



# UPDATE

May 2025



## Executive Insight: May 2025

**From the Desk of Sheena Fardell,  
Head of Government and Industry Affairs & Acting CEO**

Dear Members,

While Hermione has been off galivanting around Europe, it's been a productive month across the ALC network and the broader freight sector.

Following the re-election of the Albanese Government, we've re-engaged with government and media to ensure freight priorities remain central to the national agenda. In recent pieces for ATN and Daily Cargo News, we've called for the release of the updated National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy

— that will focus on productivity measures, drive decarbonisation, ensure regulatory consistency, and guide infrastructure investment.

The updated Administrative Arrangements Orders have shifted key responsibilities — cities, land, and planning policy now sit with Treasury, while Infrastructure retains funding and financing. This change has implications for how freight and industrial land use are considered in broader planning. ALC is engaging with both departments to keep freight access, corridor protection, and planning integration front of mind.

This month we held ALC's Annual General Meeting and Council Meeting, hosted by Intermodal Terminal Company (ITC) at their Somerton precinct in Melbourne. The forum brought together Councillors and senior officials from Queensland, Victoria, and NSW to focus on a major national issue: unlocking rail's potential.

Using ALC's new Rail Issues Discussion Paper, the session addressed how fragmented governance, outdated modal assumptions, and disconnected planning constrain rail's role in supply chains. The discussion highlighted the need to shift from internal rail reform to systems thinking — focusing on integrated, outcome-driven freight solutions. Many thanks to ITC for their hospitality and for fostering a space to explore how rail can be better reintegrated into efficient, multimodal networks.

ALC also featured prominently at CEDA's 2025 Climate and Energy Summit. Our CEO, Dr Hermione Parsons, joined industry leaders from Aurizon, the Port of Melbourne, and Bioenergy Australia to discuss freight decarbonisation. The message was clear: we need scalable renewable fuels, refuelling infrastructure on key corridors, and nationally consistent policy — and ALC is advocating for coordinated action.

As the new government begins its term, our focus remains on keeping freight central in economic, infrastructure, and environmental policy. We'll continue working with members and decision-makers to push for reform that strengthens Australia's supply chains and delivers real outcomes.

Kind Regards, Sheena

## *2025 ALC Supply Chain Summit*

### **Panel Announcement: Built to Last – The Role of Sustainability in Supply Chain Resilience**

[Join us](#) for a powerful discussion on the critical role sustainability plays in building robust, future-ready supply chains. Built to Last will explore which strategies are key to managing risk, maintaining competitiveness, and ensuring long-term viability in the freight and logistics sector.

Key topics include:

- The link between sustainability and supply chain resilience

- Australia's fuel security challenges and the case for urgent reform
- Navigating rising energy costs and insulating freight from fuel volatility
- How Australia compares in the global race toward decarbonised logistics
- The real-world potential of hydrogen, biofuels, and electrification
- Balancing commercial viability with environmental responsibility
- The future of rail, shipping, and intermodal freight in lowering emissions
- Aligning industry and government on effective emissions regulation

This panel promises thought-provoking insights and practical strategies for a sustainable, competitive supply chain sector.

**Have you got your [tickets](#) yet?**



Michael Edmonds - Executive General Manager  
Commercial, NTI



Lisa Archbold - Vice President Customer, ANZ



Mark Mazurek - CEO Linfox Australia and New



Sandra McNeil - Country Director of Operations,  
Amazon Australia

## Align Your Brand with Impact in 2025

The ALC Supply Chain Summit 2025 is where Australia's most senior freight, logistics, and infrastructure leaders will come together to shape a more resilient future.

Sponsoring the Summit positions your brand at the centre of:

- **Industry Leadership** - Showcase your expertise and be seen as a proactive voice offering real-world solutions to supply chain challenges.
- **Strategic Visibility** - Demonstrate your commitment to long-term resilience by aligning with the sector's most pressing national conversations.
- **Meaningful Access** - Network with high-level executives, government stakeholders and influencers in a purposefully intimate and senior environment.
- **Extended Exposure** - Be part of every major touchpoint — from the welcome event through to the summit sessions and awards celebration.

This isn't a trade show — it's a curated space for real connection and impact.

