

'Tis the season to strike

LEADING customs clearance and freight forwarding specialist Platinum Freight Management has warned the Christmas “striking period” affecting importers and exporters has already begun for 2017, with five cases reported in Port Botany.

In addition, the brokerage identified high pressure scenarios for Australian Border Force and the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources that could incite strikes from workers in those departments.

Platinum Freight chief executive officer Peter McRae said historical data proved December was consistently a strike period for port workers because it was a time when business had the most to lose.

Therefore, he said, it was a critical time for ports, ABF and DAWAR to renegotiate their terms for the increase of cargo activity entering and exiting ports.

He said departments were under extreme strain with perfect conditions amounting for strikes relating to future operational issues.

He said the best course of avoidance was to book early.