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## Media Release

### TECH SUMMIT PUTS SPOTLIGHT ON FUTURE TECH NEEDS

The supply chain has been under incredible pressure during the last two years and many lessons have been learned across freight logistics, about the benefit of leveraging technology and innovation to optimise operations.

Last week, the Australian Logistics Council (ALC) in partnership with HERE Technologies, held the first Technology Summit since the COVID-19 pandemic.

ALC CEO, Dr Hermione Parsons said the Summit provided an opportunity for those in the end to end supply chain to emphasise the need for the uptake of new technologies, greater cooperation and investment from government, particularly on the need for nationally consistent road pricing and the development of alternative fuel and refuelling technology.

“The discussions of the summit again reiterated the need for industry and governments, to work collaboratively to unlock the potential of emerging technologies, in data, automation and simulation to improve operations, as well as in other fuel sources to achieve decarbonisation.

“Again we heard that as a result of recent and ongoing disruption, particularly as we approach Christmas, more and more businesses are taking up the just in case approach of holding increased inventory,” Dr Parsons said.

General Manager for Australia and New Zealand at HERE Technologies, Daniel Antonello added to the discussion, the importance of technology.

“Location technology plays a critical role in supply chain visibility and transparency, both of which are key to optimising business efficiency. For example, 40% of Melbourne’s port exports are empty containers.

“This is the type of inefficiency that can be solved through location-enabled tracking and monitoring. Supply chain players who harness location technology can also improve resilience, better satisfy customers and reduce their carbon footprint,” Mr Antonello said.

Industry participants shared information on the latest technology facilitating the efficient movement of freight and improving industry safety.

Dr Parsons said the Summit was opened by Victorian Ports and Freight Minister, Melissa Horne who emphasised the importance of data to government so better investment decisions can be made.

“This includes knowing where freight is moving and where the pinch points precluding freight movement are.

“The Minister concluded that whilst initiatives such as the Port of Melbourne [Voluntary Performance Monitoring Framework](#) was progress, a low level of trust in freight data and

inconsistent data standards remain a frustration to government. There is more work to be done,” Dr Parsons concluded.

Ends.