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Australian Road Transport
Industrial Organisation

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The Courier

Information and Advice for NSW Transport Operators

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Contents

1. Minister Dominello, Launches *Work Health and Safety Road Map for NSW in 2022*
2. SafeWork NSW Launches Safe Handling Fork Lift Video
3. Small Business Ombudsman Launches Inquiry into Payment Terms
4. State Insurance Regulatory Authority Releases New Worker/Contractor Deeming Tool for Workers' Compensation
5. Private Sector Wages Growth Falls to New Lows
6. NSW Centre for Road Safety and NSW Police Release Results of Operation Towards Zero
7. Reserve Bank Discloses Reasons for Lowering Official Interest Rates
8. National Road Safety Partnership Program Warning on Safety Policy for Mobile Phones
9. WestConnex Announces Traffic Changes on Parramatta Rd, M4 Motorway
10. RMS Launches Interactive Map Showing All Approved Road Train Routes
11. Pokemon Go Warning
12. NHVR Launches Blueprint for Safer, Productive More Compliant Industry
13. NHVR Launches National Supply Chain Survey
14. NHVR Focus on Blacktown City Council PBS Access
15. ACCC Warns Time is Running Out to Review Small Business
16. Wanted: Transport Operators for Research Project into Improved Safety Management
17. Greater Alignment of WHS Law and Road Law on the Way
18. NTC Seeks Input on National Land Transport Productivity Framework
19. TWUSUPER Super News August 2016
20. Economic and Industry Indicators

Minister Dominello Launches *Work Health and Safety Road Map for NSW in 2022*

The Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation, Victor Dominello, has launched SafeWork NSW's *Work Health and Safety Road Map for NSW in 2022*.

ARTIO NSW Secretary/Treasurer, Hugh McMaster attended this invitation only event held in Sydney on 22 August along with approximately 70 other representatives from employer associations, unions, community groups, businesses and government agencies.

The Road Map sets out a vision for improving WHS in NSW over the next six years and follows extensive consultation with stakeholders, including ARTIO NSW.

Executive Director of SafeWork NSW, Peter Dunphy said that the Road Map aims to reduce fatalities by 20 per cent over the next six years. The Road Map aspires to reduction of 30 percent. Reduction in injuries and illnesses over its six-year timeframe. He said that to achieve this, workplaces need to be empowered to manage WHS more effectively.

Key themes in the Road Map are to:

- Deliver a range of innovative initiatives in partnership with stakeholder representatives, including associations.
- Have targeted programs in high risk sectors, including transport.
- Improve regulatory services through improved customer focus, improved credibility, improved data collection and analytics and through innovative regulatory design.

The Road Map highlights some important developments in relation to WHS in the ten years ending 2014 in NSW. For example:

- Fatality incident rates have fallen by 49 per cent per 100,000.
- Serious injury and illness rates have fallen by 39 per cent per 100,000.
- Serious musculoskeletal injury and illness rates have also fallen by 39 per cent per 100,000.

However, there are some sobering statistics for the year ending 30 June 2016 in NSW included in the Road Map, including:

- A total of 60 workers were killed in workplace accidents.
- Almost 31,000 workers were harmed through illness and injury.
- The economic cost of these illnesses and injuries totalled \$17.3 billion, or 3.7 per cent of Gross State Product.
- 1,000 businesses are responsible for 60 per cent of all claims.

Further information is available at www.safework.nsw.gov.au/roadmap.

SafeWork NSW Launches Safe Handling Fork Lift Video

SafeWork NSW has launched a video which provides advice on how to safely handle loads using fork lifts. The video can be viewed at www.safework.nsw.gov.au/news/safety-alert/fork-lift-load-handling.

Small Business Ombudsman Launches Inquiry into Payment Terms

The Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman, Kate Carnell, has announced that ASBESO intends to conduct an inquiry into payment terms.

The ASBFEO intends to look at:

- Current practices;
- The impact of payment timing on small businesses; and
- Options for improving the situation.

