

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **ALC Summit Commits to Tackling Diversity Issues Head On**

More than 100 people from across the supply chain gathered yesterday in Sydney at the second [Australian Logistics Council Diversity & Inclusion Summit](#) to identify how to attract the best possible talent to work in the logistics industry.

Summit participants committed to continuing to work together to increase diversity and inclusion in the industry, and to build upon the work that has taken place since last year's Summit.

In her [welcome address](#), Jenny McAuliffe, Chair of the ALC People committee and Executive General Manager People, Australian Rail Track Corporation, stressed the need for the logistics industry to create effective cross-industry partnerships to attract, retain and support a more diverse workforce across all parts of the industry.

ALC's work in this area is underscored by figures from the [Workplace Gender Equality Agency](#) which show women represent only 26% of employees in the transport, postal and warehousing industry, with a pay gap of 21.4% to their male counterparts.

"We need to overcome this gender imbalance for our industry to thrive in the future," said Michael Kilgariff, ALC Managing Director.

"As an industry, we need to ensure men and women, young people and Indigenous Australians have access to the same opportunities, so we can build a stronger, more prosperous and more innovative industry," he said.

To address this, a proposal was put to the Summit for a 'Women in Supply Chains Initiative'; a new industry-led program to build community understanding, support education and training, and to attract more women to operations and management roles.

The ALC Board will consider a 3-year pilot program which aims to increase the visibility of the industry; empower women to join the industry and to actively encourage dialogue between participants.

The [Australian Rail Track Corporation](#) and [Brookfield Rail](#) shared with delegates their [Female Recruitment](#) project which used social media to attract record numbers of women to apply for frontline roles, which has boosted the number of women working in track maintenance roles in both organisations.

Gerard Neesham discussed how the [Clontarf Foundation](#) has partnered with major Australian businesses, including [Qube](#) to improve the education, discipline, life skills, self-esteem and employment prospects of young Aboriginal men.

Keynote speaker, Professor Gillian Triggs, President of the Human Rights Commission, welcomed industry's efforts to boost the number of women in the sector, saying a 6% increase of women in the paid workforce would expand the Australian economy by \$25 billion a year.

For more information, [click here](#).

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Contact Duncan Sheppard on 0412 340 934 / [duncan.sheppard@austlogistics.com.au](mailto:duncan.sheppard@austlogistics.com.au)

[www.austlogistics.com.au](http://www.austlogistics.com.au)