



MEDIA RELEASE

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Port of Melbourne lease uncertainty to feature prominently at VTA Port Outlook 2015 seminar

The Victorian Opposition's decision to block legislation to enable the lease of the Port of Melbourne is causing havoc for the State Government's infrastructure program, and is expected to be a significant discussion point at the VTA's **Port Outlook 2015** seminar on Tuesday, 14 July.

The VTA has assembled an influential list of speakers to address the seminar under the theme of *Navigating Change*, with the VTA this week publishing the confirmed program. The line-up includes a diverse group of speakers that support and oppose the Port's lease, setting the scene for a contentious and lively discussion.

Speaker	Organisation	Topic
Max Kruse	DP World Australia	Customer Service in the Midst of Change
Chris Brewster	Patrick	Patrick's Update
Anders Dommestrup	Victorian International Container Terminal	The New Webb Dock
Stuart Christie	Victorian Regional Channels Authority	Regional Channels - Planning for the Future
Jim Cooper	Port of Portland	Managing Growth Expectations
Steve Henty	Tasmanian Logistics Committee	PoM: Tasmanian Freight Perspectives
Dr Hermione Parsons	VU Institute for Supply Chain and Logistics	Another Port: Which One, or None?
Peter Tuohey	Victorian Farmers Federation	Fairness and Equity: Farming and the Ports
Richard Galbraith	Australian Rail Track Corporation	Intermodal Connectivity and Rail
Hon Luke Donnellan, MP	Victorian Minister for Roads & Ports	Economic Growth, Infrastructure and the Port

"Negotiations concerning the immediate and long-term future of the Port of Melbourne have far reaching implications for all Victorians," said VTA CEO Peter Anderson.

"A privatised port will inevitably impact supply chains for producers and manufacturers that are exposed to port activities, in the form of higher user costs and new operating conditions. On the flipside, blocked legislation will mean there are no funds for the State Government's level crossing removal program, which will see congestion on Melbourne's road network escalate, much to the frustration of all road users.

"Seminar speakers will address a range of issues including the commercial and practical implications of leasing the Port, future freight forecasts, and road and rail port access issues. The quality and calibre of our speakers, and the seminar's timing, make Port Outlook 2015 a must attend event for any business that relies on the port to move their goods," Mr Anderson said.

Port Outlook 2015 starts at 7.30am at the unique Pumping Station @ Scienceworks with a light breakfast, prior to the seminar commencing at 8.15am, concluding after lunch at 2pm. Delegates can join an optional boat tour of the Port of Melbourne (returning at 4.15pm). Seminar costs are \$275 for VTA members and \$330 for non-members. Registration is available online at www.vta.com.au

Ends...

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