The scope for this Inquiry is the small business sector. However, the issue of payment terms was raised by a broad range of transport industry stakeholders, including ARTIO, early on during the conciliation process before the former Road Safety Remuneration Tribunal.

State Insurance Regulatory Authority Releases New Worker/Contractor Deeming Tool for Workers' Compensation

The NSW State Insurance Regulatory Authority (SIRA), which was previously part of the former WorkCover in NSW, has released a new tool to help employers determine whether an employee is a worker, a deemed worker or a contractor under NSW workers' compensation law.

All employers in NSW (except exempt employers) must have a workers' compensation policy. Having a policy insures businesses against the cost of supporting an injured worker should they suffer a work related injury or illness.

SIRA says that if you or your business has employees, you may need to include these people under your workers' compensation policy.

SIRA acknowledges that working arrangements can be more complex and it is hard to determine whether someone you employ would be classified as a worker, deemed worker or contractor under workers' compensation law.

SIRA's worker or contractor toll, which is available at www.workerstatus.workcover.nsw.gov.au, helps employers determine worker status and whether, as an employer, you (or they) are responsible for their workers' compensation cover.

Private Sector Wages Growth Falls to New Lows

Figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics show a continued downward trend in wages growth across the economy as a whole, especially in the private sector.

The ABS's Wage Price Index for the year ending 30 June 2016 showed wage rates in the private sector grew by 1.9 per cent, the lowest annual increase since the commencement of this statistical series in 1997. The rate of increases in wages for the June 2016 quarter was 0.4 per cent.

Wages grew by 2 per cent in the transport, postal and warehousing sector over the year ending 30 June 2016 and by 0.4 per cent over the quarter, according to the ABS.

This ABS measure of wages growth relates to ordinary hours worked and is expressed in trend terms.

NSW Centre for Road Safety, NSW Police Force, Release Results of Operation Towards Zero

(Joint Media Release, NSW Centre for Road Safety, NSW Police Force 24 August 2016)

NSW Centre for Road Safety Executive Director Bernard Carlon and NSW Police Assistant Commissioner John Hartley today released the results of Operation Towards Zero, a two-week state-wide high visibility police operation targeting risk-taking behaviour on our roads.

Police put a spotlight on fatigue, speeding, mobile phone use and pedestrian offences during the 8 August to 22 August operation, issuing law-breakers more than 13,000 infringements.

Close to 9,000 of those were for speeding offences, while more than 2,000 people across the state copped fines for illegally using a mobile phone behind the wheel.

"It's very concerning that so many people are still taking these kinds of risks on the road – these decisions can and do result in people dying," Mr Carlon said.

"It is disappointing to see 800 people were fined for not wearing a seatbelt. There is absolutely no excuse for anyone to ever travel in a car without wearing a seatbelt, no matter how short the trip, and it's unbelievable to think anyone would take that kind of gamble with their safety."

"Those figures clearly show that some road users are ignoring the basics. The message is clear; take control of your driving. Display the proper driving behaviour and remember that driving is a privilege, not a right," Assistant Commissioner Hartley, NSW Traffic and Highway Patrol Commander, said.

"Drivers, riders, cyclists, pedestrians, all need to take control of their road use. Too many are losing their lives for the want of some basic, necessary, road safety skills and awareness."

"With the financial support of the Centre for Road Safety, we've been able to have more officers in more vehicles on our roads, more often, which over this period has saved 5 lives on our roads compared to the same time in 2015."

There were 18 deaths on our roads during the two-week operation, down from 23 in the same period last year.

"The only acceptable road toll is zero and that's what we will continue aiming for on NSW roads," Mr Carlon said.

Reserve Bank Discloses Reasons for Lowering Official Interest Rates

In a statement issued earlier this month following the Reserve Bank of Australia's decision to reduce official interest rates by 0.25 per cent (or 25 basis points) to 1.5 per cent, RBA Governor, Glenn Stevens identified features of Australia's economic outlook which provided the basis of its decision.

