Seafood has identified potential expansion of its tuna exports to Japan and the US as well as the massive market in Europe. The company also has confidence in the Australian domestic market and is examining contract processing for farmed prawn products.

ENDS

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