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Federal Government invests \$100B in National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy

As part of its commitment to keep on top of surging freight volumes, the Commonwealth Government is investing \$100 billion on a National Freight and Supply Strategy. Implementation of the Strategy by industry and all three tiers of Government from 2019 is anticipated to enhance the competitiveness and productivity of all Australia's regions in domestic and global markets. For further information visit the Department of Infrastructure [website](#).

Submissions open for North East Link EES

The Environment Effects Statement (EES) has been released for the North East Link and is now open for public comment and submissions. The EES contains information on how the project could affect the environment during construction, when the new road will open and how adverse impacts during construction would be managed. The EES includes a summary report, main report chapters, technical reports, map book and attachments. For further information visit the North East Link Project [website](#).

\$8.5 million investment to track Australian freight use

The iMOVE Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) says its recommendations for the establishment of a freight data hub to monitor the use of Australia's transport system has been accepted. The hub's establishment has been approved by Federal Transport Minister Michael McCormack, who has allocated \$8.5 million for the project, including \$5.2 million for its design and \$3.3 million for the establishment of a freight data exchange pilot to allow industry to access freight in real time. The hub will act as the nation's central, neutral collection point for data of all freight transport system users – private companies, regulators, state transport departments and other government agencies. More information about the project can be found [here](#).

Major restructure of Victorian Department of Transport

The Victorian Department of Transport (DoT) has announced significant changes to the structure of the transport jurisdiction to better manage the transport needs of Australia's fastest growing state. From 1 July DoT, VicRoads and PTV will combine to create one integrated Department of Transport. According to the Victorian Government, the integrated Department of Transport will plan and operate the Victorian transport system in a way that matches the people and freight that use it. The VTA will update members on any impacts to the freight industry.

TIC reveals record high first quarter Heavy Duty Truck sales

According to data compiled by the Truck Industry Council (TIC), March sales for Heavy Duty trucks soared above market trends to deliver the second best first quarter on record. March saw sales of 1,185 units in the Heavy-Duty category, an increase of 0.9 per cent on the previous year. The first quarter result was only 12 trucks short of the record high 2,915 heavy commercial vehicles sold in 2018. Approximately 8,318 trucks and vans have been delivered across Australia so far in 2019, a decrease of 4.1 per cent over the same period last year.

NHVR to expand PBS pre-advised design approvals

The NHVR has expanded its performance-based standards (PBS) pre-advised design approvals in its latest update. From April 1, the PBS pre-advised design approval process includes qualifying B-double combinations up to 30 metres. The scope of pre-advised specifications for trucks and 3- or 4- axle dog and prime mover and semi-trailer combination has also been broadened to include Level 2. More details on the update can be found [here](#).

MOVE Bank: \$3,500 holiday package up for grabs!

VTA associate MOVE Bank is offering a chance to win a holiday package worth \$3500. Purchase an eligible MOVE Bank insurance policy by June 30 and you'll go into the draw to win 1 of the 3 holiday packages on offer. Conditions apply, see the [website](#) for details.

Training

- [Prescribed Industrial Waste](#) – 16th & 30th of April, 7th, 14th & 21st of May 2019
- Chain of Responsibility – [Awareness](#) – 8th of May 2019
- Chain of Responsibility – [Safe Loads](#) – 15th May 2019
- Master Class – [Coaching & Developing People](#) – 16th May 2019
- [Incident Management Workshop](#) – 22nd May 2019
- Chain of Responsibility – [Safety Management Systems](#) – 29th May 2019

Upcoming Events

- Port Outlook, 28 May, [Sketch Docklands](#)
- Australian Freight Industry Awards, 7 September, Crown Palladium Ballroom