The RBA believes, on balance that interest rates needed to be lowered because:

- The Australian economy will enter a lower rate of economic growth due to a slowing pace of growth in China with a flow on impact to export earnings for Australian commodity exporters.
- Australia's financial markets have continued to function effectively.
- The inflation rate has fallen and is likely to stay low for some time given subdued wages growth and very low cost pressures elsewhere in the world.
- Financial institutions such as banks are in a position to lend for worthwhile purposes and lower lending costs should stimulate borrowing activity.
- There has been a slowing in growth in lending for housing which, on balance, is not expected to exacerbate risks in the housing market.
- A lowering of official interest rates will, over time, enhance the prospects of sustainable economic growth and return inflation levels to the target band of 2 to 3 per cent per annum.

National Road Safety Partnership Program Warning on Safety Policy for Mobile Phones

(Adapted from article courtesy 'OHS Alert')

The National Road Safety Partnership Program has warned employers that they may be unwittingly forcing employees to use mobile phones in an unsafe manner.

According to the NRSPP, dialing a number on a mobile phone increases the risk of a crash, near crash or another near safety-critical incident by 12.2 times. The risk arising from locating or reaching for a phone increases by seven fold while texting increases such risks six fold.

Even conversing hands free while driving increases risks by increasing reaction time to road related events and contributing to more abrupt and excessive braking.

The NRSPP recognises that banning mobile phone use while driving is impractical and could have unintended consequences.

NRSPP manager, Jerome Carslake, said that an employer's mobile phone use policy should be underpinned by the following seven principles:

1. Always keep your eyes on the road.
2. Never text, write or read while driving.
3. Buy, install and use a cradle for your phone.
4. Use your smart phone's features such as voice-activated dialling, Bluetooth and hands free.
5. Don't automatically answer your phone but consider the traffic conditions first.
6. Ensure the caller knows you are driving so they understand if you pause or end the call.
7. If you intend to pull over for a call, ensure it is safe for you and other road users.

Copies of the NRSPP's policy, *A Guide to Developing an Effective Policy for Mobile Phone Usage in Vehicles: National Road Safety Partnership Program* is available from www.nrspp.org.au.

The NRSPP is managed by the Australian Road Research Board and is funded over the next three years by ARRB, the NSW Centre for Road Safety, the NSW State Insurance Regulatory Authority, the National Transport Commission, the South Australian Motor Accident Commission, VicRoads and the (Victorian) Transport Accident Commission.

WestConnex Announces Traffic Changes on Parramatta Rd, M4 Motorway

WestConnex has announced that from 5 September, traffic changes will take place on Parramatta Road and the M4 Motorway. These will include:

- Parramatta Road lane closure, eastbound between Bland Street and Rogers Avenue, Haberfield.
- Parramatta Road lane closure, westbound between Ashfield Park and Bland Street, Ashfield.
- M4 exit ramp onto Parramatta Road, eastbound.
- M4 entry ramp from Parramatta Road, westbound.
- M4 night works, between Church Street, Granville and Homebush Bay Drive.

WestConnex advises road users to be prepared and allow extra travel time. Get the full story at www.westconnex.com.au/traffic.

For traffic updates please visit www.livetraffic.com or telephone the Traffic Information Line on 132 701.

Pokemon GO Warning

(Source: 'OHS Alert')

WorkSafe WA Commissioner, Lex McCullough has warned Pokemon GO players to stay clear of unsafe work sites and called on employers to block their entry.

Editorial Comment

While the Commissioner has raised concerns specifically in relation to construction sites and recommended additional security such as fencing, similar risks and associated hazards can be

expected in transport yards and warehouses as Pokemon Go players find and catch Pokemon characters at real-life locations.

However, transport facilities cannot necessarily be secured in the same manner as construction sites.

