



OCTOBER 2010

### Future of Tasmanian Freight Logistics Council

In July 2010, the Tasmanian Minister for Infrastructure wrote to the Tasmanian Freight Logistics Council (TFLC) advising that Tasmanian Government funding of the TFLC would not be continued beyond 30 September 2010 due to extensive demands on the Department of Infrastructure Energy and Resources' (DIER) budget following a rigorous review and assessment of government priorities.

Unlike what has happened in several other states, the Government does not have any intention of establishing an in-house Transport and Logistics Advisory Group within DIER to replace the TFLC.

This means that the Federal Government will also not provide financial support to the TFLC beyond 30 September 2010. The agreed conditions for the provision of Federal Government funding are only on the basis of matching State Government funding.

The TFLC's Board of Management met in September 2010 and agreed that the TFLC has been achieving too much to just wind up. Directors considered a detailed report regarding the TFLC's future. Legal advice received from Dobson Mitchell & Allport was also considered by Directors.

The outcome of that meeting is that the TFLC's Board of Management has agreed as follows:

- The TFLC is seeking the re-instatement of Federal and Tasmanian Government funding from 1 July 2011 onwards. (Work has already commenced on this.)
- In the meantime, the TFLC will continue to operate as normal.
- The TFLC is currently reviewing all areas of its operations in an effort to reduce its expenditures and identify alternative sources of revenue.

The bottom line is that it is business as normal for the TFLC - at least for the next couple of years.

### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Tasmanian Freight Logistics Council was held on 28 July 2010 in Launceston where the TFLC's Acting Chairman, Tim Hess, presented the Annual Report for 2009-10 – a copy of which can be found on the TFLC's website [www.tasfreightlogistics.com.au](http://www.tasfreightlogistics.com.au).

Congratulations to Michael Chung, Larry Mills, Rosemary Rushton and John Walker who were elected to the Board of Management for a two-year period. The TFLC's Board of Management for 2010-11 comprises the following:

Chairman  
Philip Petersen

#### Air Freight Members:

Michael Chung  
Scott Cleary  
Craig Lockwood  
John Walker

#### Sea Freight Members

Dean Hart  
Tim Hess  
Larry Mills  
Rosemary Rushton

### Tasmanian Infrastructure Advisory Council

The Tasmanian Government has recently announced that it will establish a new Tasmanian Infrastructure Advisory Council, with representatives from the major economic sectors, to provide advice to government on providing and planning economic infrastructure across transport, energy, water and digital infrastructure.

The TFLC welcomes the establishment of the Advisory Council to properly plan for and address the State's long-term infrastructure requirements, however, it believes that the Advisory Council will not solve any transport and logistics issues that inevitably will arise in the short to medium term.

### **Tasmanian Transport Forum**

The Tasmanian Freight Logistics Council is once again sponsoring the second annual Tasmanian Transport Forum which will be held at the Australian Maritime College Newnham Campus in Launceston on Tuesday 26 October 2010 from 11am until 4pm followed by a networking event until 6pm.

The Tasmanian Minister for Infrastructure, Lara Giddings MHA, has been confirmed as the keynote speaker for the Forum. The agenda for the Forum is still being developed but will be sent to members as soon as all speakers have been finalised.

As part of the Council's sponsorship of the Transport Forum, each TFLC member is entitled to two free tickets to the Transport Forum. The TFLC hopes that you will take the opportunity to attend the second annual Tasmanian Transport Forum as a guest of the TFLC.

### **Export Practices Workshop**

The Australian Institute of Export and the Tasmanian Department of Economic Development are running a two-day workshop on export practices aimed at people new to export and staff from larger organisations who have been recently promoted to export roles. The workshop is designed to provide attendees with the latest information that they can apply directly to their business' to help make the export process easier. It will examine in detail the principles of documentation, international law, and banking and finance to help attendees further develop their practical exporting skills. The workshop will be held at the Hotel Charles in Launceston on 19 and 20 October 2010. Please contact the TFLC office on (03) 6236 3663 if you want more information.

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

The Australian Logistics Council has provided the TFLC with a number of copies of the July / August 2010 and the September / October 2010 issues of the MHD Supply Chain Solutions magazines. Copies of the magazines will be posted to members on request – please send an email to [freightlogistics@tcci.com.au](mailto:freightlogistics@tcci.com.au) if you would like to receive your complimentary copies.

### **Employment Pathways in the Tasmanian Transport Industry**

The Tasmanian Freight Logistics Council is currently working with the Department of Economic Development (DED) on developing employment pathways into the transport industry in Tasmania. DED is interested in developing a pilot program – which will be funded by the Federal and State Governments – to retrain redundant older workers from other industries to be able to fill vacancies in the transport industry in Tasmania. Funds will be provided to transport industry companies that are willing to take on the redundant workers. DED is setting up an Advisory Group to oversee the pilot program and the TFLC has been invited to be a member of the Advisory Group. DED would also like to invite representatives from any transport companies who may be interested in being part of the pilot program to be on the Advisory Group. If you are interested please contact the TFLC on (03) 6236 3663 or email [freightlogistics@tcci.com.au](mailto:freightlogistics@tcci.com.au). The first meeting of the Advisory Group will be held at Ross on 21 October 2010.

