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Newsletter September 2025

QTLC Thoughts (2 min read)



This month's newsletter explores some of the themes you've raised with QTLC and see as key to unlocking greater safety, efficiency and innovation in Queensland freight - from pilot and escort reform for OSOM cargo moves, proactive planning for the 2032 Games and supporting an expanding ag sector. We're really proud to be leading thinking on these key issues and with your help aim to be part of the solution for better freight outcomes in Queensland.

Lauren

Industry Updates



QTLC Cotton and Grain Alliance

Last year's experience moving the significant chickpea crop, a desire by industry to continue to improve and another bumper crop of both grain and cotton on the horizon has caused QTLC to stand up a permanent body to look at transportation of these two commodities under a remit of sharing and progressing improvements for safety, productivity and innovation.

Our [closeout report from last year](#) provides a good start for the issues that are key and our approach has been mirrored by NSW TINSW – so we reckon industry up here is ahead of the mark!

The group is inclusive and will hold its first meeting next Wednesday – please contact me if you're keen to contribute.

QTLC Future Freight Energy Bus Tour

QTLC's leading Future Freight Energy Hub program (yep, a line which could be written by Rob Sitch) was conceived several years ago as a place to share resources and learnings for fleets, industry and government and provide a platform to explore infrastructure solutions and technology. So when operators, hubs and fleets told us they needed to actually see how the