

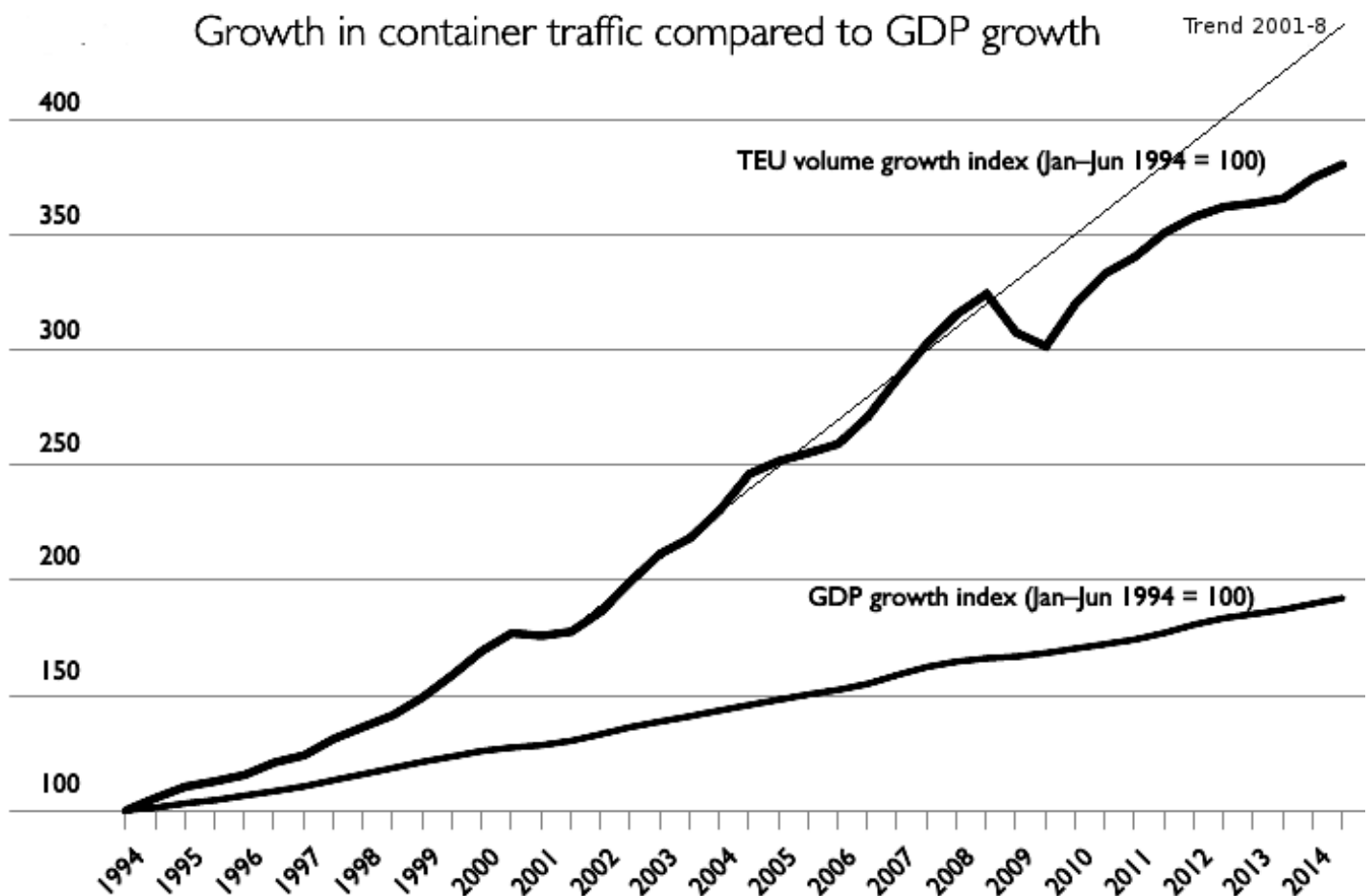
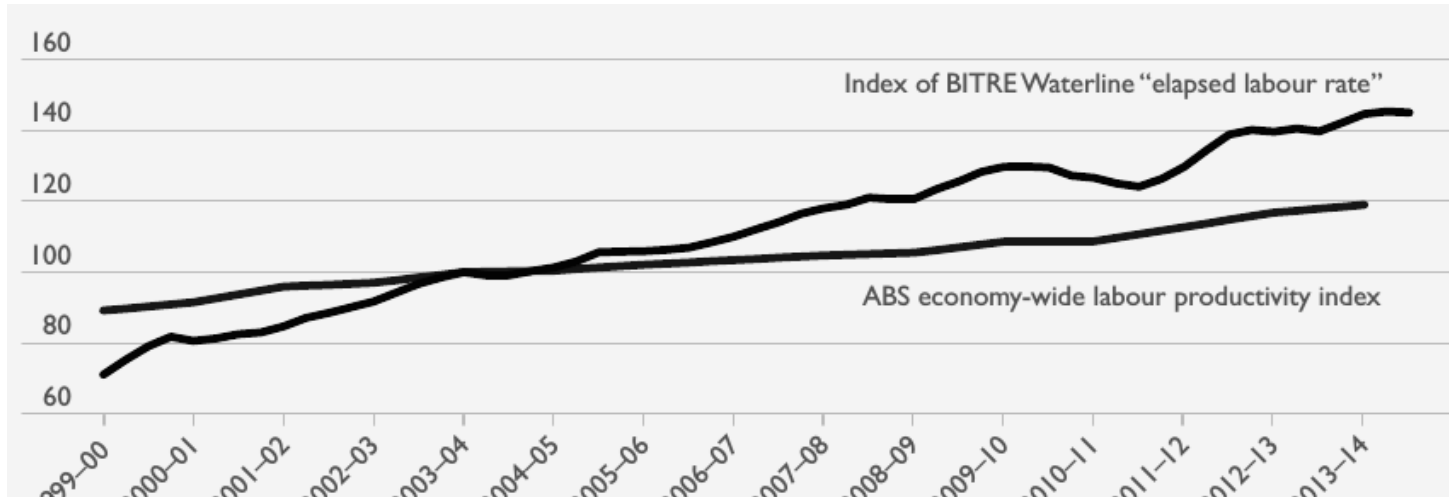
QUEENSLAND BRANCH NEWS

