



MEDIA RELEASE

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Transport industry open for business to support Victoria

Following the announcement by Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews of unprecedented restrictions on business and work to help stop the spread of coronavirus, the Victorian Transport Association has reassured the community the transport industry is open for business to support Victorians over the weeks ahead.

“Victoria is in crisis, and as we enter a period of unprecedented restrictions on our personal freedoms and our ability to work, it is essential that we come together to understand the challenges we face, and work in unison to stop the spread of coronavirus and the havoc it is wreaking across our state,” said VTA CEO Peter Anderson.

“The transport and logistics industries will continue to be able to operate over the coming period in order to support the distribution of essential goods, and to support those businesses that are permitted to operate with their supply chain requirements.”

Premier Andrews has outlined [additional restrictions around work](#) which will have massive repercussions for our state and national economy, and of course supply chains.

“In formulating the new arrangements, the government has recognised the vital role of our industry so that state and national supply chain disruptions are minimised, and Victorians have uninterrupted access to fresh food, groceries, medicine and petrol,” Anderson said.

“In his press conference yesterday, the Premier was right to emphasise the complexity of national supply chains and that Melbourne has the biggest container port in Australia which must remain fully operational to facilitate national and international trade. He clearly gets that the nation cannot afford to shut down because of what’s happening in Victoria, as evidenced by the exemptions afforded the industry.

Anderson said notwithstanding the industry’s ability to work, many transport operators will experience a significant downturn.

“Clearly operators that service businesses that have been required to close or reduce their total output will be impacted to varying levels. The VTA is a tremendous resource during unprecedented times like this and is open and available to assist members and the industry during these challenging times,” Anderson said.

Since coronavirus took hold in February, the transport industry has shown leadership and adapted its systems and processes to be able to safely and efficiently service the needs of customers and consumers and keep supply chains moving.

“As we prepare for further restrictions to their lives and livelihoods, let’s all heed the advice of state and Commonwealth jurisdictions and work together so that we can reduce community transmission, and start to get our economy back on a positive footing as soon as possible,” he said.

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