

MEDIA RELEASE

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QUBE UNVEILS NEW LOCOS FEATURING INDIGENOUS ARTWORK

Qube has welcomed the last two locomotives of its new fleet of 20 UGL built QL Class locos at a ceremony at Broadmeadows today (Monday, 14 August 2023).

The new locos are wrapped in artwork by Indigenous artist and Wiradjuri man, Darren Charlwood, created for Qube's Reconciliation Action Plan. They were welcomed to the Qube fleet with a traditional smoking ceremony held by Randall Briggs on Awabakal land.

"Today is a really exciting day for Qube," says Qube Managing Director, Paul Digney. "The new locos will support our growing steel and agricultural business – helping our customers, communities, industries and people to thrive.

"I am very proud that these new locos feature the artwork from Qube's first Reconciliation Action Plan, which outlines how Qube will better work together with First Nations Australians to help close the gap and deliver mutually beneficial outcomes.

"Wrapping these locos in Darren's artwork is a further demonstration of our commitment.

"I hope that they inspire people to think about what they can do in support of reconciliation as they move around the Qube network."

The artwork, titled *Yindyamarra*, depicts the balance and interconnectedness that exists between people, the sea, and the country.

"Because Qube has operations all over Australia, I thought it was important to show all of those connections from the ports dotted all around the coastline, to the inland rivers, and the roads and the rail networks that span the country," says artist, Darren Charlwood.

"I also included Indigenous trade routes to show how enduring those connections are.

"The white motifs on the ocean symbolise movement, whether it be whales migrating or ships moving along the coastline, and the white lines around the coastline symbolise shipping channels.

"Along the Queensland coast, I have also used a more aqua shade to show the Great Barrier Reef and the red in the centre symbolises the desert.

"Everything exists in balance and is interconnected," Darren says.

Paul thanked UGL and Wabtec for delivering another two best in class locos.

The handover completes an order of 20 new locomotives, which Qube placed with UGL in February 2020.

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About Darren Charlwood

Darren was born in Sydney's Inner West and grew up in Redfern surrounded by the newly empowered Aboriginal community in the 1980s. He is a Wiradjuri man from the yabaay wagaan (wedge tail eagle and crow) mob in Wellington.

Darren began painting at a young age; however, it was not until 10 years ago that he began painting full time. Darren's art is deeply rooted in his experience as a Wiradjuri man, a father, a son and a member of the urban Aboriginal community of Sydney's Inner West.

He also draws heavily from his cultural knowledge of the environment and the Wiradjuri use of lines and patterns. Within the urban context, Darren produces pieces which reflect his environment. He makes use of recycled materials which come from the environment, something which is based on the Aboriginal traditional of using only what is needed from the environment.

Darren's work is his expression of Aboriginality and reflects his political perspectives in the resistance of Aboriginal people against colonial oppression and dispossession.

His art reflects the survival and adaptation of his people when faced with invasion and the sudden and violent change to their environment which came with it. The continuation of cultural practice is a protest in itself, as reflected in the endurance of the voices of Aboriginal people in Australia.

About Qube

Qube is Australia's largest integrated provider of import and export logistics services with a market capitalisation of around \$4.8 billion as at 30 June 2022.

We operate in over 160 locations across Australia, New Zealand and South East Asia with a workforce of over 8,200 employees.

Qube is comprised of two core divisions (Logistics and Infrastructure and Ports and Bulk) being the Operating Division and Qube's 50 per cent interest in Patrick Terminals, Australia's leading container terminal operator.

For more information visit www.qube.com.au

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