Our most strategic sponsorships include **speaking opportunities** and **content integration** — and those require advance coordination. **The earlier we start the conversation, the more influence we can help you achieve.**

**If you're not leading the conversation, someone else is.**

Check out our [sponsorship prospectus](#) or, for bespoke packages tailored to your objectives and budget, contact Sheena Fardell now: [sheena.fardell@austlogistics.com.au](mailto:sheena.fardell@austlogistics.com.au)

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***ALC Advocacy & Engagment Highlights***



## ALC Board and Council Meeting

Thank you to Intermodal Terminal Company for hosting the ALC Council Meeting at their world-class Somerton facility. It was an ideal setting to bring industry leaders and senior government representatives from Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland together for robust discussion on national freight priorities. Our agenda centered on the critical issues shaping the future of supply chain: intermodal connectivity, infrastructure investment, and policy reform. The roundtable session, *Transforming an Outmoded Modal Paradigm*, underscored the importance of taking a systems-led approach to national freight strategy—one that supports a modern, efficient and resilient network. The Council also received an update on the refreshed ALC Strategy 2025–2027, which reaffirms our role as *the independent, trusted voice of the modern supply chain for Australia*. The Strategy focuses on four key pillars: productivity, resilience, sustainability, and sector visibility. Strong engagement from members and stakeholders reflects the shared momentum across ALC's strategic initiatives. The Council Meeting once again demonstrated the strength, unity, and forward focus of Australia's freight and logistics community. Thank you to all who contributed to the success of this important event.



L–R: Sean Collingwood, Executive Director Governance, Freight and Partnerships, Department of Transport and Main Roads (QLD); Dr Hermione Parsons, CEO & Managing Director, Australian Logistics Council; Marg Staib, Chair, Australian Logistics Council; Scott Greenow, Executive Director Freight, Transport for NSW; and Praveen Reddy, Executive Director Freight Victoria, Department of Transport and Planning (VIC).

### **ALC meet with Jeroen Weimar & William Tieppo**

ALC recently met with Jeroen Weimar, Secretary, and William Tieppo, Deputy Secretary, of Victoria's Department of Transport and Planning, to discuss Victoria's freight infrastructure priorities. The discussion centred on the need to protect and activate industrial land, enhance freight corridor connectivity, and ensure planning frameworks are responsive to the increasing demands of the state's supply chains. ALC welcomed the opportunity to share industry insights and engage on practical measures to support Victoria's vital role in the national freight and logistics network.

### **CEDA's Third Annual Climate and Energy Summit**

ALC CEO Dr Hermione Parsons contributed to CEDA's 3rd Annual Climate and Energy Summit, emphasising freight's critical role in Australia's decarbonisation journey. Dr Parsons highlighted structural barriers to freight decarbonisation, including infrastructure gaps, limited renewable fuel supply chains, and regulatory inconsistency. ALC reiterated the need for national freight decarbonisation masterplans, strategic energy infrastructure along freight corridors, and collaborative government–industry investment to deliver sustainable, scalable outcomes.

### **ALC Meets with Mick Power, Senior Adviser to the Minister for Climate Action, Energy & Resources and the State Electricity Commission**

ALC met with Mick Power, Senior Adviser Senior Adviser to Minister D'Ambrosio at the Office of the Minister for Climate Action, Energy & Resources and the State Electricity Commission, to discuss Victoria's Climate Change Strategy. The conversation highlighted the freight sector's critical role in achieving net-zero emissions by 2045, with a focus on renewable energy integration, infrastructure resilience, and workforce development. ALC emphasised the need to align freight policy with climate objectives to ensure a sustainable and competitive supply chain—contributing to Victoria's leadership in climate action.

### **ALC Member Workshop: Shaping the Load Restraint Curtains Guide with NHVR and Engistics**

NHVR is updating the Load Restraint – Using Rated Curtains guide, originally developed in collaboration with ALC and Engistics. ALC recently hosted an exclusive member-only workshop with NHVR and Engistics to review the draft and seek member endorsement. The updated guide will reflect current technology, best practice, refreshed graphics, a new format, and include a dedicated section on curtain repairs. Member feedback from the session will help ensure the guide remains practical, clear, and fit for purpose — supporting improved safety outcomes across the freight task.

