



APRIL 2010

### Bell Bay Rail Freight Forum

The Tasmanian Freight Logistics Council (TFLC) has agreed to organise and chair a forum in Launceston on Wednesday 12 May 2010 at 11am involving key stakeholders to determine what it would take to reinstate the Bell Bay rail freight service. Key personnel from Tasmanian Railway Pty Ltd, TasPorts and the Tasmanian Government will be in attendance at the forum.

Rail is an integral part of the supply-chain in Tasmania and the Council believes that it is essential that a commercially and operationally viable rail service be maintained in Tasmania, including the link to Bell Bay.

Limited spaces are available at this very important forum. If you would like to attend or would like more information, please contact Rob McGuire on email [freightlogistics@tcci.com.au](mailto:freightlogistics@tcci.com.au) or phone (03) 6236 3663 or by Wednesday 5 May 2010.

### Jetstar and Hobart Airport

The TFLC recently raised concerns at Jetstar's announcement that it may reduce its number of flights in and out of Hobart Airport if the owners of Hobart Airport increase its landing charges by as much as 50% from 1 July 2010. This is bad news for Tasmania and one which would not be welcomed by Tasmanian businesses that rely on Jetstar to move their products to the mainland and the world. Most discussion since the announcement has centred on higher passenger ticket prices, lower capacity and a drop in tourist numbers, however, very little has been said about the impact on exporters who rely on air travel to get their high-value perishable products to interstate and overseas markets. In particular, live seafood such as abalone and lobster must be flown from Tasmania to arrive on the mainland as close as possible to international departures so that the fish survive the entire export journey. Fewer flights will mean less freight capacity and will result in exporters having real concerns on their ability to maintain their market share and compete in a global market.

### UK Rail Freight Chairman Visit for Rail Freight Forum

The TFLC – in conjunction with the Australian Freight Council Network - is conducting a Rail Freight Forum and you are invited to attend.

When: Monday 26 April 2010  
 Where: Brighton Civic Centre  
 Time: 2pm – 4pm  
 Cost: Free

The guest speaker will be Lord Tony Berkeley, Chairman of the UK Rail Freight Group. The UK Rail Freight Group is a peak industry body covering 150 rail freight customers and suppliers, whose aim is to promote cost effective rail solutions for freight. Real choice across modes is key to meeting the transport challenges businesses face today and tomorrow – including ever-worsening road congestion and driver shortages. The organisation has been influential in policy and strategy debates in the United Kingdom and the European Union in relation to network infrastructure, planning for intermodal hubs, promoting the competencies of rail and policy in relation to regulation of rail. Tony is a compelling speaker and has a deep knowledge of his subject and the governance issues surrounding rail freight. For more details on the UK Rail Freight Group visit <http://www.rfg.org.uk/>.

This is a fantastic opportunity to hear one of the top experts in the world on rail freight and to take advantage of Lord Berkeley's expertise to see how this can relate to rail freight in Tasmania.

The forum is FREE. If you would like to attend please register your interest by contacting Rob McGuire at the TFLC on (03) 6236 3663 or email [freightlogistics@tcci.com.au](mailto:freightlogistics@tcci.com.au) by Wednesday, 21 April 2010.

Prior to the forum, Lord Berkeley will be meeting with the Tasmanian Minister for Infrastructure, senior Department of Infrastructure Energy and Resources and senior Tasmanian Railway Pty Ltd officials.

## **Tasmanian Transport and Logistics Workforce Industry Survey**

The TFLC is taking a leading role in co-chairing the Tasmanian Transport & Logistics Workforce Advisory Group (TT&LWAG) looking at workforce issues in the transport and logistics industry in Tasmania. The TT&LWAG recently conducted a survey through a consultant as part of its brief to determine workforce related issues in the logistics and transport industry in Tasmania. One of the worrying outcomes of the survey was that the percentage of under 25 year olds in the industry compared to those over 45 years of age was quite large (11% under 25 and 40% over 45). This obviously creates a concern when we have an ageing workforce with a lack of skilled youth coming up behind to support the industry in years to come.