NTC Seeks Input on National Land Transport Productivity Framework

Transport operators, associations and government bodies have been given the opportunity to help the NTC develop a new framework that will help define and measure Australia's land transport productivity.

Chief Executive of the NTC Paul Retter said the framework would help governments and industry keep track of Australia's land transport productivity performance and help governments make better laws and regulations, infrastructure investment decisions and operational improvements to Australia's transport network.

He said the framework will also give industry decision-makers better information to help them make the best possible operational and business investment decisions.

"There is an old saying that you can't really improve what you don't measure," Mr Retter said.

"This project will help us define and measure land transport productivity so we can ensure Australia's strategies, action plans and future decisions deliver the benefits we need."

The NTC is asking relevant stakeholders to answer a range of questions to help develop the framework including:

- What factors should be included?
- Can current productivity measures be applied and do we need to supplement them?
- How should the information be collected and presented?
- How would you use the productivity framework?

The National Land Transport Productivity Framework Issues Paper is available from www.ntc.gov.au/current-projects/national-transport-productivity-framework.

Stakeholders can make a submission via the NTC's website before 5pm, **6 October 2016**.

The framework will be presented to transport ministers at the Transport and Infrastructure Council meeting scheduled for November 2017.

RMS Launches Interactive Map Showing All Approved Road Train Routes

Roads and Maritime Services has launched an interactive map that displays approved routes for all road trains in New South Wales. The map includes both local council and state managed roads.

The maps will assist industry by ensuring access to the most up to date road network information. The interactive maps are easier to navigate with improved functionality than the former static PDF maps and lists. Overall the interactive road train map will provide a safer and more efficient road train network in NSW.

Additionally, a further interactive map enhancement has been delivered, combining the General Mass Limit, B-double and Higher Mass Limit short combination and B-double interactive maps. Yet another improvement to the interactive map service Roads and Maritime provides to the heavy vehicle industry.

The maps can be found on the Roads and Maritime website:

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/business-industry/heavy-vehicles/maps/road-train-map/index.html>

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/business-industry/heavy-vehicles/maps/restricted-access-vehicles-map/map/index.html>

NHVR Launches Blueprint for Safer, Productive and More Compliant Industry

The NHVR today released its five-year blueprint for a safer, productive and more compliant heavy vehicle industry.

Transport and Infrastructure Minister, Darren Chester launched the NHVR's *Setting the Agenda* document which would link three key strategies to continue to reform the heavy vehicle industry.

'This plan focusses on the three national strategies for Safety, Compliance and Assurance, and Productivity to guide Australia's regulatory heavy vehicle agenda between now and 2020,' Mr Chester said.

'As a regulator, the NHVR will set the standard in relation to heavy vehicle safety while taking a balanced approach to cutting red tape and improving industry access to services and products.'

'Australia's reliance on a safe and sustainable road freight industry across urban, rural and remote communities will only grow with a large portion of that growth driven by interstate freight movements.'

Setting the Agenda – Strategies for a Safer, Productive and more Compliant Heavy Vehicle Industry, will include an Action Plan to ensure strategies are delivered.

Key items of the Action Plan will include:

- Developing a safety risk management approach.
- Developing and delivering a national heavy vehicle awareness road safety campaign.
- Guidance and education material on Chain of Responsibility.
- Implementing new guidelines for the registration of Industry Codes of practice.

NHVR CEO Sal Petrocitto said the strategies underpin the NHVR's long-term *Strategic Directions 2016* document released in May.

Wanted: Transport Operators for Research Project to Measure Improved Safety Management

Researchers at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) have developed a program for improving safety management specifically for the trucking industry. The program was based on the results of research on what characteristics distinguish companies with low from higher insurance claimers. This intervention is ready for trial in real world conditions and we need companies to take part.

The trial will be a before and after comparison. The project team will visit your company to record what you do currently to manage safety and will then help you to develop a program to improve your safety management that suits your company.

