# Aspen Spirit
## Largest Discharge for the Port Of Melbourne



The arrival of the Teekay controlled Suezmax *Aspen Spirit* at the Mobil operated Gellibrand Pier on the 13/10 saw her break the previous record discharge figure of 128,045 by the *Ultimate Freedom*. Aspen Spirit eclipsed that to the tune of 128,878 mt. Her cargo was West African crude oil loaded at the Total operated off shore installation Djeno Terminal in The Congo. Her draft of 14.67m is also a record. Whilst most emphasis on the channel deepening project a few years back was to get bigger containerships in / or current ones loading to a deeper depth, deeper tanker may have slipped under the radar whereby vessels ( Suezmaxs in particular ) can now load a further 50,000mt than what Aframaxs could load for the same berth some years back when confined to a draft of 11.5 and around 70 – 75,000mt of cargo max.

Details of the *Aspen Spirit,* IMO 9427627, 83,545 GT, 274m loa, 157,048 dwt, Bahamas flag, completed in 2009 at Jiangsu Rongsheng / China as the *Vadela f*or TMS Tankers / Cardiff, a name she held until sale in 2015 and one of several sister vessels. She is registered to TIL 1X LLC of the Marshall Islands, beneficially owned by Tanker Investments Ltd of Bermuda – a company that operates 18 large tankers announced in May it was merging with Teekay Tankers, managers are Teekay Marine Singapore and commercial operation from Teekay Chartering also of Singapore.

*Aspen Spirit* was still in port at time of going to press as she went out to anchor on the 17/10 , she reberthed on 20/10 and sailed for Angola on 23/10.

Photo and text by Peter Grunberg.