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VTA E-News

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Shadow Ports, Freight & Rural Roads Minister to address Annual Women's Lunch

The VTA is thrilled to announce Victorian Shadow Minister for Ports, Freight & Rural Roads, **Roma Britnell**, will join Gallagher's **Roz Shaw** in addressing the **VTA's Annual Women's Lunch** on **Friday, 12 April** at **Encore St Kilda Beach**. What is now regarded as one of the VTA's most popular events, the event is a great opportunity to hear inspiring stories from these incredibly successful women and enjoy an afternoon of entertainment with your peers. Further information is available on the event [flyer](#). To register, visit the VTA [website](#) or contact the VTA on 9646 8590.

VTA State Conference 2019 a resounding success

Just under 200 delegates attended a resoundingly successful VTA State Conference at Silverwater Resort, earlier this week. Under the theme of **Keep Up With Transport Reform**, delegates heard from 35 industry leaders about changes afoot because of various reforms under consideration, so that they can take steps to prepare their operation for inevitable change. Our sincere thanks to speakers from government, regulators, suppliers and other industry experts for their generous time, and a special thanks to major sponsor TWUSUPER and all our event sponsors for their generous support.

VTA People Group Meeting – Thursday 4th April - Mental Health and Wellbeing Management

The VTA People Group invite all members to a presentation on “A Proactive and Preventative Approach for Mental Health and Wellbeing Management” to be held at the VTA’s office on Thursday 4th April commencing at 10.30. For further details and how to reserve your place please refer to the [Flyer](#).

TCA unveils intelligent mass document

Transport Certification Australia has released the final version of the functional and technical specification for intelligent mass. Forming part of the National Telematics Framework, **Intelligent Mass – Functional and Technical Specification** defines the performance requirements for technology providers to combine mass data with other telematics data collected from vehicles. Road managers, regulators, transport operators and other parties along the supply chain will benefit from the availability of intelligent mass which enables the collection of vehicle mass and configuration data in a standardised and consistent manner through any application of the National Telematics Framework. For more information, visit the TCA [website](#).

Forum outcomes focus on fatigue law reform

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator is releasing a discussion paper as part of a broader fatigue strategy to support a push by many in the industry to reform fatigue laws. NHVR CEO, **Sal Petrocchio**, told the 2019 State Conference that many operators were keen to make fatigue reform a major focus of the current review being undertaken of the Heavy Vehicle National Law. Petrocchio said the NHVR would take a number of steps in response to the feedback received during the forum. The NHVR has recently invested in a \$250,000 study into Fatigue Monitoring Technology to help get potentially life-saving technologies out of the lab and into the cab. More information can be found on the NHVR [website](#).

Vehicles as a workplace report released

The **Vehicles as a Workplace – Work Health & Safety Guide** was published in collaboration with Australian State and Territory WHS and road safety authorities, the NHVR and other key stakeholders. The report outlines the duties and laws that governs firms, organisations and individuals who use vehicles for work purposes on the road networks of

Australia and New Zealand and provides practical risk management for a person conducting a business or undertaking. The full report can be found [here](#).

ABS figures confirm road freight is on the rise

According to figures released this week by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Australian freight vehicles moved an estimated 214,789 million tonne-kilometres (tkm) of freight across Australia's road network in 2017-2018 – representing a five per cent increase on 2016. Victorian registered heavy vehicles moved more freight than any other State or Territory accounting for 55,450 million tkm, followed by Queensland with 49,038 million tkm. Articulated trucks carried the bulk of Australian road freight, transporting 165,336 million tkm – 77 per cent of the total road freight task. New information from the Survey of Motor Vehicle Use will help to inform national freight and supply chain priorities aimed at improving the safety and efficiency of the Australian freight task.

NHVR simplifies PBS approval process

The NHVR says it has streamlined the performance based standards (PBS) access permit process, making it simpler to add new PBS vehicles to an existing vehicle approval (VA). From April 1, the VA number will not change when adding or removing identical vehicle units. To be considered as an identical vehicle, the following must apply; axle spacing must be identical to the existing vehicle, the vehicle must be approved at the same level of PBS compliance and masses no greater than those already approved, and the overall length of the combination must be within the same access class as previously approved. Further information can be found on the NHVR [website](#).

Latest VTA Priority Report out now

The latest edition of the VTA Priority Report magazine is out now. Catch up on all the latest news and events from the VTA and its members and associates, including Transport Certification Australia, HLB Mann Judd, Fleet Effect and Hunt & Hunt Lawyers. An electronic version is available to review [here](#) with hard copies being distributed via post.

Duncans Road Interchange upgrade

Operators are urged to note anticipated disruptions in April, May and June due to upgrades being made to the Duncans Road Interchange at Werribee. When complete, the upgrades will deliver improved access to the Princes Freeway. Please review the information [sheet](#) for further information.

Training

- [Prescribed Industrial Waste](#) – 2nd, 6th, 9th, 16th and 30th of April 2019
- Chain of Responsibility – [Safety Management Systems](#) – 17th April 2019
- Chain of Responsibility – [Fatigue Management](#) – 3rd April 2019
- Chain of Responsibility – [Load Restraint](#) – 10th April 2019

- Chain of Responsibility – [Awareness](#) – 8th of May 2019

Upcoming Events

- VTA Annual Women's Lunch, April 12, [Encore St Kilda](#)
- Port Outlook, 28 May, [Sketch Docklands](#)