You will be asked to keep a record of the changes you make against the plan. Data collected before and after will be used to measure the effect of the program.

UNSW is looking for companies which operate fleets of approximately 10 to 50 trucks in the hire and reward sector, or have parts of the business that are around this size.

Further information is available from Lori Mooren, Senior Research Fellow on 0412 888 290 or via email at lori.mooren@unsw.edu.au.

This project is supported by funding from the Australian Research Council, the NSW State Insurance Regulatory Authority, Transport for NSW, Zurich Australia, National Transport Commission and Transport Certification Australia.

Greater Alignment of WHS and Road Law on the Way

John West, safety committee chair of the Australian Logistics Council has told the ALC's annual Supply Chain Safety and Compliance Summit that legislative changes can be expected to lead to a closer alignment between WHS and road laws across supply chains.

'It represents a paradigm shift to CoR and will affect all parts of the supply chain,' Mr West said.

Mr West said one of the most important changes will be to impose a duty of due diligence on people such as directors. He said they will be required to ensure all reasonably practicable steps have been taken to ensure CoR obligations have not been breached.

Mr West also told the Summit that the NHVR will soon publish guidelines for the preparation of industry codes of practice that must be met if a code is to be registered.

Mr West is also a Committee member of the ARTIO NSW Committee.

NHVR Launches National Supply Chain Survey

(Adapted from article courtesy 'The Transporter', Queensland Trucking Association)

On 17 August, the NHVR on launched a national supply chain survey ahead of an education campaign about Chain of Responsibility requirements.

NHVR CEO Sal Petrocchio said that the online survey will run from September until early October and will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

'The survey is aimed at both the heavy vehicle industry and the supply chain throughout Australia,' Mr Petrocchio said.

'We need all of industry to be involved, so the right information and tools can be developed and delivered to support business education across the national freight task.'

The results of the survey will be analysed and form the basis of the NHVR's Chain of Responsibility education program. The information and guidance material will be used to assist all supply chain businesses to better understand their heavy vehicle safety obligations and to adopt safe management practices.

Mr Petrocchio said the survey forms part of a larger Chain of Responsibility project.

'We are committed to a heavy vehicle industry that delivers the information and tools necessary for managing the ongoing safety and compliance requirements under Chain of Responsibility legislation,' he said.

'The survey will be available through links on our website and social media channels as well as through the national bodies and individual emails.'

For further information on the survey please visit www.nhvr.gov.au.

ACCC Warns Time is Running Out to Review Standard Small Business Contracts

(From the ACCC Small Business Information Network)

13 weeks to go to review your small business standard form contracts....tick tick tick!

Yesterday, (10 August) ACCC Deputy Chair Dr Michael Schaper warned businesses that the time to review their standard form contracts for unfair contract terms is running out. The new business-to-business unfair contract term laws will commence on 12 November 2016.

In preparation for the introduction of the new laws, the ACCC has engaged in an education and consultation process with a number of sectors including franchising, advertising services, telecommunication services, retail leasing and independent contracting.

The new law will apply when a term in a small business standard form contract:

- Causes a significant imbalance in the parties' rights and obligations
- Isn't reasonably necessary to protect the legitimate interests of the party advantaged by the term, and
- Causes financial or other detriment (such as delay) to a small business if it were relied on.

For more information, please see the ACCC's media release and guidance material on business-to-business unfair contract terms at www.accc.gov.au.

NHVR Focus on Blacktown City Council PBS Access

The opportunities for local governments to manage their heavy vehicle movements are showcased in [Local government in focus - Blacktown City Council](#), the latest access video issued by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator.

The NHVR says it welcomes council's move to embrace newer, modern and safer heavy vehicles administered under the NHVR's Performance Based Standards scheme and the benefits they bring to local economies.

