

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GOVERNOR DECLARES PORT EMERGENCY

Governor Felix P. Camacho today signed an Emergency Declaration that will allow the Port to immediately issue a Request for Proposals for the management of its equipment maintenance.

The Port has had major problems with its main gantry cranes following Super Typhoon Pongsona. Gantry 2 went down on February 21, when its main hoist motor burned out. Because of the age of the crane, a new motor had to be manufactured, a process that has taken several weeks to complete. The motor is now on island and is currently being installed. Gantry 1, the Port's oldest crane, went down in May with a broken main hoist gear. The part is still being manufactured. Gantry 2 is expected to be up by early next week.

With the signing of the declaration today the Port is preparing to issue an RFP that will contract a private firm to provide inspections, repair, maintenance, management services, preventive maintenance planning and scheduling, budgeting, procurement, training and other services including implementation of equipment performance improvement projects.

After signing the declaration, Governor Camacho noted that this RFP is the first step in moving toward public/private partnerships for the operation of Guam's civilian port. "The current situation with the Port cranes has made the privatization of some Port operations a priority," Governor Camacho said.

Port Authority of Guam Interim General Manager Joseph Mesa said the loss of the two cranes has limited the Port to only 33.3 percent of its container handling capability. "The Port needs to ensure that its equipment is quickly brought up to par so we can better serve our customers and continue to keep the supply of critical goods coming to Guam," Mesa said.

The Port will issue the RFP shortly and will proceed to review all submissions expeditiously. For more information please contact Port Spokesman Michael Henderson at 477-5931 ext. 315.

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