NEWSLETTER of the QLD Branch of the MARITIME UNION of AUSTRALIA

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No.9. Wednesday 12 August 2015.

Throughput, productivity, jobs, and Hutchison's plans



THE GRAPHS OVERLEAF are from the official Australian government statistics of container trade.

They show that labour productivity in the container terminals has been rising faster than productivity across the economy. Long-term, throughput has been rising even faster, which should create the basis for an expanded workforce. For an even more expanded workforce if workers can win some of the benefits of improved technology in terms of shorter working hours and more livable rosters.

They also show that throughput has risen slower since the recovery from the sharp dip in 2008-9 due to the global financial crisis. From 2001 to 2008 teu volume rose at an average 9% a year. From late 2010 to 2014 it rose at 5.2% a year. This slowdown is in line with the general much slower increase of world trade since 2010, and so is likely to continue for a while.

That means that the Filipino operator ICTSI, who will open a new container terminal in Melbourne from December 2016, can't hope to make a go of it by the easy route of scooping some of the new throughput. As the supply-chain industry website *The Loadstar* puts it, for ICTSI: "the Melbourne project represents a challenge on a different scale: creating growth in a mature market already well served by the container shipping industry".

The same applies to Hutchison. The only theory that makes sense is that Hutchison plans to make an alliance with ICTSI to create a new operation which will undercut and win traffic from DP World and Patricks by ruthless slashing of workers' conditions and super-exploitation of labour.

And, if they can do that, they will send DP World and Patricks off trying to win the race to the bottom.

Follow and promote the campaign on social media

UP TO THE MINUTE reports and pictures on the "Hutchison Ports - Stop Union Busting" Facebook page, on.fb.me/1PajABU

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Join the community assemblies! Show solidarity!

Brisbane: Curlew Street, Berth 11
Fisherman Island.

Sydney: Gate B150 Sirius Rd, Port
Botany (access via Foreshore Rd)

The assemblies will run 24/7, so come any time. Support will be especially vital at night and in the early mornings.