### **Trusted Information Sharing Network (TISN)**

ALC attended a TISN cross-sector briefing led by the National Office of Cyber Security (NOCS) on sector-specific Cyber Security Playbooks. Developed under Shield 4 of the 2023–2030 Australian Cyber Security Strategy, the playbooks provide guidance on national coordination during significant cyber incidents. The Transport Sector Playbook outlines how NOCS supports both industry and government responses. ALC encourages members to report incidents via ReportCyber and review the relevant playbooks to strengthen cyber preparedness across the freight and logistics sector. Further information is available here: [Resources](#)

### **ALC Attend ANCAP's Light Truck Safety Briefing**

ALC recently joined ANCAP for a Light Truck Safety Briefing to discuss the evolving safety standards of light commercial vehicles. The session covered key topics including crash performance, regulatory alignment, and vehicle design. As light trucks increasingly support last-mile freight, safety ratings are becoming an essential factor in procurement and fleet investment decisions. Insights from this discussion will help shape the formation of a dedicated Safety Expert Network, aimed at driving better safety outcomes, fostering industry collaboration, and enabling evidence-based advocacy to strengthen light vehicle safety across the supply chain.

Members of the Safety Expert Network — keep an eye out for your invitation to participate in this important initiative.

### **Statewide Policy Engagement on Industrial Lands**

ALC has engaged with the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure on the development of a Statewide Policy on Industrial Lands. This engagement builds on ALC's March submission in support of Action 1 under the Industrial Lands Action Plan and complements related Departmental work on the industrial land supply pipeline and the Employment Land Development Program. The recent submission focused on the proposed categorisation of industrial precincts, policy content, implementation guidance, and planning interventions. This work reinforces ALC's ongoing advocacy for freight-accessible, fit-for-purpose industrial land and a more coordinated approach to land use planning and infrastructure delivery across key freight corridors.

### **National Access Framework for Heavy Vehicles Working Group Meeting**

ALC participated in the latest National Access Framework for Heavy Vehicles (NAFHV) Working Group meeting, focused on advancing access reform initiatives across jurisdictions. Industry representatives discussed progress on Ministerial Guidelines, the national PBS network, third-party engagement strategies, and data-led infrastructure assessments for low- and zero-emission vehicles. Insights from the meeting will

inform the NAFHV reporting framework and broader access improvements. ALC continues to support collaborative national efforts to streamline access and strengthen freight productivity and safety.

## Policy Updates

### ALC Advocates for Freight-Focused Transition in NSW EV Infrastructure Inquiry

ALC lodged a comprehensive submission to the NSW Legislative Assembly Committee's Inquiry into Infrastructure for Electric and Alternative Energy Vehicles, urging a freight-focused approach to Australia's transition to low- and zero-emission transport. ALC warns freight cannot be retrofitted into passenger-oriented systems and calls for purpose-built infrastructure, including high-capacity charging and hydrogen refuelling at key freight hubs. The submission also advocates for harmonised regulation across jurisdictions, stronger protection of industrial land, and recognition of low-carbon liquid fuels as essential in the near to medium term. It calls for intensified action to shift more freight onto rail and highlights the need to include marine operations in electrification plans, alongside a coordinated workforce transition to support emerging technologies. This submission is part of ALC's broader mission to ensure the freight sector is central to Australia's clean transport future.

Read the full Submission here in our [Knowledge Centre](#).

### Supporting Driver Health Is Critical to Workforce Retention

ALC lodged a submission to the National Transport Commission on Improving Health Screening for Heavy Vehicle Drivers—a key opportunity to support driver wellbeing and address freight workforce shortages. The current screening framework is fragmented and inconsistent. ALC is calling for nationally consistent, fair, and transparent requirements, better aligned with industry operations. Our submission highlights the importance of combining regulation with practical, non-regulatory programs. We strongly support Healthy Heads in Trucks & Sheds and their trusted on-road screening initiatives, which help drivers access preventative care without fear of penalty. Key recommendations include: Nationally consistent screening for MR licence and above; formal support for Healthy Heads' initiatives; integration of mental health indicators; and clear privacy protections and follow-up care.

Read the full Submission here in our [Knowledge Centre](#).

