



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

INTRODUCTION

Throughout 2019, Heavy Vehicle Industry Australia (HVIA) and the Australian Road Transport Suppliers Association (ARTSA) have been holding strategic discussions regarding the industry association landscape. Following collaborative discussions, it has been agreed that ARTSA will cease to offer member services to corporate members and these existing members will be encouraged to join HVIA. This makes sense. HVIA's national footprint, structure, governance, advocacy and resources can complement the passion, enthusiasm and technical expertise of ARTSA members and HVIAs existing work program and technical advocacy will be strengthened.

To honour the ARTSA legacy, a new organisation - ARTSA Institute will be formed. Its founding members will be the current life members of ARTSA. This organisation will focus solely on research projects, particularly on forward-thinking issues.

Both organisations believe that this agreement answers industry's call for much needed consolidation of its peak bodies.

HOW IT WILL WORK

HVIA will continue to offer the same services as it does now. Albeit it is envisaged that with the addition of current ARTSA members joining the HVIA fold, these services will be strengthened and, in some cases, may increase, particularly recognising ARTSA members' technical expertise.

ARTSA, as it is known today, will cease offering member services to corporate members as this will become the sole domain of HVIA. To encourage the corporate members of ARTSA, who are not

already members of HVIA, to join HVIA, a fee deal has been agreed to smooth the transition. Current dual members will save money straight away by only paying one membership fee, in addition to the indirect saving of time and resources that occur when corporate members support the activities of both organisations.

The ARTSA Institute's sole purpose will be to focus its energies on future, proactive, forward-thinking policy research.

To accomplish this research, the ARTSA Institute will have individual members, with the current life members of ARTSA being invited to be the founding members. Importantly, it will not offer or seek corporate membership. The ARTSA Institute members will provide advice and support on the Institute's research projects from time to time.

Redirecting the focus of the new Institute into an independent industry think tank, will ensure evidence-based research will be available during the policy development process.

The ARTSA Institute will be independent and is free to work for government, the private sector or other peak bodies as the need arises. The Institute's independence is key to ensuring the validity of its research and policy work.

BENEFITS OF PROPOSAL

HVIA and ARTSA believe the benefits of consolidation includes:

- 1) A single membership fee (meaning an ongoing saving for dual members);
- 2) A strengthened technical capacity, including retention of ARTSA's collateral;
- 3) A consolidated single voice to regulators on current regulatory issues facing the industry;
- 4) Strengthened policy, information, education, training, committee and conferencing facilities to all members;

- 5) Better clarity for stakeholders, regulators and decision makers; and
- 6) Forward thinking policy and research in the best interests of industry.

ONGOING RELATIONSHIP

Notwithstanding the need for the ARTSA Institute to be independent, both HVIA and the newly formed ARTSA Institute agree there is benefit in having an ongoing relationship. This relationship may evolve over time, so is currently being expressed as a series of vision statements. These vision statements will be reviewed and renewed annually at a joint meeting of the HVIA Board and ARTSA Institute, where strategic issues will be discussed.

AGREED VISION STATEMENTS

- 1) The heavy vehicle industry is an important industry to the Australian economy;
- HVIA members deserve a strong peak body to represent them on current regulatory and technical issues and will continue to advocate in the best interests of its members;
- HVIA will continue to inform, educate and train industry personnel to ensure the most up to date, relevant advice is being provided to its members;
- 4) HVIA through its events, awards functions, Brisbane Truck Show and ComVec will seek to promote the industry, its members, the role of the industry, and advise of any threats to, or opportunities for the prosperity of the industry.
- 5) HVIA will continue to engage with decision makers, government, regulators and stakeholders to achieve its vision statement of "An innovative, prosperous heavy vehicle industry supporting the safest, most productive fleet."
- 6) The ARTSA Institute will offer their independent research services in a manner that focuses on thought leadership and forward-thinking technical proposals, and where there is benefit, HVIA may support the Institute to undertake research projects that benefit the industry.
- ARTSA Institute will seek to involve its individual members in project work and will seek to develop the capabilities of its individual members.
- 8) HVIA and the ARTSA Institute agree that the industry will be better served by a collaborative approach and will remain connected through an annual strategic planning session.

EXECUTED BY:

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