depot electrification issue had been addressed in a range of scenarios, we thought the best way was through seeing – via a bus tour of Brisbane's leading depots that have tackled the challenges of electrification.

So, with a bus of experts across a variety of fields, on 28 August, QTLC coordinated a tour through Brisbane pioneers in heavy vehicle electrification:

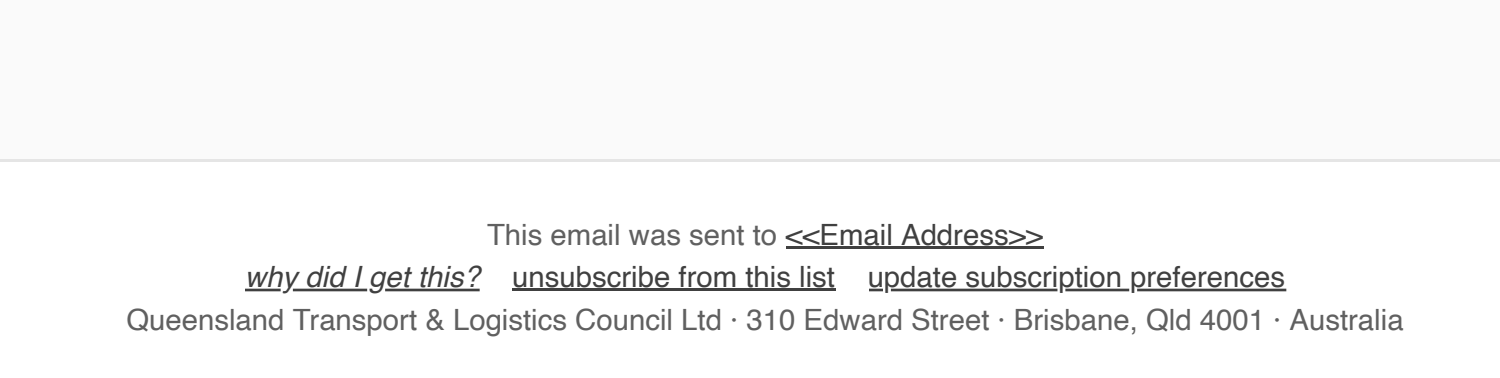
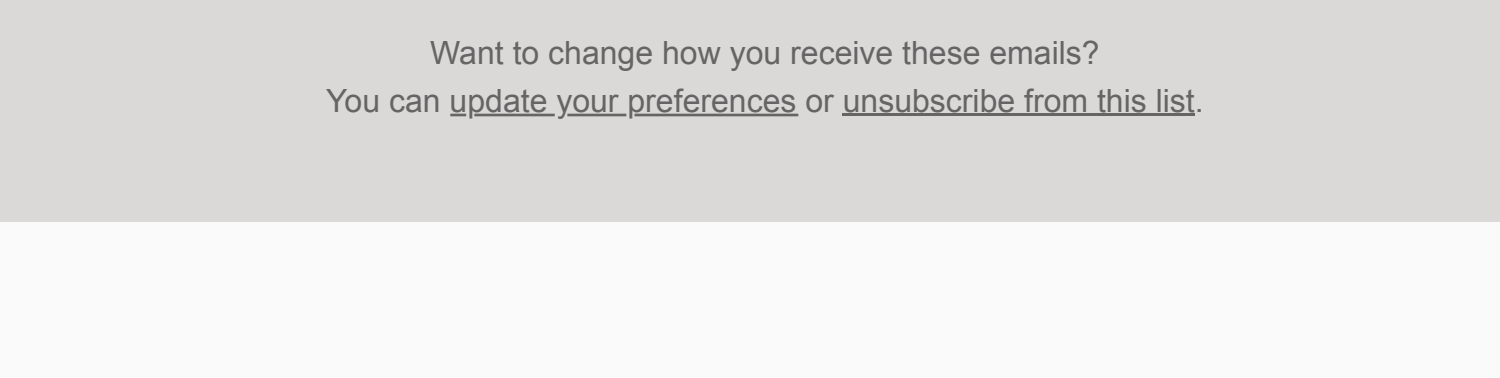
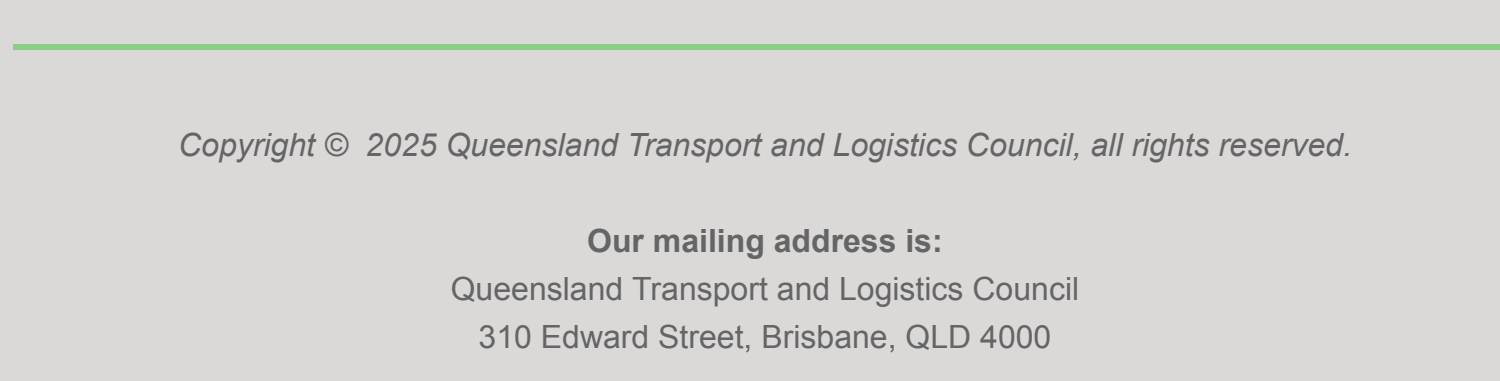
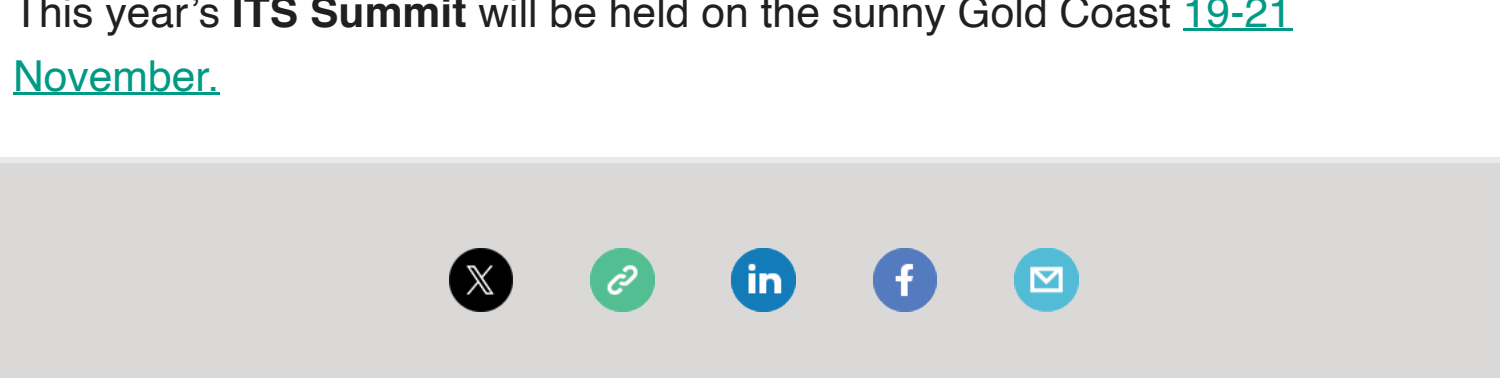
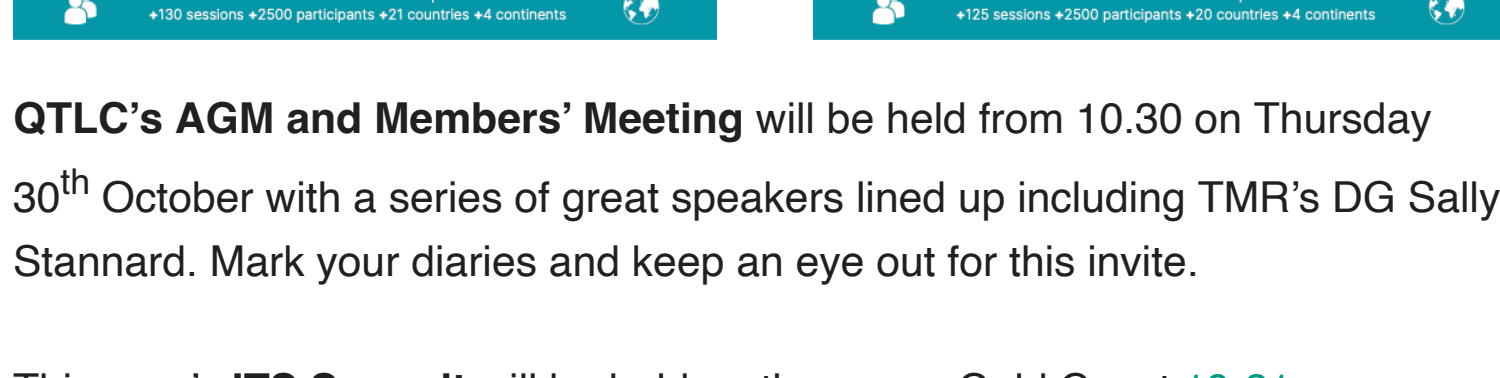
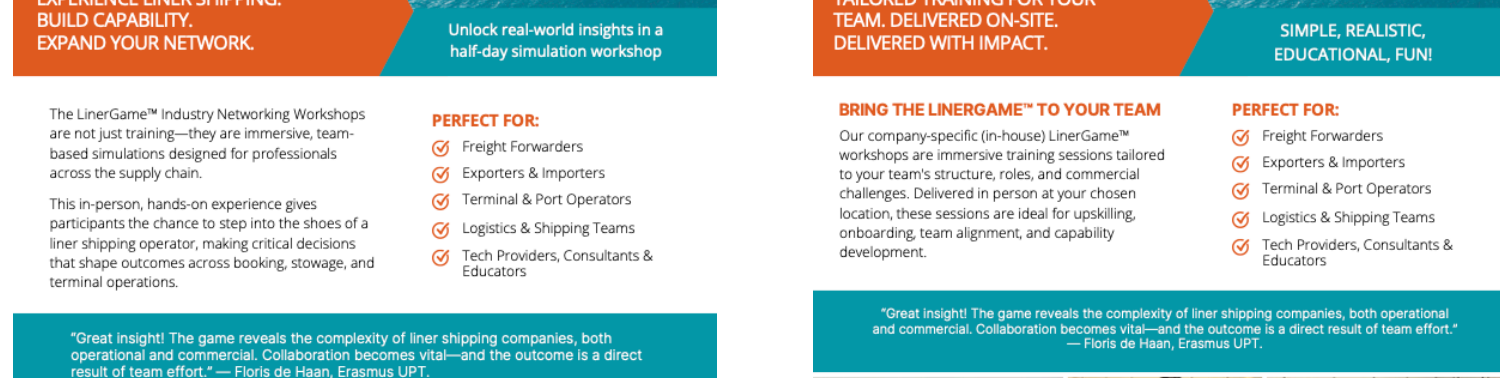
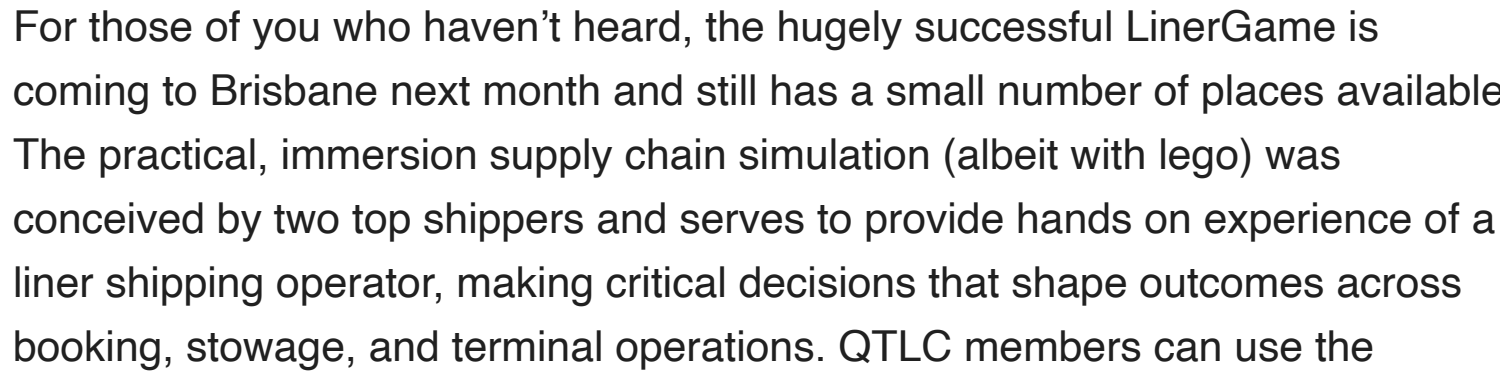
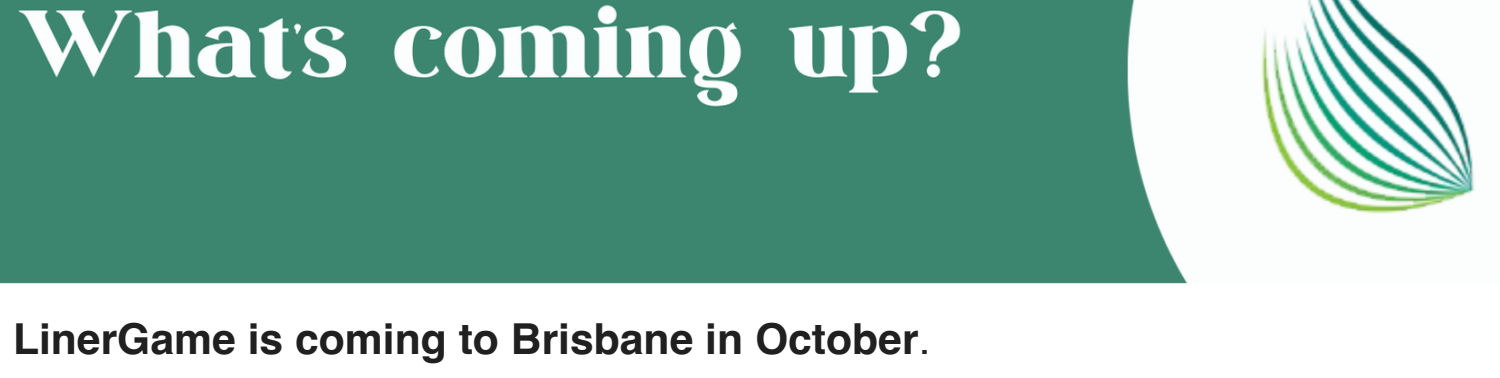
