

MEDIA RELEASE

New Report Builds Case for More Data in Supply Chains

The [Australian Logistics Council](#) (ALC) has applauded the release of a major new report from [Infrastructure Partnerships Australia](#) (IPA) which helps to highlight many of the challenges confronting Australia's freight networks.

[“Fixing Freight: Establishing Freight Performance in Australia”](#) supports ALC's long-held view that Australia must do more to capture data about the operation and performance of our supply chains,” said ALC Managing Director, Michael Kilgariff.

“As was clear from many of the discussions that occurred at [ALC Forum 2018](#), the lack of data about supply chain performance is a major frustration for industry participants, for investors and for governments wishing to plan more effective infrastructure investment.”

“It is a truism that what is measured can be managed – and the absence of meaningful data around supply chain performance hampers Australia's ability to quickly identify and rectify problems in our freight networks. This affects our international competitiveness.”

“The problem is further compounded by the fact that freight data which is collected is often not coordinated or shared effectively, limiting its usefulness and ability to contribute to improvements in freight network performance,” Mr Kilgariff said.

“These challenges were outlined in [Freight Doesn't Vote](#), ALC's major submission to the *Inquiry into National Freight and Supply Chain Priorities*. That submission recommended that the Federal Government, through the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics (BIRTE), should establish a National Freight Performance Framework, allowing us to better monitor and measure key indicators relating to freight network performance.”

“ALC further recommended that regulatory impediments to effective data sharing be addressed, and that the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) should develop a Transport Satellite Account.”

“It is pleasing that this report from IPA supports these ideas by recommending the establishment of an independent statutory body with the mandate and resources to close the data gap. This should be a key focus for the [National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy](#), which is now being developed by the Federal Government and is expected to be finalised around November this year.”

“Making more effective use of data in our supply chains will also be the major focus for industry discussions at the [ALC Supply Chain Technology Summit 2018](#), being held in Melbourne on 10 May.”

“ALC welcomes this report from IPA as another important contribution to the continuing national conversation about the vital economic importance of enhancing supply chain efficiency and safety,” he concluded.

Thursday, 26 April 2018

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