



Australian Road Transport
Industrial Organisation

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The Courier

Information and Advice for NSW Transport Operators

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Contents

1. Healthy Heads in Trucks and Sheds Launches
2. Australian Cyber Security Centre Releases Advice for Small Businesses
3. Mainfreight's Ethics Praised
4. NSW Government Offers Grants to PPE Manufacturers
5. Economic Update
6. Infrastructure Update

Healthy Heads in Trucks and Sheds Launched

The ARTIO NSW secretariat was pleased to receive an invitation to join the Healthy Heads in Trucks & Sheds launch on 18 August.

HHTS is a new industry-driven initiative focused on delivering better mental health outcomes in the road transport and logistics industries.

Prior to its launch, Interim CEO, Lachlan Benson briefed ARTIO NSW on what HHTS hopes to achieve.

HHTS is supported by a wide range of stakeholders including industry associations, the TWU, transport operators, customers as well as government ministers and agencies. HHTS's patron is Lindsay Fox.

The goal of HHTS is to deliver a single national mental health plan for the sector.

The key pillars of HHTS's program are:

- An increase in the number of people trained in mental health at transport and logistics facilities
- Standardisation of policies and regulation at these facilities
- Helping the individual be healthier from a diet and mental health perspective

Expect to hear more about HHTS in the future.

Australian Cyber Security Centre Releases Advice for Small Businesses

Australian Cyber Security Centre provides trusted and relevant information on how Australia's small and medium businesses can protect themselves from the most common cyber security threats.

With 99.8% of business in Australia being small-to-medium businesses, employing 7.3 million people, small businesses are a large contributor to Australia's prosperity.

The ACSC says it is important that Australia's small and medium businesses understand their cyber security risks, and what they can do to protect themselves, their customers and their suppliers.

The latest ACSC cyber security advice, specifically tailored for small businesses, is available at <https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/small-and-medium-businesses>

Mainfreight's Ethics Praised

Adapted from Article, Australian Financial Review, 24 August 2020

The ethics of transport operator and ARTIO NSW Member, Mainfreight, have been praised by Australian Financial Review (AFR) columnist James Thompson in an article in the newspaper's 24 August edition.

Mr Thompson reminds readers that on 20 March this year, the Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, said: "(h)ow you support your customers and your employees during the next six months will say more about your company, your corporate values and the integrity of your brand than anything else you could possibly do otherwise."

He said that while the business community has "largely stepped up and played its role in the Team Australia bargain", some companies have received wage subsidies through JobKeeper and the NZ Government's equivalent scheme and seen their revenue rebound so the companies concerned were able to maintain pre-COVID-19 dividends, if not increase them. The companies concerned, including Nick Scali and Adairs, have been roundly criticised.

As Mr Thompson said, Mainfreight took a different approach.

Mainfreight's Group Managing Director Don Braid told shareholders that following the New Zealand lockdown turnover fell by between 40 per cent and 50 per cent in the first few weeks.

The Mainfreight board developed a policy making it clear that only employees earning less than \$NS200,000 would be eligible for the NZ wage subsidy.

Mainfreight applied for support and, as a result, NZ Government authorities paid Mainfreight \$NZ10.6 million.

Because Mainfreight's board and senior management were uncomfortable with the payment, it was deposited the money received into a separate bank account intended for use as an emergency buffer.

During April and May, Mainfreight experienced a fall in revenue in NZ and Europe while revenue grew in Australia and revenue in Mainfreight's US operations remained steady.

By late May, Mainfreight's board and senior management were optimistic about the company's outlook.

They decided to return the unused wage subsidies to NZ Government authorities, which they did.

"It was the most important thing to do. We felt we didn't deserve it. It's about integrity and it's about what we stand for. We are a pretty proud business and we see those things as important." Mr Braid said.

To read the full article go to the back page of the AFR 24 August edition or visit www.afr.com.au.

NSW Government Offers Grants to PPE Manufacturers

Adapted from media release, Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW and Minister for Industry and Trade, 17 August 2020

The NSW Government has announced a \$5 million grants scheme to locally manufacture critical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Deputy Premier John Barilaro said the program to support domestic manufacturing of PPE in NSW will provide grants to local companies to help fund equipment, raw materials and recruitment of skilled staff.

