

MEDIA RELEASE

Common Data Set Critical For More Efficient Supply Chains

The [Australian Logistics Council](#) (ALC) has underscored the importance of developing a common data set for Australia's supply chains in a new Discussion Paper released today.

[A Common Data Set For Our Supply Chain](#) is the second in a series of Discussion Papers being released by ALC to assist in the development of the [National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy](#), and examines how the power of technology and data can best be harnessed to enhance supply chain efficiency for businesses and consumers.

"Plainly, technology and data will play a pivotal role in in the future operation of Australia's supply chains, allowing Australia to meet its rapidly growing freight task more safely and efficiently," said ALC's Interim CEO, Lachlan Benson.

"However, to make certain that happens, there is a significant amount of work to be done to improve the quality and availability of data available to policy makers and industry participants regarding the operation and performance of our supply chains."

"This Discussion Paper, which has been developed with industry input through members of the ALC Technology Committee, sets out a practical pathway for achieving this outcome via a series of recommendations that address crucial issues."

"Actions include improving supply chain visibility, developing a common data standard for Australia's logistics industry, enhancing confidence regarding the privacy and ownership of data, and aligning international data standards to boost efficiency in global trade."

"These issues were all identified as priorities for industry during ALC's inaugural [Supply Chain Technology Summit](#) earlier this year. In order to ensure that the National Strategy delivers the outcomes the freight logistics industry is calling for, it will be important that these matters are explicitly addressed when the Strategy is released in 2019."

"There are substantial economic benefits to be realised by focussing on these issues, as was clearly recognised by the ALC Board when it [endorsed](#) the adoption of Global Data Standards (GDS) by logistics industry participants earlier this year."

"An industry pilot study estimated that the overall economic benefit to Australia through widespread adoption of GDS could exceed \$1 billion."

"As this Discussion Paper shows, the more effective application of data and technology in our supply chains will ultimately enhance productivity for freight logistics operators, and deliver real benefits for consumers."

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