

STATE AND TERRITORY TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS WORKFORCE ADVISORY GROUPS

Progress Report and Contacts

October 2009

STATE AND TERRITORY LEVEL COLLABORATION

A key initiative of the National Workforce Planning and Skills Working Group has been the formation of **State and Territory Transport and Logistics Workforce Advisory Groups** to provide a mechanism for industry communication, consultation and collaboration to assist with identifying and addressing industry workforce priorities at the state level.

The groups draw together key government agencies (transport, education, training and business) and key industry and union representatives (from all modes and sectors) from within each jurisdiction. State and territory government transport agencies are undertaking the chair role for the groups.

Most jurisdictions have established or are establishing their Workforce Advisory Group. Some jurisdictions are using existing industry forums and associations to play a key role in the group or to carry out the **Workforce Advisory Group** function.

NATIONAL LEVEL CONNECTION

The Workforce Advisory Groups will play an important role in coordinating national level workforce activities through the National Workforce Planning and Skills Working Group, where ideas and resources will be shared and industry workforce issues tackled from a national perspective. This national level connection will also involve national level government agencies and industry associations and groups.

PROGRESS REPORT AND CONTACT DETAILS

National Secretariat Contact: Email: ntp@nt.gov.au

Queensland: The Queensland Transport and Logistics Workforce Advisory Group (TLWAG) has been operational since February 2007 and is continuing to drive the transport and logistics skills and labour agenda across Queensland. The Queensland TLWAG, in partnership with Queensland's Department of Transport and Main Roads, has developed a work plan for the 2009-10 vision. Queensland has also been engaged and offered assistance to other jurisdictions in establishing their Workforce Advisory Groups.

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New South Wales: New South Wales has established a NSW Transport and Logistics Workforce Advisory Group, with the inaugural meeting held on 10 September 2009. It was a positive meeting, with discussion centered on better coordination of existing initiatives. Members agreed to meet in the coming months to finalise a work program. The work program will build on discussions held at a workshop in May 2009 and the draft National Workforce Planning and Skills Strategic Action Plan, including actions in the key areas of: *safety, recruitment and retention, working conditions, ageing workforce and regulations.*

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Victoria: The Victorian Transport and Logistics Workforce Advisory Group held an initial meeting on 21 July 2009 with prospective members invited to attend. This meeting of the TLWAG discussed the terms of reference and membership, the start of the work plan and heard updates on relevant pieces of work related to workforce planning and skills that are relevant within Victoria. This included the Skills Reform Package released late last year, work being undertaken towards *A Workforce Strategy for Freight Drivers*, the current Parliamentary Inquiry into skills shortages in the rail sector and a sleep apnoea project being conducted through the Victorian Freight and Logistics Council. Membership and a schedule of meetings is now being finalised and the inaugural meeting of the TLWAG was held on 15 September 2009. Work is commencing on fleshing out the work plan for the first year of the TLWAG.

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South Australia: South Australia has been working with industry groups to determine the best way forward and is in the process of establishing a South Australian Transport and Logistics Workforce Advisory Group. South Australia has already established a "Future of SA Freight" Taskforce that has a mandate to look at the attraction and retention of heavy vehicle drivers. South Australia also has active industry training and skills activities through the South Australian Freight Council and the transport industry skills board, Transport Distribution Training South Australia. Strategic planning is also within the ambit of the recently established Training and Skills Commission.

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Western Australia: The Western Australian Transport and Logistics Workforce Advisory Group was formed in May 2009 with representation across a spectrum of industry transport stakeholders, including transport, education, training, business and employment government agencies. To date the group has met twice and is still attempting to fully comprehend the current situation in the State and to highlight what various organisations are doing in isolation or jointly to solve workforce issues. The second meeting was held in September 2009 based on the Action Plan of the National Working Group as a guideline. The WA TLWAG will in the coming period undertake identification of gaps, if any, in WA's training and skills development programs and will work with the national body to ensure WA's requirements are reflected in the national Strategic Action Plan.

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Tasmania: The Tasmanian Transport and Logistics Workforce Advisory group was formed in April 2009 and is co-chaired by the Tasmanian Freight Logistics Council and a representative from the Department of Infrastructure Energy and Resources. The members of the group include representatives from a wide range of transport modes and sectors, educators, government and unions. The Group has met twice since July 2009 and has agreed on a working plan to determine the most important issues in Tasmania and aims to highlight possible solutions.

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Northern Territory: The Northern Territory Transport and Logistics Workforce Advisory Group was formed in February 2009 and has representatives from all industry transport modes and sectors including unions, as well as the transport, education and training, and business and employment government agencies. The group has already put together an action plan with a number of programs and activities across the key focus areas of *Workforce Planning and Development*, *Training and Partnering*, *Industry Image and Profile*, and *Support Networks*. Key actions include undertaking an industry workplace survey and development of a strategic workforce development strategy which will focus on delivering practical industry workforce programs.

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