

MEDIA RELEASE**INDEX PREDICTS MINIMAL RETAIL SALES GROWTH IN Q2 2018**

CHEP Retail Index: A lead indicator of Australian Bureau of Statistics retail trade data, based on transactional data from CHEP pallet movements.

30 April 2018 - Sydney Australia - Figures published in the latest edition of the quarterly **CHEP Retail Index**, which uses transactional data from CHEP pallet movements to provide a lead indicator of Australian Bureau of Statistics retail trade data, have signalled minimal retail sales growth in Q2 2018.

The modest growth in pallet movements in the first few months of 2018 suggests that retailers expect the trading environment to be soft over the next few months. Retail sales growth has been moderate in the past three months, with solid growth in February following a weak result for December 2017. Yet, in annual terms, retail sales growth has been improving since a low point around September last year.

Looking ahead, the economic environment supports some further modest improvement in retail sales growth in 2018, with recent strong employment growth and a likely pickup in wage growth flowing through to higher consumer spending.

Index: Key figures

- 2.6% year-on-year retail turnover growth of \$26b to the month of March 2018 with year-on-year figures for the month of May static at 2% consistently.
- On a quarterly basis, 2.6% year-on-year growth for the March quarter and moving to 2.3% year-on-year for the June 2018 quarter.

Providing commentary on the Index, David Rumbens, partner at Deloitte Access Economics, noted: “retail sales growth remains modest, with consumers experiencing little wages growth, and confidence remaining fragile. However, a particularly weak patch for retail sales in the second half of 2017 appears to be behind us, and the stunning growth in employment that we continue to witness should lend some support to retail spending in the near term.”

President of CHEP Asia Pacific, Phillip Austin, said: “Collaboration with our retail customers remains critical to identifying and driving efficiencies in the supply chain to offset modest growth and support our long term growth strategy.”

The CHEP Retail Index analysis and commentary is provided by Deloitte. It is recognised as a reliable lead indicator of Australian Bureau of Statistics retail trade data. To access the April 2018 Index and previous editions of the Index, visit [CHEP Australia's CHEPedia portal](#).

ENDS**MORE INFORMATION:**

SEAN OSULLIVAN, BRAMBLES MEDIA CONTACT - 0412 139 711

KATHRYN CROFTS, CHEP AUSTRALIA MEDIA CONTACT - 0437 108 844

About CHEP

CHEP is a global leader in managed, returnable and reusable packaging solutions, serving many of the world's largest companies in sectors such as consumer goods, fresh produce, beverage and automotive. CHEP's service is environmentally sustainable and increases efficiency for customers while reducing operating risk and product damage. CHEP's 12,500-plus employees and 300 million pallets and containers offer unparalleled coverage and exceptional value, supporting more than 500,000 customer touch-points in more than 60 countries. Our customer portfolio includes global companies and brands such as Procter & Gamble, Sysco, Kellogg's, Kraft, Nestlé, Ford and GM. CHEP is part of Brambles Limited. For more information, visit www.chep.com

About Deloitte

Deloitte refers to one or more of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, a UK private company limited by guarantee, and its network of member firms, each of which is a legally separate and independent entity. Please see www.deloitte.com/au/about for a detailed description of the legal structure of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited and its member firms. In Australia, the member firm is the Australian partnership of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu. As one of Australia's leading professional services firms. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu and its affiliates provide audit, tax, consulting, and financial advisory services through approximately 6,000 people across the country. For more information, please visit our web site at www.deloitte.com.au.

The information contained in the CHEP Retail Index ("the Index") is provided collaboratively by CHEP Australia ABN 11 117 266 323 and Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu ABN 74 490 121 060 ("the Producers"). The information provided in the Index will be current as at the stated release date and will be provided without taking account of any person's personal objectives, financial situation or needs. Because of this readers should, before acting on any information, consider its appropriateness, having regard to their objectives, financial situation or needs. None of the Producers shall be responsible for any loss whatsoever sustained by any person who relies on this information. The information in any report may contain material provided directly or indirectly by third parties. The Producers accept no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of any such material. Except where contrary to law, the Producers exclude all liability in negligence or otherwise for the information contained with any report. The information in each report will be subject to change without notice and the Producers will be under no obligation to update the information or correct any inaccuracy which may become apparent at a later date or to produce future releases of any report. The forecasts given in reports will be predictive in character and are therefore inherently uncertain. Whilst reasonable efforts will be made to ensure that the assumptions and facts on which the forecasts are based are reasonable and correct, the forecasts may be affected by incorrect assumptions, incorrect facts or by known or unknown risks and uncertainties. The ultimate outcomes may differ from these forecasts.