



A message from the CEO

COVID-19 Update 18/09

Encouraging apprentice figures were released this week by the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER), showing a 9.9% increase in the number of South Australians in training in the 12 months to March. With the exception of Tasmania, all other states recorded a decrease in training numbers.

Whilst this largely reflects pre-COVID conditions, I am pleased to report that the MTA is now back to where we were prior to the disruption caused by the pandemic, with 450 apprentices currently with host employers.

Here at the MTA, we recognise that the best place for apprentices to be is out in the workplace so that they remain engaged and connected to industry.

With uncertainty still weighing on businesses, it's important that the decision to take on or keep an apprentice is made as easy as possible, so I'm pleased to announce that the MTA has decided to maintain discounted hosting rates to the end of December for eligible apprentices.

Please look forward to a further update shortly, with more information about our MTA apprentice hosting rates.

Future SA Transport Forum

On Wednesday I attended the Future SA Transport Forum, hosted by the new Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, the Hon Corey Wingard MP. A key focus was the North South Corridor, the forum providing an opportunity to hear how the State Government is working through their planning on this major infrastructure project.

Border openings

South Australia's borders reopened to ACT residents this week, but remains closed to NSW for now.

Authorities have relaxed travel restrictions to allow visitors only travelling by air from Canberra. Anyone driving from the ACT, and therefore coming through NSW, will still be legally required to quarantine for 14 days upon arrival in South Australia.

This a step in the right direction and as it becomes safe to open further borders, we look forward to the economic benefits of increased mobility across the country.

Heavy Vehicle Inspection Validity

In good news for heavy vehicle operators, the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) has recently extended the validity period for change of ownership inspections.

Previously a passed inspection was valid for 3 months, which has now been changed to 12 months. DIT has also confirmed that the new 12 month validity applies to any current inspections made prior to September 2020.

Reminder – Annual General Meeting and Industry Advisory Council Meeting

A reminder that the MTA's Annual General Meeting will be held next Tuesday, 22 September.

We are also looking forward to hosting the inaugural Industry Advisory Council (IAC) Meeting afterwards.

Light vehicle inspections will be a key focus item for discussion for the IAC, and this will be an important chance for our newly elected divisional and zone chairs to help shape the MTA's policy and advocacy efforts moving forward.

Enjoy the weekend.

Regards
Paul Unerkov
MTA Sa/NT CEO



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