



News Release

12 August 2025 | *For immediate release*

Swire Shipping Introduces First-Ever Weekly Service Connecting North Asia to Papua New Guinea

- *Upgraded North Asia Express (NAX) service to offer market-leading speed and reliability with fixed-day weekly sailings*
- *Expands capacity with deployment of additional tonnage and the fastest direct connection from Lae to Shanghai*

Singapore – Swire Shipping, a leading shipping company in the Asia-Pacific, today announced a significant upgrade to its North Asia Express (NAX) service with the introduction of fixed-day weekly sailings and expanded capacity. Effective 22 August 2025, the service will offer market-leading speed and reliability, significantly enhancing connectivity between the Chinese Mainland, Hong Kong SAR and Papua New Guinea.

The upgraded NAX service will feature a weekly port rotation of **Shanghai – Ningbo – Nansha – Hong Kong – Lae – Shanghai**, with the fastest direct connection currently in the market from Lae to Shanghai. Reliable transshipment connections to Solomon Islands, New Caledonia and Fiji are available in Lae via Swire Shipping's service network in the South Pacific, through its Papua New Guinea (PNG) fortnightly service and Pacific Weekly Express (PWX) service.

This upgrade reflects Swire Shipping's ongoing commitment to supporting customer supply chains with dependable, high-frequency services across the region.

"Upgrading our North Asia Express (NAX) service to a weekly frequency doubles the number of sailings available to customers, giving them faster access to markets and more options to align shipments with production cycles, inventory needs, and delivery timelines," said **Randy Selvaratnam**, Chief Commercial Officer of Swire Shipping. "This reflects our continued investment in expanding capacity and high-frequency shipping solutions that support our customers' evolving supply chain needs."



The upgraded NAX service will be the second in Swire Shipping's comprehensive network in the Asia-Pacific to offer weekly connections into Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Islands. It follows the successful launch of the PWX service in February 2023, that connects Southeast Asia with Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, New Caledonia and Fiji on a weekly schedule. The NAX service was first launched in July 2015 to provide a direct link between North Asia and the South Pacific, and was upgraded in October 2020 to a fixed-day fortnightly service to better support customers' supply chains.

More information on the service details can be found on [Swire Shipping's website](#).

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Appendix – Upgraded NAX Weekly Sailing Schedule

Vessel	ETD North Asia	ETA Lae, PNG
Lae Chief	22 August 2025	7 September 2025
Kota Gabung	26 August 2025	14 September 2025
Motukea Chief	05 September 2025	21 September 2025
Lautoka Chief	09 September 2025	28 September 2025



About Swire Shipping

Swire Shipping, a leading shipping company in the Asia Pacific, is the wholly owned, deep-sea ship owning and operating arm of the multinational Swire group.

Headquartered in Singapore, Swire Shipping is dedicated to facilitating and growing trade in regions where it operates. Swire Shipping provides several high frequency liner shipping services and integrated logistics solutions in the Asia-Pacific; transpacific services between North Asia and the Pacific Northwest; and specialist shipping services to the global project logistics market under the brand name, Swire Projects. It specialises in providing a wide range of specialist customer solutions for containerised, projects, heavy lift, refrigerated, breakbulk and mini bulk cargoes. Swire Shipping maintains a worldwide agency network in addition to its own representative offices across the Asia-Pacific, Pacific Islands, North America, and Europe, providing customers with dedicated service and expert market knowledge.

For more information, please visit www.swireshipping.com.

Media contacts

Kevin LIM
Head of Corporate Communications, Swire Shipping
Tel: +65 9296 7318
Email: kevinsp.lim@swireshipping.com

Stella CHOO
Corporate Communications Manager, Swire Shipping
Tel: +65 9126 2595
Email: stella.choo@swireshipping.com