

## **Media Release**

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23 October 2015

### ***Ports North welcomes the start of an exciting cruise shipping season for the City***

Ports North will welcome 38 cruise ship visits to the Port of Cairns over the next 12 months and herald the inaugural home porting of the P&O cruise ship *Pacific Aria*.

“In just a few more days, the arrival of *MS VOLENDAM* launches the 2015-16 cruise season and it is an exciting year, indeed,” Ports North Chairman Russell Beer said. “With the P&O home porting and maiden arrivals of *Pacific Aria* and *Pacific Eden*, as well as the maiden visits from *Super Star Virgo*, *Le Soleal* and *Azamara Quest*, our region is a very real player in the Australian Cruise industry.”

“The onset of the cruise season for the Port is always a great atmospheric boost, with colour, people and majestic ships parked right in the heart of the Cairns CBD,” Mr Beer said.

“Ports North and TTNQ have been working for a number of years to grow cruise shipping in the region and it is pleasing to see the success of these efforts being realised.”

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