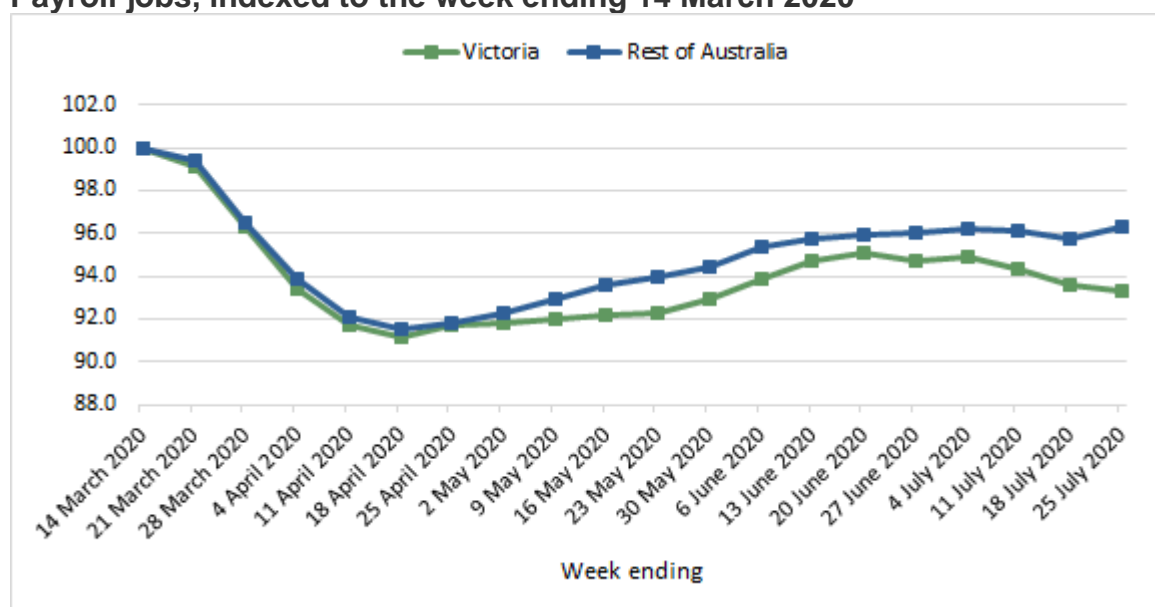
Local manufacturers and suppliers who registered to provide PPE have also been listed in a directory on the following NSW Government website: <https://buy.nsw.gov.au/news/2020/ppe-supplies-portal-for-industry-and-the-community>.

Economic Update

Latest ABS Payroll Data Highlights COVID-19 Impact in Victoria

Figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics based on single touch payroll data on 11 August for the period 14 March to 25 July show the contrasting impact of job losses due to COVID-19 in Victoria compared to the rest of Australia – please refer to the graph below.

Payroll jobs, indexed to the week ending 14 March 2020



Source:

<https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs%40.nsf/mediareleasesbyCatalogue/400084FDCC1353C9CA258550026370F?OpenDocument>.

The ABS said the number of payroll jobs nationwide remained 4.5 per cent below mid-March, however in Victoria job losses stood at 6.7 per cent from mid-March.

In July, the number of payroll jobs nationwide remained steady (-0.1 per cent) while Victoria saw a fall in job numbers of 1.5 per cent ahead of the introduction of Stage 4 COVID-19 restrictions.

WA, the NT and Queensland are least affected by job losses in the period 14 March to 25 July.

There has been a 4.1 per cent loss in jobs in NSW from 14 March to 25 July and a loss of 4.5 per cent in the ACT.

There has been a 5.6 per cent fall in jobs in road transport from 14 March to 25 July. Jobs continued to be shed in the industry during July.

Port Botany Container Volumes Fall 5.5 Per Cent in 2019-20

Figures released by NSW Ports show container volumes for the year ending 30 June 2020 fell by 5.51 per cent to 2,494,372 compared to 2,663,852 in the year ending 30 June 2019.

Full exports fell by 5.19 per cent while full imports fell by 3.97 per cent.

Infrastructure Update

Pacific Hwy Upgrades

Federal Member for Page Kevin Hogan said 15 klms of dual carriageway on the Pacific Hwy between Mororo and Devils Pulpit is set to open in late August

This follows the opening earlier this month of the Maclean interchange to provide faster and safer access to the highway and between neighbouring towns.

