

MEDIA RELEASE

JobTrainer Offers Chance to Better Align Skills with Industry Needs

The [Australian Logistics Council](#) (ALC) says the Federal Government's [commitment](#) to establish a \$1 billion JobTrainer program offers a chance to reskill and upskill workers in the freight and logistics sector in way that will meet changing industry needs.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has reinforced the importance of efficient, safe and resilient supply chain operations in Australia, and the influence of technology will increasingly be felt as operators seek to enhance their performance," said ALC CEO Kirk Coningham.

"This has been evident over recent weeks, as leading companies including [Qube Holdings](#), [Woolworths Group](#) and [Amazon Australia](#) have announced major new investments in supply chain infrastructure that will incorporate world-leading technology and provide new employment opportunities for Australians."

"It also means that governments and industry must actively work to equip the workforce with skills that complement this changing operational landscape."

"This means a much heavier focus will be needed on training existing and potential workers in the operation of sophisticated IT systems and equipment in vehicles and in distribution centres and freight terminals, as customers demand greater visibility over freight as it moves through the supply chain."

"Automation and the use of robotics will also be an increasing factor, and the sector will require a labour force skilled in the operation and maintenance of such systems."

"Just last month, the head of the National Skills Commission, Adam Boyton, [highlighted](#) the need for the freight and logistics sector to enhance its focus on digital skills."

"The Federal Government has indicated that a critical part of the JobTrainer initiative will be for states and territories to work with the National Skills Commission to develop a list of qualifications and skill sets that will provide job seekers with the skills that are in demand by employers and are critical to our post-COVID economic recovery."

"As part of that process, ALC will actively encourage all governments to place a particular emphasis on improving digital skills in the freight and logistics sector, to enhance overall supply chain performance and to improve Australia's international competitiveness."

ENDS

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