Technology, innovation and global trade shaping the **Transport and Logistics Industry – 2015 E-Scan**

A host of economic, technological and demographic forces across Australia and the Asia Pacific region are shaping the immediate future of the country's $132 billion Transport and Logistics industry. Changing requirements for jobs and skills across road, logistics, rail, aviation, maritime and ports, and the way industry and the training system responds to these, will have a significant impact for the 820,000 strong workforce and the economy at large.

The Transport and Logistics Industry Skills Council (TLISC) today released the 2015 Environmental Scan (E-Scan), its flagship annual review of the skills requirements of the workforce, and the progress of the national training system in meeting these needs.

The CEO of the TLISC, Mr Robert Adams, said the latest E-Scan highlights the combined impact of new technologies, the growing economic power of Asia, and forces in the domestic economy, such as the ageing workforce.

"Adoption of new technology within the industry and changing patterns of world economic activity are revolutionising supply chains, and this will impact the way the industry operates and the future skills we need," he said.

"Technology, such as automation and robotics is improving the efficiency and speed of delivery of people, goods and freight, while the growth in areas such as online shopping is giving rise to new timelines and customer demands.

"The transport and logistics industry faces a future where it needs a better-skilled workforce operating smarter and more efficiently, using nationwide infrastructure able to cope with a massive freight task," Mr Adams said.

The E-Scan was developed following extensive consultation with key stakeholders across the industry and reveals a number of key themes and challenges:

- Projected job growth between 2013 and 2018 is estimated at 5.7% in Logistics, 5.6% in Road Transport, 4.7% in Maritime and Ports, 2.4% in Aviation, and 2.2% in Rail.
- There is strong competition for skilled workers, and fierce international competition in Aviation, Maritime, and in several occupations in Logistics and Ports.
- Growth in freight volumes and increased customer demand for rapid order fulfilment, including same-day deliveries, is placing new demands of businesses.
- Use of technology is becoming widespread, including robotics, automation, wireless sensor networks, intelligent objects, smart packages and mobile devices.
- There is a trend towards purpose-built 'super-hubs' near transport distribution corridors to capitalise on the benefits of existing, efficient transport routes.
- The Transport and Logistics workforce is the second oldest in the country, most noticeably in Road, Rail and Maritime.
- More than 95 per cent of businesses have fewer than 20 employees and two-thirds are single owner-operators

TLISC is responsible for the development, maintenance and continuous improvement of three national Training Packages, which provide a framework for delivery of skills and qualifications across the sector. Mr Adams said the number of students commencing government-funded TLISC qualifications had almost tripled in the past decade, and almost doubled in the past five years, driven by above-average growth of the industry.

Around 80 per cent of employers who responded to the 2015 survey indicated positive views on all aspects of training, and also with productivity improvements following training.

Mr Adams said the TLISC was committed to developing high-quality, timely, industry intelligence which could be used by government, industry and key stakeholders.

"The transport and logistics industry accounts for approximately 9 per cent of GDP and is a key enabler of broader economic activity, so it is critical that we get the right mix of skills for the future," he said, The E-Scan provides a detailed breakdown of information for each sector – logistics, road transport, aviation, rail, maritime and ports – including a simple, graphical summary of key facts, trends and issues.

For more information, please visit: www.tlisc.org.au/industry

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