



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**13 May, 2016**

## **VTA releases State Conference 2016 program**

The Victorian Transport Association has released the program for its forthcoming State Conference, being held from May 29-31 at Mantra Lorne on the Great Ocean Road.

Under the theme of ***Focus on Fundamentals – Tools for Success***, delegates will hear from around 30 high-profile speakers from industry, government and regulators, with a focus on practical steps they can take to improve revenue, reduce costs, maximise human capital and streamline their operation.

“We know that operators are doing it tough out there, so what we are aiming to achieve with the conference this year is to give delegates meaningful information that will help them to improve their bottom line and overall performance,” said VTA CEO Peter Anderson.

“We have structured the Conference over six blocks that address revenue, costs, people, infrastructure, operations and the future, with a fantastic line-up of speakers that have real-world experience with these vital business fundamentals.

“Delegates will hear from individual speakers and panel forums over the two-day Conference, with a number of social and networking sessions also factored into the program. It’ll be a fantastic opportunity to learn from industry leaders, and possibly create business leads and relationships as well,” Mr Anderson said.

The conference kicks off with a Welcome Networking Cocktail function at the Lorne Hotel on Sunday, 29 May, with the formal proceedings commencing the following morning with a keynote address from the Deputy Leader of the Victorian Liberal Party and Shadow Ports Minister, the Hon **David Hodgett**, MP.

Throughout the day, delegates will hear from prominent transport figures including VicRoads CEO **John Merritt**, NHVR CEO **Sal Petrocchio**, NTC CEO **Paul Retter**, and **Gary West** of Transurban, as well as Australia Post’s **James Dixon** and DP World’s **Max Kruse**.

Other notable speakers include sgfleet’s **David Threlfall**, MaxiTRANS’s **Mario Colosimo**, Madgwicks Lawyers’ **David Galbally** AM QC, and **Anthony Desira** of the Victorian International Container Terminal. Speakers for the Victorian Government and Victoria Police are expected to be confirmed shortly.

Comedian **Marty Fields** will entertain delegates at the Conference Dinner on the Monday evening.

Registration will close for the conference close Wednesday, 25 May so those interested in attending are urged to complete their bookings. The full conference package including two nights’ accommodation, all meals, entertainment and conference materials is \$1250 plus GST, with reduced conference only rates also available.

To register visit [www.vta.com.au](http://www.vta.com.au) or call the VTA on 03 9607 4500.

**Ends...**

**For further information please contact Brian O’Neil on 0411 055 284.**

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