

Communique

Industry Reference Forum #13 – 25 October 2017

The 13th meeting of the Industry Reference Forum (IRF) was held in two locations, firstly at Parliament House, Canberra with The Hon Darren Chester MP, Federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport in attendance and then at the Australian Trucking Association (ATA) office, Canberra.

Attendees

National Heavy Vehicle Regulator	Australia Trucking Association	Australian Logistics Council
Federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport	Australian Local Government Association	Victorian Transport Association
Crane Industry Council of Australia	South Australia Road Transport Association	Civil Contractors Federation
Heavy Vehicle Industry Association	National Road Freighters Association	
Australian Livestock & Rural Transporters Association	National Road Transport Association (NatRoad)	

Apologies

Australia New Zealand Police Advisory Agency	Agforce/Ag IOG representative	Queensland Trucking Association
National Farmers Federation	Queensland Police Service	Transport Workers Union
Russell Transport		

Opening – Parliament House

Sal Petrocchio, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) opened the forum welcoming members and introducing The Hon Darren Chester MP, Federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport who chaired the first part of the meeting. The Minister addressed members on round three funding for Heavy Vehicle Road Safety Initiatives and funding priorities.

Heavy Vehicle Road Safety Initiatives

The NHVR is calling for submissions for the next round of funding to support industry-led safety projects; the program will continue to support safety initiatives that benefit the heavy vehicle industry and the community.

The Heavy Vehicle Road Safety Initiative is entering its third funding round with \$3.89 million to support a wide range of projects.

Round 3 funding will apply to projects commencing in 2018–19.

Applications will be open until 23 February 2018 with projects presented to the Transport and Infrastructure Council for consideration in May 2018.

Part one of the forum closed out from Parliament House. Members traversed to part two held at the Australian Trucking Association (ATA) office

Members reconvene – ATA Office

Sal Petrocchio, CEO NHVR re-opened the forum wherein NHVR and industry items were discussed.

National Compliance Information System

Where the NHVR is going

The NHVR presented on the National Compliance Information System (NCIS). The NCIS is the development of a national heavy vehicle compliance dataset, which will inform and contribute to the creation of the NHVR Safety and Compliance Regulatory Framework. The NCIS will enhance the capability of the NHVR and the states and territories to detect and manage compliance or non-compliance; provide monitoring capability and further enhance the information being supplied into the NCIS.

Benefits

Members asked questions and discussions were held around the benefits for industry including the compliance aspect, whereby compliance will be rewarded with fewer interceptions, and where there are interceptions less time will be spent being stopped. Where non-compliance has been identified, a more targeted approach could be expected.

There will also be benefits for the general community, authorised officers and partner agencies and jurisdictions; particularly in the safety, data and efficiency and business capability spaces.

Industry is happy with the progress of the NCIS.

National Services Transition Program

What transition means for industry

The National Services Transition (NST) blueprint has been developed in consultation with jurisdictions and provides the NHVR with a schedule for assuming responsibility for service delivery for agreed heavy vehicle regulatory services from the states and territories over the next five years.

The NST program provides opportunities to streamline service delivery approaches and increase efficiency through rationalisation of systems and processes.

The NHVR is working cooperatively with jurisdictions to agree a pathway for service transition. Part of this will involve establishing service standards and transparency over how the NHVR is able to deliver safety and efficiency outcomes to governments and industry.

The transition of services provides an opportunity for the NHVR to deliver benefits to industry through consistent service delivery approaches and national service standards.

Fatigue Exemptions – Private Use

Views around the fatigue exemption and submissions to date

- Response to formal feedback requests indicates overwhelming support for the proposal.
- No specific evidence linking personal use with an increased fatigue or safety risk.
- IRF members supported the proposal.
- From feedback received, some modifications to the Notice are being considered.
- Propose to have the National Work and Rest Hours (Personal Use) Exemption Notice (No 1) 2017, in place in December 2017.

Industry Input into Industry Reference Forum

Industry engagement and input

The CEO ATA put forward the desire for a more formal approach for industry on the IRF agenda. The CEO NHVR agreed with these sentiments. The Manager Stakeholder Relations NHVR and the CEO ATA will work together regarding industry engagement and input in the lead up to the next IRF.

Industry Topic - Productivity Discussion (Permit Application Figures)

Industry requested progress on the key item regarding permit data requested at the last IRF. The CEO NHVR tabled the requested data on the number of permit applications v numbers of failed applications, including the variety of reasons for failed applications. The ATA accepted the tabled data.

Next Meeting

To be advised – approximately February 2018.