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**Want to provide thoughts or insights to our Policy work?**

**Contact us at [policy@austlogistics.com.au](mailto:policy@austlogistics.com.au)**

## ALC in the News





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## *Industry News*

In a major boost for domestic manufacturing and freight decarbonisation, Volvo Group has announced plans to build heavy-duty electric trucks at its Brisbane facility from 2025. The move reflects Volvo's commitment to regionalising production to strengthen local supply chains and reduce emissions. Linfox has signed on as one of Volvo's largest customers, taking delivery of the first 10 of 30 electric trucks as part of its long-term sustainability strategy. Backed by a \$19.6 million ARENA grant, Linfox continues to expand its electric fleet and green distribution infrastructure across key cities. This collaboration highlights the freight industry's growing focus on emissions reduction and domestic capability - key pillars of ALC's 2025–2027 Strategy. As pressure mounts globally for cleaner, more resilient supply chains, Australia is stepping up through targeted investment and member leadership.



## *Welcome New Councillors*

## Robert Ewing - Head of Asset Management, ESR



Robert has over 20 years' experience in property, with a broad exposure to the real estate industry covering valuation, agency, asset and development management disciplines. As the Head of Asset Management, Robert is responsible for the implementation, strategic value creation and operational performance of all assets under management. Robert leads a highly skilled team with a proven track record in asset repositioning and ensures the proactive delivery of asset, property and development management in line with targeted investment performance objectives. Robert has previously held senior roles within JLL, ING Real Estate, Australand (now Frasers), AMP Capital and Propertylink. Robert holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Property Economics) and a Certificate of Applied Finance and has in-depth real estate experience in all major commercial and industrial markets within Australia as well as Continental Europe. Robert has also been a longstanding member of the Property Council of Australia's Industrial Committee.

## *Member Spotlight*

### Michael Edmonds - National Transport Insurance



Mike Edmonds has built a diverse and dynamic career—from his early days as a police officer to senior roles at Suncorp Stadium, Finemore Holdings, and the Australian Trucking Association—before joining NTI. For over 20 years, Mike has been a key Executive at NTI, helping to shape the company into Australia's leading specialist insurer for Heavy Motor, Plant and Machinery, and Marine. He is responsible for national distribution through brokers and agents, supporting over 60,000 policyholders and overseeing more than \$0.5 billion in annual claims. Under his leadership, NTI has become renowned for its industry excellence and reputation as an employer of choice. Mike is deeply involved in industry leadership. He serves as a Councillor for the Australian Trucking Association, is Chair of the Underwriting Agencies Council, and plays an active role in NTI's engagement with organisations such as HVIA, NatRoad, and Healthy Heads in Trucks & Sheds. His involvement with ALC reflects NTI's ongoing commitment to sector-wide leadership and collaboration. Outside of work, Mike is a proud family man and passionate sports enthusiast. A self-confessed golf tragic, he rarely misses the opportunity to enjoy a weekend round on the course.

## Our Members in the News...



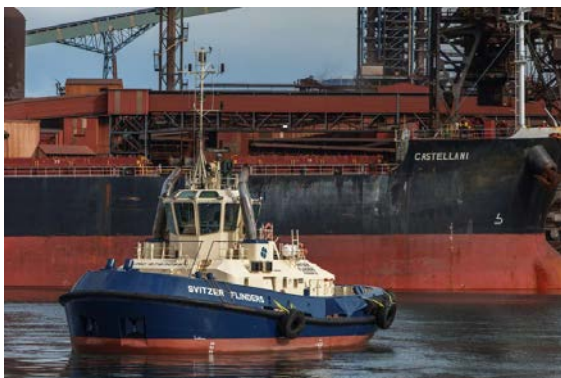
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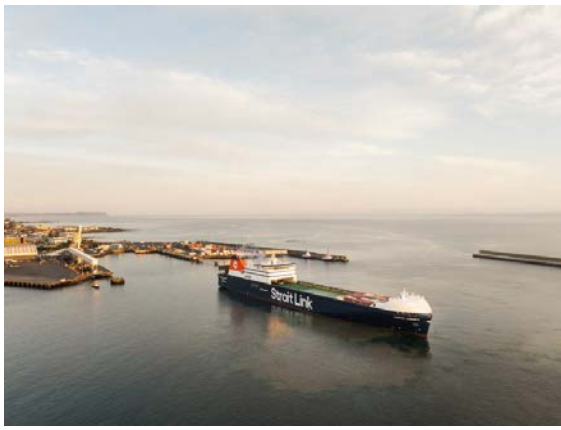


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