



A message from the CEO

COVID-19 Update 10/07

This week has demonstrated that the threat of disruption due to COVID-19 is an ongoing challenge for us all. We have already heard from some members that the new Victorian border restrictions are impacting their business operations, particularly with regards to stock and parts availability.

Essential travellers living in cross border communities will need a permit to enter SA (which can be completed by [clicking here](#)) and pleasingly, cross-border communities appear to be allowed up to travel up to 50km to go about essential activities. [Click here](#) to view the cross border travel maps.

The new changes mean that all South Australian residents returning from Victoria will now have to undergo a coronavirus test within 24 hours of arrival and anyone who has been to Victoria in recent weeks is being asked to present themselves to one of 50 testing stations in the state for an immediate check.

People deemed “essential” travellers crossing the Victorian border into SA will be given three free face masks, and a completed GP referral form, and be told to voluntarily attend for testing on their first and 12th day in SA.

While June saw positive business activity for many of our members, the situation in Victoria is a timely reminder that we must not become complacent, and continue to ensure that we maintain social distancing and good hygiene practices.

We will be watching the mini-Budget and update on the JobKeeper review later this month closely, and will keep you updated on any announcements on the extension of wage support beyond September.

Survey - Temporary JobKeeper provisions in the Fair Work Act

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Australian Government introduced a number of temporary flexibilities to the *Fair Work Act 2009* to enable employers who are entitled to receive the JobKeeper payment to vary working arrangements for eligible employees in order to keep people employed.

Nous Group, an independent consultancy, has been engaged by the Australian Government to conduct a survey on the impact and value of these temporary changes.

We strongly recommend all members take part and complete this survey which can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

Speed limit past yellow flashing lights

I have written to the Executive Director of SafeWork SA on behalf of our towing and roadside assistance operator to seek advice on the responsibility for providing a safe workplace when an employer is unable to mitigate the risk of the speed limit on high speed highway environments.

The Minister for Road Safety has previously advised the MTA that the issue is being looked into at a national level, and we are continuing to advocate for alignment with NSW and WA, where vehicles displaying yellow flashing lights require motorists to slow down as they pass.

Davoren Park Training Centre

We have recently vacated our Davoren Park training facility, shifting all training aids and equipment to Royal Park. The new Northern Connector has made access to Royal Park much easier which is allowing us to increase our focus on the fit out of the Cleve Training Centre.

Electric Vehicles

Finally, there has been a bit of talk about electric vehicles this week, and I enjoyed the opportunity to talk about the issue on ABC Radio Adelaide this week which you can listen to by [clicking here](#) (the segment starts at around 36 minutes 40 seconds in).

A recent survey found that four out of 10 South Australian drivers say they would consider making their next car an electric vehicle, sparking calls to speed up the shift by building more charging stations.

We have previously spoken to our members and given input into the State Government's development of an Electric Vehicle Strategy, arguing that industry needs to be a part of the plan's development.

Stay safe and I hope you enjoy the weekend

Regards
Paul
MTA SA / NT CEO

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