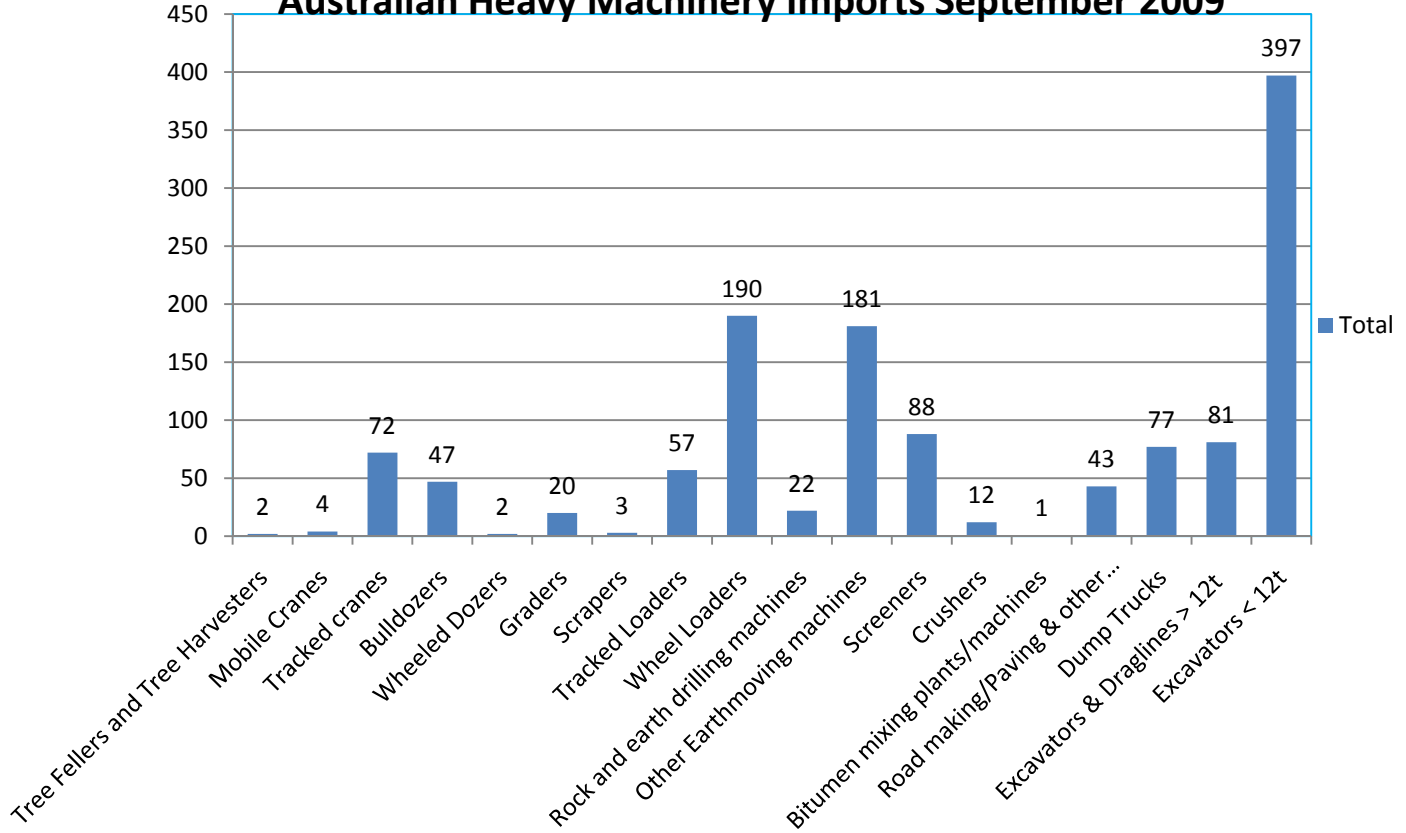




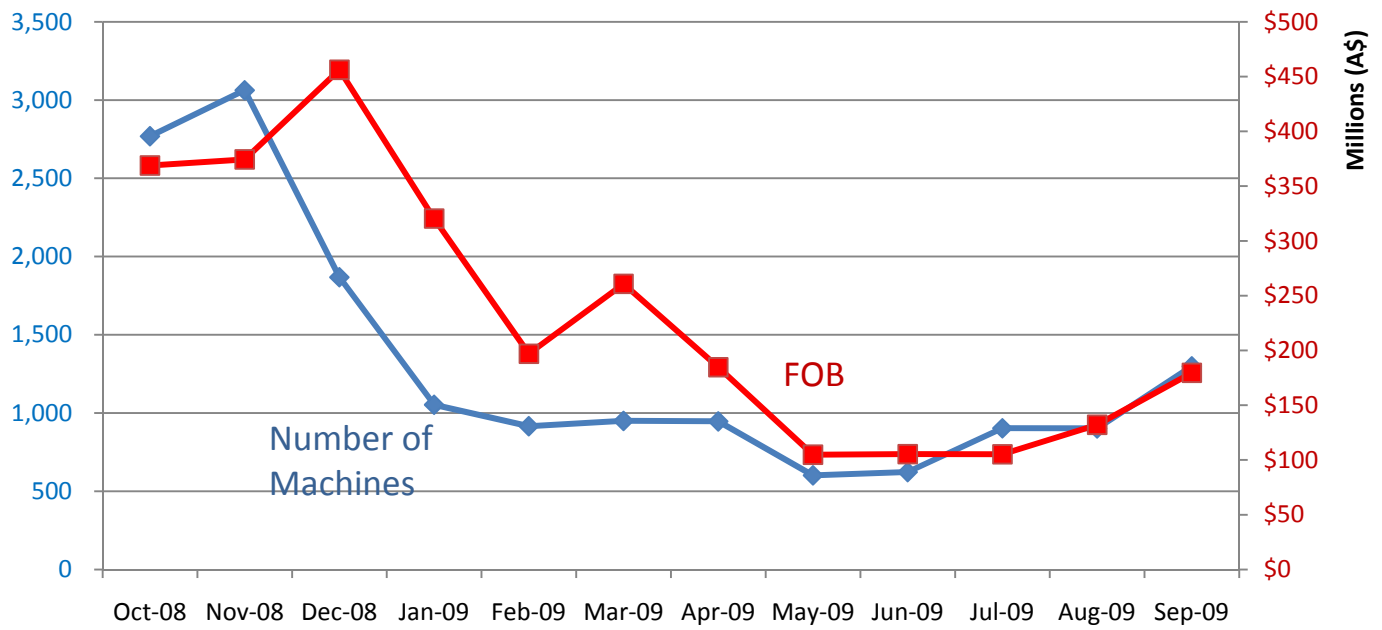
Skelton Sherborne Shipping Index September 2009

Australian Heavy Machinery Imports September 2009



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

Total Australian Imports of Heavy Machinery



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

September 2009

THE CHOICE OF HEAVY INDUSTRY

- For the first time in more than a year we can actually report a good recovery in imported machinery volumes. The total number of machines imported in September improved considerably to 1299 up from 902 in August, an increase of 44%. Machinery numbers are up 116% since the low point of only 602 in May.
- The FOB (customs) value of equipment climbed from \$132m in August to \$180m in September, but the average value per machine decreased by \$8,000 still indicating the civil and construction end of the market is more buoyant than mining.
- Most categories saw healthy increases in numbers of machines imported.
- Please note we have queried the statistics of the tracked cranes and await clarification on this. There is no way 72 tracked cranes were imported and the data on hand suggests an average value of only \$3200.00 each. Almost certainly a non-specialist heavy machinery customs broker has misclassified an importation to Australian Customs.
- Excavators < 12t represented the category with largest number of units imported in September and lead for the second consecutive month at 397 or 31% of the total imported.

- Other noticeably movements:

Rock and Earth Drilling Machines	UP	100%
Tracked Loaders	UP	148%
Crushers	DOWN	65%
Screeners	UP	126%
Road Making / Paving Machinery	DOWN	43%
Bulldozers	UP	31%
Wheel Loaders	UP	44%
Scrapers	DOWN	40%
Dump Trucks	UP	157%

- New finance contracts for construction and earthmoving equipment continued its downward trend falling further in August to 6m. With machinery volumes increasing and this statistic still falling, this suggest contractors are financing more equipment purchases from their own balance sheets rather than take on finance which most customers still report is hard to secure anyway.

April	22m
May	28m
June	21m
July	9m
August	6m

- The [Baltic Shipping Index](#) has started to trend upwards since late September and is currently at 2,832. A recovery seems to be underway with the shipping market also.
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