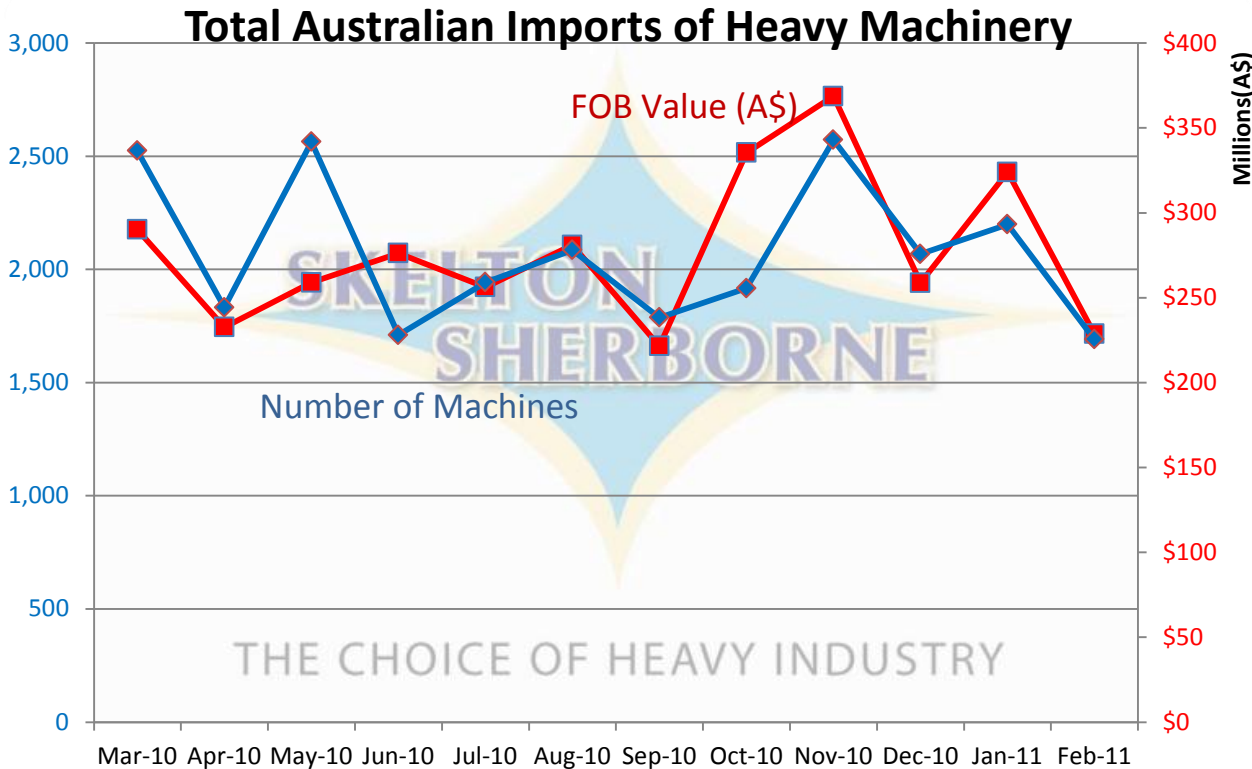




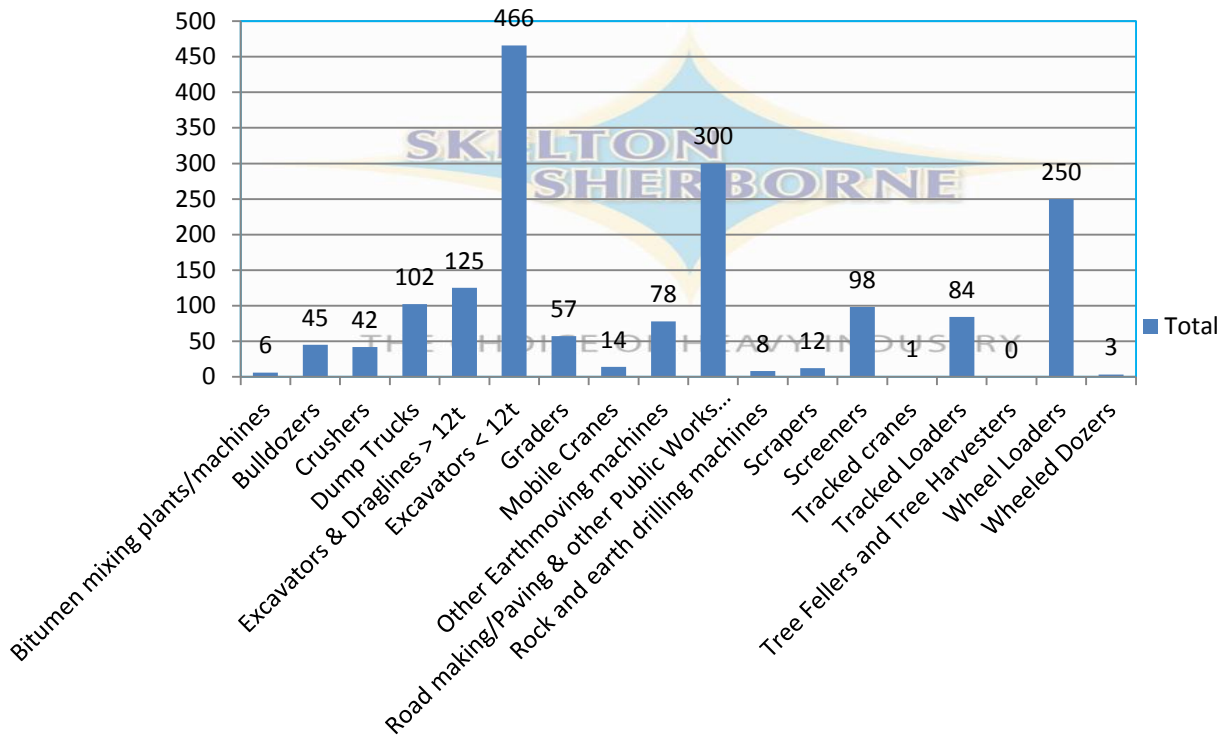
Skelton Sherborne Shipping Index February 2011

THE CHOICE OF HEAVY INDUSTRY



Data source : A.B.S. and Skelton Sherborne "The Choice of Heavy Industry" - Australia's largest international freight forwarder of mining & construction equipment www.SkeltonSherborne.com

Australian Heavy Machinery Imports February 2011



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- Import volumes in February decreased by 23% to 2068 units, with FOB values decreasing by 29%. Seasonal trends would suggest an upturn in volumes in March this year. We note however that some major Japanese manufacturer's plants in Japan have been inundated by tsunami driven waters and are currently inoperable. We anticipate falls in volumes of machines from Japan in late March and April or until these factories are back online. We are also seeing greatly increased used equipment importing activity perhaps as a result of the Japanese earthquake.
- The Customs FOB value dropped from \$324m in January to \$229m in February. A significant increase in road building and quarrying equipment has occurred perhaps due to the infrastructure rebuild occurring after floods and cyclones in Australia.
- Significant movements in various categories are as follows:

Bitumen mixing plants/machines	UP	200%
Other Earthmoving machines	DOWN	85%
Screeners	UP	51%
Tracked Cranes	DOWN	96%
Wheeled Dozers	DOWN	80%

- New finance contracts for Construction and Earthmoving equipment.

	AUD
February 2010	1m
March 2010	6m
April 2010	3m
May 2010	5m
June 2010	8m
July 2010	5m
August 2010	4m
September 2010	4m
October 2010	19m
November 2010	33m
December 2010	29m
January 2011	4m

- The [Baltic Shipping Index](#) has tracked upwards from 1,301 since our last report to 1,543 as of March 23rd.
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