One of the interesting aspects of the survey was the inclusion of a set of questions centred on doing business in Tasmania in the industry. Below are some of the comments received in relation to these questions.

*Are there any significant constraints in growing business in Tasmania?*

- Lack of skilled employees in both blue and white collar roles, industry needs to try and improved industry profile.
- Threat to international carriers calling into Tasmania.
- Reliability of freighter aircraft.
- Rail, road and shipping decisions impact heavily on the operations of our business.
- Rail access to the Bell Bay port from the North West and South and vessel draft restrictions at Bell Bay.
- Tasmanian road conditions.
- Lack of depth in state infrastructure plan.
- Planning and approval processes for developments.

*What are the best things about working in Tasmanian transport and logistics industry?*

- The challenge and the can do attitude and the people.
- Location
- Working with companies who care about service.
- Relationships.

- Close knit community in the logistics and transport industry in Tasmania.
- Closeness of industry to Government.
- Openness to innovation.
- Safe industry to work in.
- Exposure to all aspects of the industry.
- Comfortable lifestyle.

The above comments are very interesting as they come from transport, shipping, rail, wharf, logistics, training partners based in Tasmania. It appears quite obvious that most people like working in the logistics and transport industry!

The results of the survey are being collated into a Skills Plan which will detail actions required to address the major issues identified in the survey.

If you would like a copy of the survey results, please contact Rob McGuire at the TFLC on (03) 6236 3663 or [freightlogistics@tcci.com.au](mailto:freightlogistics@tcci.com.au).

## **Australian Transport Association's Travelling Road Exhibition comes to Tasmania**

The TFLC is bringing the Australian Trucking Association (ATA)'s – The Road Ahead - national touring exhibition to Tasmania in May 2010.

The touring exhibition is aimed at addressing critical skills shortages in the road transport industry and to contribute to improved safety conditions on the nation's highways. This is a state-of-the-art demonstration semi-trailer filled with interactive displays about road safety and the trucking industry.

The ATA's touring exhibition has never been to Tasmania before and its inaugural visit will be from 17 – 28 May 2010 with overnight stops in Burnie, Devonport, Launceston, Oatlands and Hobart. The visit is being aimed at Year 9 and 10 students and it is hoped that students from many schools will take advantage of the opportunity to visit the touring exhibition and find out about the variety of career opportunities available in the transport and logistics industry.

If you would like to have a look at the touring exhibition when it comes to your area please contact the TFLC.

## Smarter Supply Chains

The Australian Logistics Council (ALC) has released a discussion paper on "A Smarter Supply Chain - Using Information & Communications Technology (ICT) to Increase productivity in the Australian transport and logistics industry".

'Smarter Supply Chains' are a similar concept to the Commonwealth Government's Smart Grid, Smart City initiative, which will deploy Australia's first commercial-scale smart energy grid, with the potential to increase the efficient use of infrastructure, cut costs to consumers and reduce CO2 emissions.

"Transport & logistics companies hold a unique position in the supply chain because they are typically high users of existing and new information", said ALC CEO, Michael Kilgariff. "The most efficient supply chains worldwide leverage real-time information and ensure real collaboration between partners, whether this is within a closed-loop, across the industry, or across the entire economy.

"Smart Supply Chains must be sustainable and it is clear that the enhancements that have most economic benefit come with efficiencies that will accelerate the reduction of CO2, but there is more that can be done to enhance the reduction of CO2 with innovative ICT applications.

"The ideal logistics system smoothly delivers goods where they are needed, when they are needed, with the least amount of cost, energy, carbon, pollution, noise, congestion and harm. This involves minimising wait time and handling during the transport of goods to their final destination.

"For most freight, speed between nodes (e.g. freight hubs) is not as important as consistent flow. This is different to passenger transport where speed between nodes (e.g. stations) is a key requirement. This highlights the need to have dedicated freight corridors that can run large volumes of freight at steady speed, timed to load/unload at each node.

Mr Kilgariff said for Smarter Supply Chains to be effective, all transport and logistics modes (road, rail, sea and air) must be able to work together to maximise efficiencies.