TWUSUPER Super News August 2016

2015/16 investment returns

TWUSUPER has declared its annual investment returns* for the financial year to 30 June

2016. Chief Investment Officer Andrew Killen has described the results as very solid despite tough investment markets.

"Investment markets during the year were some of the toughest we've seen since the GFC," said Mr Killen. "Despite this, TWUSUPER's investment performance is highly competitive, when compared to a range of well-known industry and retail super funds."

Period to 30 June 2016	Super members % pa			Pension members % pa		
	Cash Plus	Balanced (MySuper)	Equity Plus	Cash Plus	Balanced	Equity Plus
1 year	1.81%	3.05%	3.13%	2.17	3.45	3.59
3 years	2.03%	8.16%	9.70%	2.45	9.13	10.91
5 years	2.71%	8.17%	9.35%	3.20	9.24	10.65
10 years	3.71%	5.17%	5.16%	4.40	5.99	6.05

TWUSUPER has delivered above average returns over the past 10 years. Since inception (July 1988 through to 30 June 2016), the Fund's Balanced (MySuper) investment option has delivered 7.22% pa.

If you require more information about TWUSUPER's investment options, call **1800 222 071** from 8am to 8pm (AEST/AEDT) weekdays.

* When we refer to 'investment returns', we are technically referring to 'crediting rates'. The crediting rate equals the investment earnings of each investment option less estimated tax, investment management costs and other costs. Crediting rates can be either positive or negative as they depend on investment performance. TWUSUPER often uses the term 'investment returns' as it is more commonly understood than crediting rates. Past performance is no guarantee of future performance.

TWUSUPER at your service

TWUSUPER has been helping employers look after super since 1984 – no query is too large or small to help you with. Call our Melbourne-based call centre on 1800 241 877 from 8am to 8pm (AEST/AEDT) weekdays to speak to our employer relationship team.

Employees in different funds?

Pay all your employees' super with one login and one payment, free of charge through SCH Online. Call us on 1800 241 877 from 8am to 8pm (AEST/AEDT) weekdays to find out more.

* SCH Online is a financial product operated by The Superannuation Clearing House Pty Limited (Authorised Representative Number 290290) (TSCH), an authorised representative of Pacific Custodians Pty Limited (Australian Financial Services Licence Number 295142) (Pacific Custodians).

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Economic and Industry Indicators

Indicator/Source ¹	As at	Unit of Measure	Quantity	% Variation
GDP latest quarter (ABS)	Mar Qtr 2016	\$m	419,560	3.2
CPI (ABS)	Jun Qtr 2016	Per cent		1.0
Cash rate (RBA)	Current	Per cent	1.5	
Estimated Residential Population (ABS)	As at 31 Aug 2016	Million	24.175	
Retail Turnover (ABS)	June 2016	\$m	25,052	3.1
Actual New Capital Expenditure (ABS)	Mar Qtr 2016	\$m	30,724	-15.4
Inventories held by private business (ABS)	Mar 2016	\$m	154,771	0.3
Dwelling unit approvals (ABS)	Jul 2016	Number	19,971	0.9
Manufacturers Income (ABS)	Mar 2016	\$m	82,083	-4.0
Employed persons (ABS)	Jul 2016	Million	11,955	1.8
Unemployed persons (ABS)	Jul 2016	Percentage	5.7	-0.4
Wage Price Index (ABS)	Jun Qtr 2016	Per cent		
All employees				2.1
Transport, postal and warehousing				2.0
New motor vehicle sales (ABS)	Jul 2016	Number	97,922	1.5
Cab Chassis/Prime Mover Sales (TIC)	5 months ending May 2016	Number	12874	4.8
Vans (TIC)	5 months ending May 2016	Number	2803	-1.9
AIP Terminal Gate Price-Diesel-Sydney	As at 31 Aug 2016	Cents per litre	105.5	

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¹ ABS – Australian Bureau of Statistics; RBA – Reserve Bank of Australia; AIP – Australian Institute of Petroleum; TIC – Truck Industry Council/'Prime Mover' latest issue.