

MEDIA RELEASE

NSW Heavy Vehicle Meeting Should Inspire National Action

The [Australian Logistics Council](#) (ALC) says a meeting of heavy vehicle industry representatives and government officials convened today by the NSW Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight Hon. Melinda Pavey MP is a positive step, which should be used as a springboard to achieve significant, nationally-consistent policy reforms that will enhance road safety.

“As an industry leader on freight and supply chain policy issues, ALC has [continually emphasised](#) that our supply chains do not stop at state borders, meaning the regulations which apply to heavy vehicles and freight movement must be nationally consistent,” said ALC Managing Director, Michael Kilgariff.

“The NSW Government should be commended for taking a lead in working closely with industry to identify and implement policy changes that will improve safety. Today’s meeting of industry representatives was further evidence that this sector is more than willing to play an active role and work cooperatively with governments to enhance road safety.”

“As ALC and Members such as Toll Group Managing Director [Michael Byrne](#) have [said](#), now is the time to harness this energy, and give greater impetus to efforts to secure nationally-consistent policy reform, so that heavy vehicle operators from coast-to-coast can operate according to one set of clear rules. We need to act with the same urgency as occurred in Australia in the 1970s, when the wearing of seat belts was made compulsory.”

“Today’s discussions had a particular focus on the role new technologies will play in enhancing safety. [Conversations](#) about the capacity of on-board telematics devices that capture data relating to speed, driver fatigue and vehicle load limits to improve road safety have been occurring for years,” Mr Kilgariff said.

“ALC believes the time has come for decisive action in this area, and urges the NSW Government to play a leading role in persuading the next meeting of the [Transport and Infrastructure Council](#) (TIC) to recommend the immediate development of laws requiring the [mandatory use of telematics](#) in heavy vehicles.”

“Similarly, ALC urges the NSW Government to use TIC as a forum to pursue a [national operator licencing system](#). This will help make certain heavy vehicles are operated by competent professionals who adopt and follow proper safety management systems, and who can retain sufficient capital to invest in transport safety.”

“ALC applauds the NSW Government’s initiative in holding today’s discussions, and hopes they can help advance these urgently-needed safety initiatives nationally,” he concluded.

Tuesday, 23 January 2018

Contact Simon Morgan on 0403 477 131 / simon.morgan@austlogistics.com.au