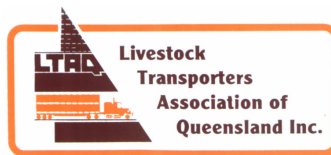


Trucking Council of Queensland



MEDIA RELEASE

Big turnout for Queensland Rural Trucking Forum

The organisers of the 2007 Queensland Rural Trucking Forum held in Roma on Saturday 3rd March, have said the turnout and outcomes were well beyond expectation, and served as a strong reflection a unified industry willing to work together in a workplace with a growing focus on safety and regulation.

The Trucking Council of Queensland – consisting of NatRoad, the Australian Road Train Association (ARTA), Queensland Trucking Association (QTA), and Livestock Transporters Association of Queensland (LTAQ) – convened the bi-annual event, with nearly 100 operators attending from as far as Winton, Townsville, and Scone in NSW.

Guests heard informative presentations and engaged in spirited debate with presenters from Queensland Transport, Queensland Main Roads, Queensland Police, as well as representatives from the four organisations making up the council.

The government agencies strongly emphasised the positive progression they have noticed of the industry in recent years and that the vast majority of operators are operating well within the regulations and laws.

Queensland Shadow Transport Minister Vaughan Johnson MP also presented to the forum, promoting a pro-active and positive agenda highlighting a bi-partisan approach to solving state issues.

High on the state-wide agenda was the Queensland Licence Demerit Points System which was implemented last week, along with an increasingly desperate need for the Federal and Queensland Governments to address the chronic lack of rest areas so drivers can comply with new fatigue driving laws.

Locally, the perennial issue of attempting to secure triple road train access from Mitchell to Roma saleyards was a central point of discussion, with plans to establish a 24 hour truck stop on the site considered a big factor in achieving a positive outcome.

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