New Abercrombie River Bridge Open

The Abercrombie River Bridge between Oberon and Goulburn is now open according to Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Michael McCormack.

Mr McCormack said the new two-lane bridge, north of Taralga, replaces a flood prone single-lane timber bridge and is suitable for heavy vehicles, including B-doubles.

Informal Truck Stopping Bay, East-West Link Albion Park Update

A reminder that Transport for NSW has advised that the informal truck stopping bay on the East West Link between the Cleary Bros quarry and the Oak Flats interchange in Albion Park was permanently closed from 22 July 2020.

An alternative truck stopping bay is available on the East West Link between the Holcim quarry and Croome Road, Albion Park.

Road Works, Intersection King Georges Rd and Broadarrow Rd/Ponyara Rd Beverly Hills from 22 July

Transport for NSW has advised that road works have commenced at the intersection of King Georges Rd and Broadarrow Rd/Ponyara Rd Beverly Hills.

Work commenced on 22 July and is scheduled to continue till mid-December.

The work schedule involves working up to six days and five nights a week for 55 day shifts and 45 night shifts, weather permitting, excluding public holidays.

Night work hours will be between 8pm and 5am from Sunday to Thursday.

Day work hours are from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays.

Most work will take place on Broadarrow Rd.

Penrith Intersection Upgrade Completed

The upgrade of the intersection of The Northern Rd and Derby St in Penrith is now complete.

Upgrade of Demondrille Creek Bridge

Minister for Regional Transport and Roads Paul Toole said maintenance work on Demondrille Creek Bridge, also known as the William Bradford Bridge, located 5.5 kilometres west of Harden on Burley Griffin Way, is now underway.

Work will be carried out between 7am and 5pm on weekdays and is expected to be complete by mid-October, weather permitting.

Changed traffic conditions are in place.

Purvis La North Dubbo Upgrade Complete

Transport for NSW has announced completion of the Purvis La upgrade between the North Dubbo industrial precinct, the Newell Hwy and the Golden Hwy.

The upgrade improves access for heavy vehicles and allows access for higher productivity vehicles.

Other New Road Works

Suburb/ Town	Road	Date/s	No of Shifts	Work Times
Alexandria	Between Gardeners Rd and Gillespie Ave	16/8-18/9/20	6	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Banksia	Cnr Princes Hwy and Subway Rd	9/8-2/10/20	n/a	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Bankstown	Canterbury Rd from Mavis St to Clements Ave	16/8- 26/11/20	16	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Bexley	Forest Rd near Oriental St	Late Aug-Late Sept 2020	10	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Dulwich Hill	New Canterbury Rd near Terrace Rd	19/8-30/9/20	9	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Lidcombe	Cnr Church St and Bachell Ave	16/8-2/10/20	26	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Lidcombe	Olympic Dr from Kerr's Rd to Boorea Sr	9/8-16/10/20	12	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Lidcombe- Berala	Joseph St from Amy St/Weerona Rd to Eglington St	26/7-17/11/20	29	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Maroubra	Cnr Bunnerong Rd and Wentworth Ave	16/8-27/9/20	25	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Mascot	Kent Rr southbound near Galloway St and near 42 Ricketty St westbound	19/8-28/9/20	6	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Menai-Alfords Pt	Alfords Pt Rd from Old Illawarra Rd to Brushwood Dr	26/7-17/11/20	28	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Padstow Heights	Alfords Pt bridge northbound	9/8/20- 19/2/21	n/a	7am-6pm Mon-Fri 8am-1pm Sat
Pymont	Off ramp bridge, Harris St, over light rail	24/8/20- 28/2/21 30/8-18/9/20	n/a	7am-6pm Mon-Fri 8am-1pm Sat 8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Strathfield	Cnr Centenary Dr and Arthur St	16/8-27/9/20	10	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Strathfield	Cnr Centenary Dr and Weeroona Rd	16/8-27/9/20	25	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Surry Hills	Sth Dowling St northbound from Prospect St to McElone St	23/8-2/10/20	5	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Yagoona	Rookwood Rd near Muir Rd	23/8-18/9/20	4	8pm-5am Sun-Fri