The ALC Discussion Paper can be viewed on the ALC website at <http://www.austlogistics.com.au>

## Fast Track for Rail Infrastructure Works

In March 2010, the Federal Government announced that the maintenance program underway across Tasmania's rail network will be completed twelve months early, following its decision to bring forward \$14 million originally earmarked to be spent next year. Instead of late 2011, the maintenance work is now expected to be completed by the end of this year. The projects being delivered include bridge work, re-railing, re-sleeping, level crossing upgrades and better drainage. In total, Tasmania will receive \$61 million in rail maintenance funding, with the money brought forward being the final instalment. Other works on the Tasmanian rail network announced included:

- Capacity improvements along main North-South line (\$31.6 million).
- Capacity improvements at Rhyndaston (\$24 million).
- Upgrade of the Burnie to Melba Flats line (\$15.7 million).
- Upgrade of the Burnie to Western Junction line (\$30.3 million).
- Upgrade of the Hobart to Western Junction line (\$20.3 million).
- Upgrade of the Fingal Line (\$5.7 million).
- Upgrade of the Boyer Line (\$1.07 million).
- Improvement of the Bell Bay intermodal terminal (\$5.2 million).

## Fatality Free Friday 2010

The Council strongly supports Fatality Free Friday and urges you to get involved. Road safety is a complex issue but we believe that if drivers consciously think about road safety and safe driving for just one Friday in the year, that day's toll - statistically about 5.3 deaths - could be reduced to zero. That's our aim. Not a single road death in Australia for just one day. Just one Fatality Free Friday – on Friday 28 May 2010. And we further hope that by making people think about staying alive on the road on Fatality Free Friday, they'll drive safer for the next few days too and reduce the traditionally high weekend fatality rate. Each year, around 1,600 people die on Australia's roads. By far the most dangerous days - those which statistically suffer the most deaths - are Friday, Saturday and Sunday. For further details: go to <http://www.fatalityfreefriday.com>.

### **Chartered Institute of Logistics & Transport Australia**

The Chartered Institute of Logistics & Transport Australia (CILTA) was established in the UK in 1919, and has been operational in Australia since 1935. Accordingly, CILTA is celebrating 75 years in Australia in 2010.

CILTA has a worldwide membership of over 33,000 members and more than 200 key corporations across some 30 countries. CILTA covers all those who work transporting passengers, moving freight and managing Australian domestic and international supply chains from the most junior school leaver to the most senior CEOs.

The principal objective of CILTA is to promote and encourage the art and science of logistics and transport. It provides leadership in research, policy and professional development and supports continuous improvement in the industry.

Membership of CILTA runs from July to June each year, however, CILTA is offering all NEW members the opportunity to sign up now and receive a valid membership until 30 June 2011.

Membership of CILTA offers the following:

- **Belong** to a worldwide network and prestigious institute
- **Access** to high standards of professional development and specialised educational opportunities
- **Build** strong and enduring relationships with like minded professionals
- **Receive** the most up to date and significant industry news worldwide

Join now for as little as \$29. For more information on CILTA, please visit [www.cilta.com.au](http://www.cilta.com.au) or call 1300 681 134.

### **Survey of Export Containers**

The TFLC was recently asked who undertakes surveys of containers in Tasmania for readiness to export. For anyone interested, the answer is Brennan Fitzallen of Southern Containers Pty Ltd, 73 Droughty Point Rd, Rokeby or phone (03) 6247 3131.

### **Free Copies of MHD Supply Chain Solutions Magazines**

The Australian Logistics Council (ALC) has provided the TFLC with a number of copies of the January / February and March / April 2010 issues of the MHD Supply Chain Solutions magazine – copies of which has been forwarded with this News Bulletin. We hope you enjoy the magazines.

### **Members Contributions**

The TFLC wants to ensure that it is relevant to the needs of its Members and wants to know about significant freight logistic issues that are impacting on your businesses. If you wish to speak to the TFLC about any issues, please contact the TFLC on (03) 6236 3663 or email on [freightlogistics@tcci.com.au](mailto:freightlogistics@tcci.com.au)

### **Thank You**

The TFLC would like to acknowledge the major financial and other support that is provided to it from the following:



Australian Government

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