



MEDIA RELEASE

27 March 2019

VTA hails reform agenda at State Conference 2019

Following the successful VTA State Conference held earlier this week at Silverwater Resort, Phillip Island, VTA CEO Peter Anderson has reflected on the extent to which the transport industry is embracing reforms to make it safer, more prosperous, and attractive to work in.

Close to 200 operators, suppliers, regulators, legislators and other stakeholders gathered at the conference for two days of intensive learning about the reforms that will impact the industry this year.

“In recognition of the many changes being considered by our governments, our regulators and the various transport authorities tasked with governing our industry, ***Keep Up With Transport Reform*** was unashamedly the theme of our conference,” Anderson said.

“Delegates benefited from updates from dignitaries such as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Hon Michael McCormack, Victorian Roads, Road Safety and TAC Minister, the Hon Jaala Pulford, and Shadow Federal Assistant Minister for Road Safety, Senator Glenn Sterle, who outlined their safety, transport and infrastructure priorities, both in government and in opposition.”

National Transport Commission Chief Planning Officer Paul Davies provided a timely update on the NTC-led review of National Heavy Vehicle Law, and delegates also heard from NHVR CEO Sal Petrocchio about the regulator’s focus on ensuring the modern law is a factor in a safer and more productive industry.

Anderson said change was a regular theme throughout all the presentations.

“I was particularly struck by the consistent call to action by all the speakers for stakeholders to work constructively together for the good of our industry and, more importantly, the receptiveness of delegates to this important challenge,” Anderson said.

“The industry has certainly matured beyond an ‘us versus them’ mentality that was holding us back, and unnecessarily pitting stakeholders against each other, much to the detriment of all of us.”

Mr Anderson said it was encouraging to note the openness of operators to accept the need for change and step up and take their rightful place as integral parts of the communities they serve.

“I sense a growing recognition from the industry of the need to embrace change for improvements to abound, and that building dialogue and understanding within the communities that we operate in is paramount to our industry coming out of the shadows and standing up as a proud member of society,” he said.

Ends...

**For the latest VTA news follow us on Twitter @VTAComms
For further information please contact Brian O’Neil on 0411 055 284**