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eNews



Victorian Transport Association Update 7th June 2019



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VTA E-News

Friday, 07 June 2019

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VTA contributes to Heavy Vehicle National Law Review

The VTA has made a submission to the first issues paper of the NTC-led review of Heavy Vehicle National Law. In its current form, HVNL falls short of being truly national and is overly prescriptive and complicated. The review will have a significant impact on the heavy vehicle industry and will determine the shape, practices and operational standards within the industry that at times falls short of community expectations and struggles to project a positive culture. It is vital that the industry confronts past standards and legal structures whereby we build a new HVNL framework that addresses current problems and shortcomings and, importantly, ensures that we deliver a more robust, purposeful and flexible framework to meet future industry challenges. The VTA submission will be available via the [member portal](#) on the website from next Tuesday, 11 June.

Registration opens for VTA Port Outlook 2019

Registration is now open for the VTA's annual **Port Outlook** seminar, our annual seminar covering the vital ports and channels network. Victorian Minister for Ports, Freight and Public Transport Melissa Horne is one of several high-profile industry representatives speaking at the seminar, which will also feature presentations and panel discussions featuring a range of other stakeholders from the sector. Sponsored by the [Port of Melbourne](#), Port Outlook is on Tuesday, 6 August from 7.30am-2.30pm at [Sketch Docklands](#). Further event information can be found [here](#) or to register please click [here](#).

VTA participates in Victorian road safety summit

The VTA represented the freight and logistics sector at a summit convened by the Victorian Government last week to address the state's soaring road toll – sadly, there have been more 50% more deaths on our roads so far this year compared to last year. While speed was a common factor raised by many of the stakeholders in attendance it is important to acknowledge the toll of other factors including fatigue, driver distractions, and drugs and alcohol. We look forward to working with the government and industry participants on strategies to reduce injuries and fatalities on our roads.

Victorian Government supportive of heavy vehicle driver training

The Victorian Government has fulfilled a pledge it made prior to last year's state election, [allocating \\$4 million over four years](#) to fund the training and instruction of 800 new heavy vehicles drivers. As members are aware, the VTA has been a vocal advocate for driver training as a mechanism for attracting new people to the industry, and our Driver Delivery program has trained dozens of new drivers and placed them in employment. Funding allocated in the budget will help to enable this successful to continue and, more importantly, address driver shortages we continue to face.

VTA welcomes new faces in Cabinet and Shadow Cabinet

In the wake of the recent federal election, the VTA has welcomed new ministers and shadow ministers to a range of transport industry portfolios. The Government has opted for continuity and we welcome Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack's retention of the transport, infrastructure and regional development portfolios, as well as Alan Tudge's retention of the population, cities and urban infrastructure portfolio. On the Opposition side we welcome the appointment of Ballarat MP Catherine King to the shadow transport, infrastructure and regional development portfolio, and are pleased that Senator Glenn Sterle has retained his position of shadow assistant minister for road safety. The VTA looks forward to working constructively with the 46th Parliament to advocate on a range of issues impacting our members.

NHVR takes over ACT heavy vehicle regulatory services

As part of the NHVR's [National Services Transition Project](#), the ACT has become the latest Australian territory to relinquish its heavy vehicle on-road compliance and enforcement services to the Regulator. NHVR safety and compliance officers will now be authorised to stop heavy vehicles to check compliance with the [Heavy Vehicle National Law](#) (HNVL), driver

licences, registration and road rules. They will also take on responsibility for issuing major, minor and self-clearing defects notices. South Australia and Tasmania were the first two jurisdictions to transition heavy vehicle regulatory services to the NHVR, which is now working with NSW and Victoria towards transition over the next two years. Further information about the changes can be found [here](#).

Last chance to register for VTA Transport Industry Business Briefing

Today is the last day to register for a special Transport Industry Business Briefing held by the VTA in conjunction with Westpac Equipment Finance. The briefing provides a timely update and economic outlook post the Federal Election and Victorian and Federal Budgets. The briefing will be held from 4-6pm on Tuesday, 11 June at Westpac House, Level 12, 150 Collins Street, Melbourne, and features a presentation from Senior Westpac Economist Matthew Hassan. Further event information can be found [here](#) or to register visit the [online booking page](#) or email events@vta.com.au today.

Save the Date for VTA Regional Forums

Members throughout select parts of regional Victoria are urged to save the date for the annual VTA Regional Forums in late July. The VTA and our partners from NatRoads, WorkSafe Victoria, Victoria Police and other stakeholders will visit Traralgon (**18 July**), Bendigo (**23 July**) and Shepparton (**24 July**) for the forums, providing an opportunity for regional members to be updated on a range of issues across enforcement, chain of responsibility, national heavy vehicle law and workplace health and safety. Further event information will be released over the coming weeks.

Training

- [Prescribed Industrial Waste](#) – 15th, 18th & 25th of June, 2nd, 9th & 16th of July 2019
- Chain of Responsibility – [Awareness for Managers & Customers](#) – 5th June 2019
- Chain of Responsibility – [Sub Contractor Management](#) – 12th June 2019
- Master Class – [Leadership Skills](#) – 13th June 2019
- [Pallet Management for Pallet Controllers](#) – 19th June 2019
- Chain of Responsibility – [Safety Management Systems](#) – 26th June 2019
- Chain of Responsibility – [Fatigue Management](#) – 17th July 2019
- Chain of Responsibility – [Load Restraint](#) – 24th July 2019

Upcoming Events

- [Transport Industry Business Briefing](#), 11 June, Westpac House, Collins Street, Melbourne
- Port Outlook, 6 August, [Sketch Docklands](#)
- Australian Freight Industry Awards, 7 September, Crown Palladium Ballroom