



ALC Welcomes Bruce Baird Appointment

The Australian Logistics Council (ALC) welcomes today's announcement that transport ministers have agreed to appoint Bruce Baird as the Chair of the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator Board.

"Mr Baird's extensive experience in state and federal politics, and his involvement in the private sector will be a valuable asset to the NHVR Board," ALC Managing Director, Michael Kilgariff said.

"As a former Minister for both Transport and Roads in NSW, Mr Baird understands the critical role transport plays supporting a strong economy, and he is a sensible choice to lead this next phase of regulatory reform.

"Mr Baird will play a critical leadership role ushering in a new National Heavy Vehicle Regulator, and ALC looks forward to working with him on behalf of Australia's freight logistics industry to achieve this important objective."

Mr Kilgariff also welcomed approval of Bill 1 of the Heavy Vehicle National Law, and the Draft National Rail Safety Law at today's inaugural meeting of the Standing Council on Transport and Infrastructure (SCOTI).

"Transport Ministers today took a significant step forward to put in a place a national regulatory framework for transport in Australia with the approval of these draft laws," Mr Kilgariff said.

"It's an important milestone, but the first of many that need to be reached in order for this important reform to be realised by 1 January 2013.

"ALC is committed to achieving this outcome, which is why we will continue to work with Ministers to finalise the details of Bill 2 of the Heavy Vehicle National Law which contains a number of issues of concern to industry.

"The only way to overcome these legislative obstacles is to involve industry every step of the way.

"Bringing industry around the table at today's SCOTI meeting was a step in the right direction, and we look forward to this same degree of partnership being a centrepiece of the discussions from here on in."

Friday 4 November 2011

Further information: Duncan Sheppard on 0412 340 934