### **New Bass Strait Shipping Service**

The Tasmanian Freight Logistics Council welcomes the new joint venture agreement between Agility Logistics Pty Ltd and Transworld Marine Express Pty Ltd to form Agility Shipping to recommence a Melbourne-Bell Bay shipping service. The 516-teu *Hafentor* has been renamed *Tassie Bridge* and commenced the new Melbourne-Bell Bay service in August 2010. Depending on customer demand for the new service, a second vessel might be added to the service later in the year.

The new shipping service will justify TasRail's recent decision to re-commence its intermodal service between Bell Bay and Hobart.

The TFLC believes that this is great news for Tasmania and will be welcomed by both shippers and freight services providers to industry alike. Industry is constantly seeking ways to improve its reliability, market reputation and competitiveness so anything that leads to better service and more competition in the market place has to be a good thing. The new service will end the uncertainty that has surrounded shipping at Bell Bay for some time and is a real win-win for shippers in Tasmania.

## National Heavy Vehicle Regulations

The Council of Australian Governments (COAG), has agreed to establish a single national system of laws for heavy vehicles over 4.5 tonnes. These laws will be administered by an independent national regulator – the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR). The regulator and laws are to come into effect from 1 January 2013.

The objective of the NHVR is to reduce the compliance burden for business, improve Australia's international competitiveness, improve productivity and safety and make it easier for business to operate across State and Territorial borders.

The new system will result in improvements in:

- **Efficiency** - laws for heavy vehicles worded the same in all states and territories.
- **Safety** - a heavy vehicle industry focus with national monitoring and reporting.
- **Productivity** - a national system for existing permit variations and to meet new requirements.
- **Services** - national coverage for government dealings through local service points.
- **Compliance and enforcement** - a unified strategy and approach.
- **Registration** based on a national plate.
- **Transparency and accountability** with review for key decision making.

The national laws will cover many of the same issues as existing laws (for example registration, mass and loading, fatigue management, as well as compliance and enforcement). Licensing laws will remain under the administration of State Governments.

Critical to the success of the project is consultation and engagement. An early priority is the establishment of an Industry Advisory Group. There will be face to face meetings and discussion forums in all States and Territories including visits to key regional centres.

It is anticipated that the new laws will be released in February 2011 and will be submitted to the Tasmanian Parliament by mid-2012 ready for implementation on 1 January 2013.

## Women Moving Forward

Four women working in the transport and logistics (T&L) industry in Tasmania have taken up sponsorships offered by the Tasmanian Freight Logistics Council and have recently commenced a Women Moving Forward (WMF) mentoring program. The WMF program has been designed specifically for women in T&L and challenges them to identify, plan and implement actions to achieve their professional and personal goals. WMF is a program that builds the efficiency, capability and number of jobs in T&L by supporting the development of women.

The TFLC congratulates the following women who have the drive and initiative to succeed in the T&L industry in Tasmania:

- Natasha Atkins – Sea Road Holdings
- Hannah O’Niell – Willard Estate Logistics
- Rosemary Rushton - Norske Skog
- Samantha Sutherland - TSS Logistics

## Reintroduction of Member Fees

One of the major concerns of the Tasmanian Government in withdrawing its financial support of the Tasmanian Freight Logistics Council beyond 30 September 2010 was that TFLC actions in the main support the transport and logistics industry in Tasmania, however, the industry does not pay for that support.

Accordingly the TFLC is currently exploring alternative funding options going forward and one option being looked at is the reintroduction of member fees from 1 July 2011.

The TFLC would like to know what its members think about paying an annual subscription to remain a member, in particular:

- Are you prepared to pay an annual subscription?
- If so, how much would you be prepared to pay?

Please let the TFLC know what your thoughts are – email your response to [freightlogistics@tcci.com.au](mailto:freightlogistics@tcci.com.au).

## AusIntermodal 2010

Australia's definitive freight transport event, AusIntermodal 2010, will be held on 9 and 10 November 2010 in Melbourne. AusIntermodal 2010 will provide a state-by-state, national and international update on transport projects, regulation and investment initiatives across Australia. It will particularly focus on new developments in supply chain management and technology that are facilitating Australia's productivity and prosperity. Please contact the TFLC office on (03) 6236 3663 if you want more information.

## Welcome New Members

The Tasmanian Freight Logistics Council would like to welcome the following new members – Swire Cold Storage Group, Transitaner Tasmania and TSS Logistics.

If you know of anyone in the industry that may wish to become a TFLC member please let Rob McGuire know and he will talk to them about the many benefits of becoming a member. Rob can be contacted by phone on (03) 6236 3663 or email on [freightlogistics@tcci.com.au](mailto:freightlogistics@tcci.com.au)

## Export Finance

Are you unsure how financing fits into the export of your goods? The Federal Government's Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC) has developed a new online tool "Export Finance Navigator" for small to medium sized Australian exporters.

At every stage of the export journey, the "Export Finance Navigator" website will assist businesses in finding the financial solutions that are key to their export success including:

- Financial solutions
- Government grants available
- Tax concessions for exporters.

You can access the "Export Finance Navigator" on EFIC's website [www.exportfinance.gov.au](http://www.exportfinance.gov.au).

## Members Contributions

The Tasmanian Freight Logistics Council 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 Rob McGuire on (03) 6236 3663 or email him 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

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development and Local Government



Tasmania

Explore the possibilities



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