

## Princess cut short

A **GRAND Princess** sailing has been cut short after a tender platform opened "for reasons yet unknown," 10 days into her planned 15-day itinerary.

The incident occurred while the Princess ship was at sea after departing from Maui, Hawaii.

The platform was damaged such that it could not be closed and the hull sustained minor localised damage, which was secured.

The captain confirmed the ship was safe and secure and *Grand Princess* returned to Honolulu to initiate repairs on 05 Dec.

*Grand Princess* will go into an already scheduled dry dock.

## RCL's big dividend

**ROYAL Caribbean Cruises** shareholders will be jolly these holidays, with the Board of Directors declaring a quarterly dividend of \$0.48 per common share, to be paid on 05 Jan to shareholders of record at the close of business on 21 Dec.

## CMP larger ships

**LARGER** cruise ships will be able to call into the city of Malmö after the Swedish Maritime Administration gave the plan its tick of approval.

Previously ships exceeding 240m were not permitted to visit the port.

Port operators had extensive simulations conducted this year to test whether it is possible for Malmö to receive larger ships, with very positive results.

## Scotland record

**SCOTLAND** will achieve another record-breaking cruise season in 2017, with the destination more than doubling the number of cruise calls and passengers in less than a decade.

There are currently 808 ships booked to call in to Scotland in 2017, up 19.5% on 2016, with an anticipated 35% jump in the number of passengers to around 656,000, according to Cruise Scotland stats.



**VISIT** Anchorage and its Alaskan delegation were in Australia last week, joined for the first time by small ship operator Alaskan Dream Cruises.

The team zipped through Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney, training around 140 agents before heading across the ditch to Auckland in New Zealand.

Marsha Barton, Visit Anchorage tourism sales manager told **CW** the increase in capacity in Alaska by lines (such as Princess Cruises) was due to strong demand.

"The cruise ships wouldn't be coming and they wouldn't be sending more ships if they didn't think they could fill them...I think we can honestly say that judging

by all the ships that they're sending, business is very good."

The Anchorage season runs mid-May to mid-Sep, during which most of the lodgings are "pretty much at capacity."

"We'd really like to see develop...late season into early winter and then late winter into spring travel," Barton said.

**Pictured** in Brisbane at the Flight Centre office are: Corey Marshall, Canuckiwi (representing Visit Anchorage from 01 Jan); Lou Larsson, Infinity Xtra; Tia Froehle, Visit Anchorage; Heather Dudick, Alaska Railroad; Marsha Barton, Visit Anchorage; Michelle Glass, Alaskan Dream Cruises and Kyle McDonnell, Major Marine.

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