



**18 September 2011**

## **P&O Maritime provides short term marine capability to the Royal Australian Navy**

P&O Maritime recently entered an agreement to support the Royal Australian Navy's (RAN) amphibious capability during the Australian cyclone season.

Australian Minister for Defence Stephen Smith and Minister for Defence Materiel Jason Clare made the announcement on 14 September 2011.

The RAN will charter the Offshore Support Vessel Windermere from October 2011 until January 2012, with the option to extend the charter continuing until February 2012.

The RAN has leased the vessel in order to maximise their ability to respond to humanitarian and natural disasters over the cyclone period.

The vessel, leased from Hallin, was launched in 2010 and is capable of supporting 100 passengers and 20 crew members. Other facilities include a 700m<sup>2</sup> deck plus an elevated helipad at the bow.

Ray Penson, Executive General Manager Australasia, P&O Maritime said "Following on from the successful deployment of the Aurora Australis to the Royal Australian Navy during the Antarctic winter season, we are pleased to be able to provide a very capable vessel to the RAN, to support their operations and disaster response capability, at very short notice"