



**MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **VTA hosts Future of Transport report launch**

The Victorian Transport Association (VTA) is today hosting the launch of a study into the future of Australia's transport industry, which concludes that legislators, regulators and industry leaders must be ever mindful of the impacts of automation and other disruptive forces for the industry to maintain its health and viability.

Commissioned by transport industry super fund TWUSUPER, and conducted by Dr Jim Stanford from the Australia Institute's Centre for Future Work and economist Matt Grudnoff, *The Future of Transportation Work: Technology, Work Organization, and the Quality of Jobs* highlights the contribution of the \$80 billion transport industry to state and national economies.

"As the peak industry association for Victorian and national freight and logistics operators, the VTA is pleased to host the launch of this report, which quantifies the importance of the transport industry in economic, employment and social terms," said VTA CEO Peter Anderson.

"Transport is an industry that faces significant and ongoing disruption from legislative and regulatory changes, technical innovation and other external forces, and this report underscores how important it is for operators to structure their businesses to adjust for change so they can remain successful," he said.

Among the report's key findings are signs that automation and the gig economy (where temporary, contracted positions are common) could infringe on the industry's capacity to provide quality jobs.

"Disruption from technology, the internet and other forces is causing businesses to rethink traditional ways of doing things and the transport industry is certainly not immune from this," Mr Anderson said.

"The report reinforces the need for operators to plan ahead to be able to utilise new technologies and ways of doing business, which is critical for their future prosperity.

"It also highlights why training and continuing professional education is so essential for operators to continue to attract and retain people to work in the transport industry as a long-term career. This validates the VTA's investment in facilitating new training programs as a way of helping members to keep their workforce educated, which is necessary for any profession."

Mr Anderson congratulated TWUSUPER for taking a leadership role in commissioning the report.

"Notwithstanding the challenges identified in the report, the transport industry will continue to grow and evolve. As the super fund for transport workers TWUSUPER deserve credit for helping operators and those they employ to safeguard against disruption and change that could undermine the industry's viability."

The launch of the report is being attended by numerous industry leaders, including the Chair of a Select Committee on the Future of Work and Workers, Senator Murray Watt. The *Future of Transportation Work: Technology, Work Organization, and the Quality of Jobs* can be downloaded [here](#).

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