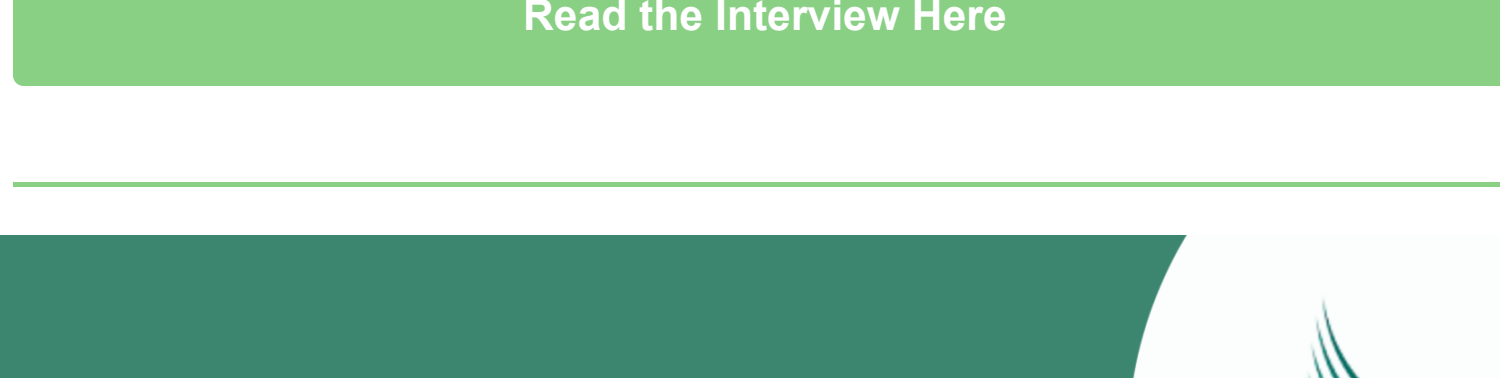
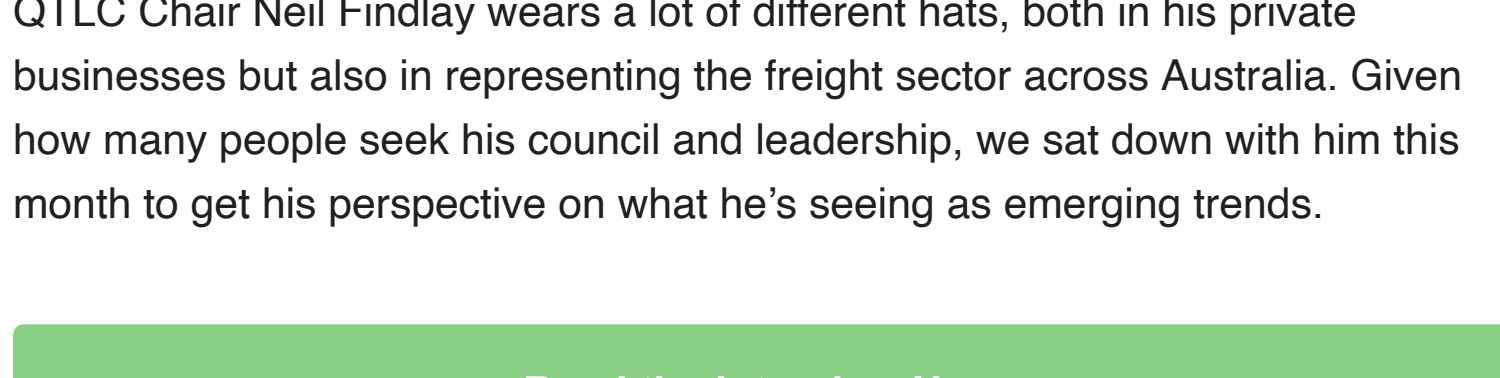
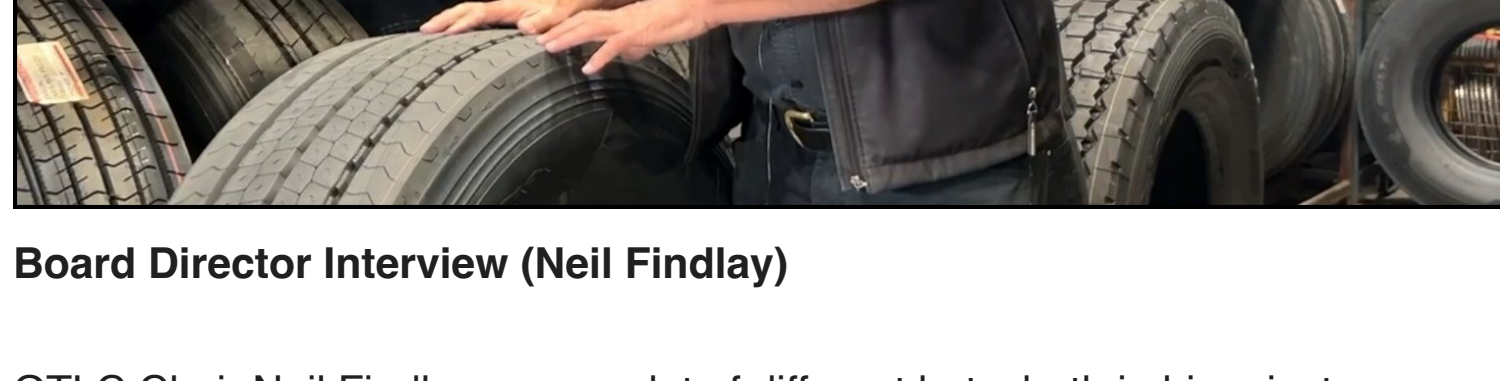
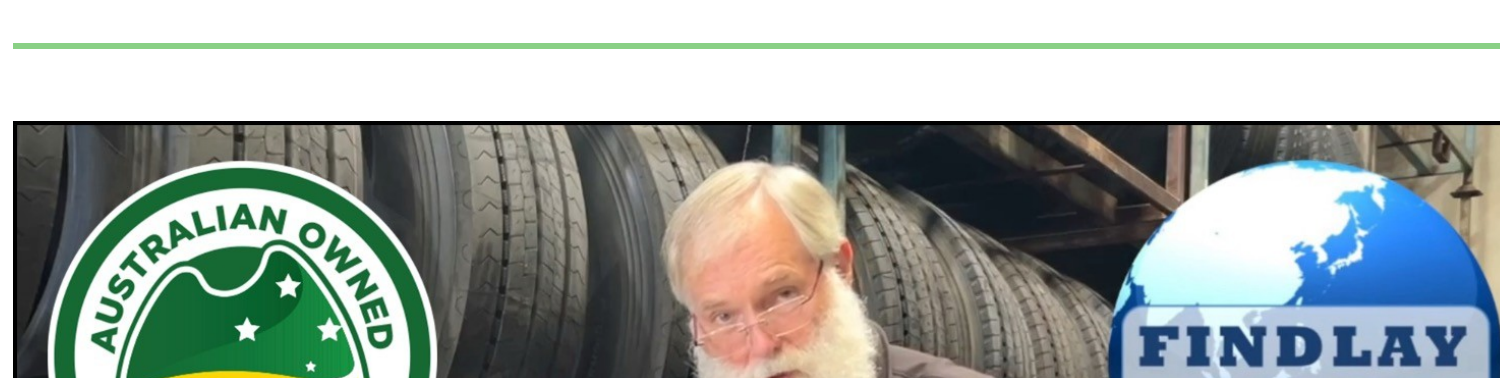
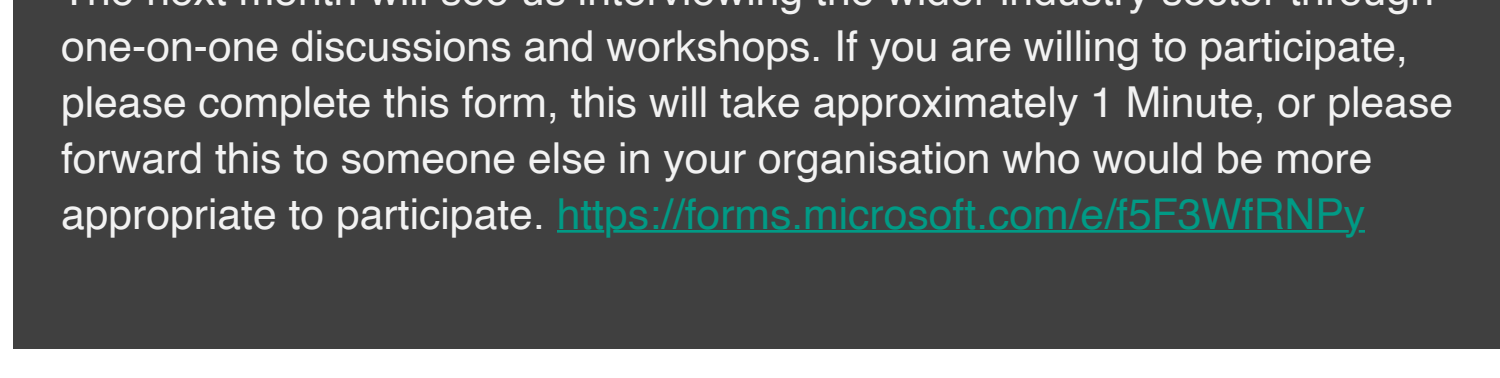
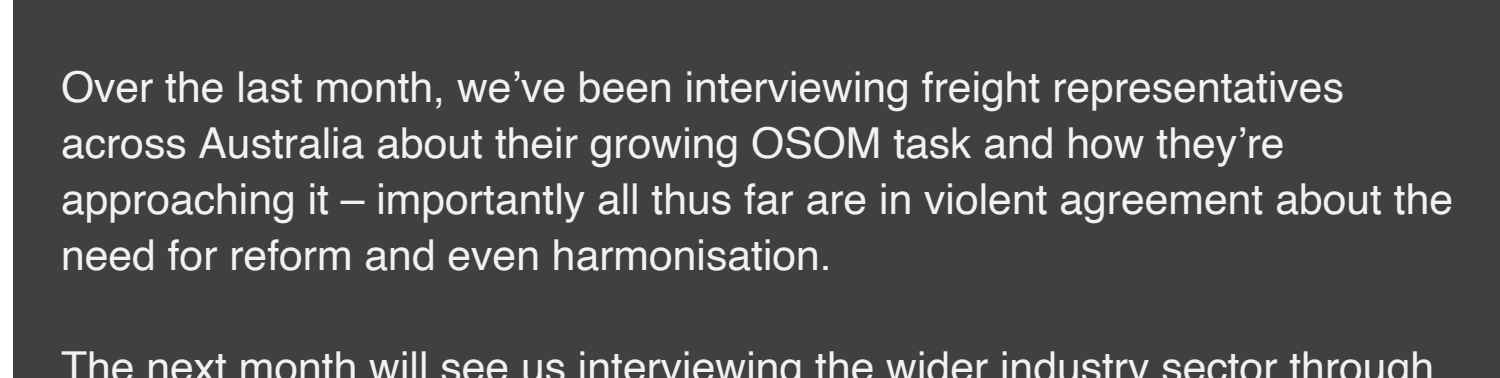
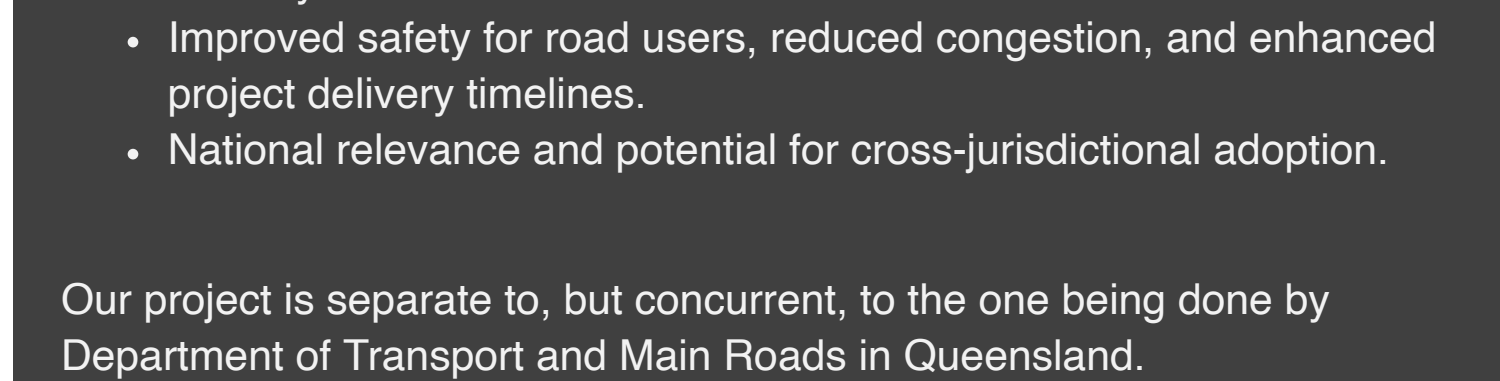
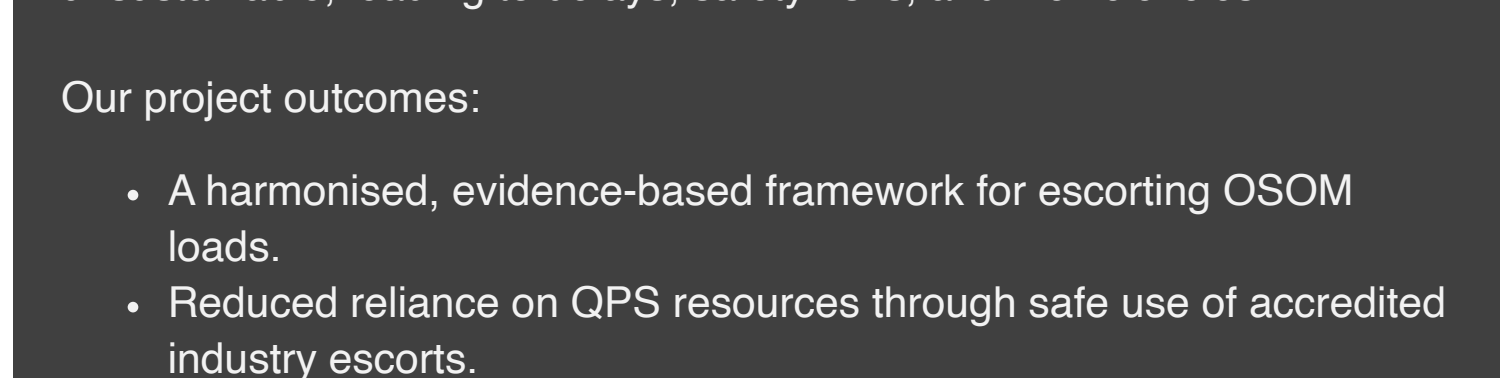
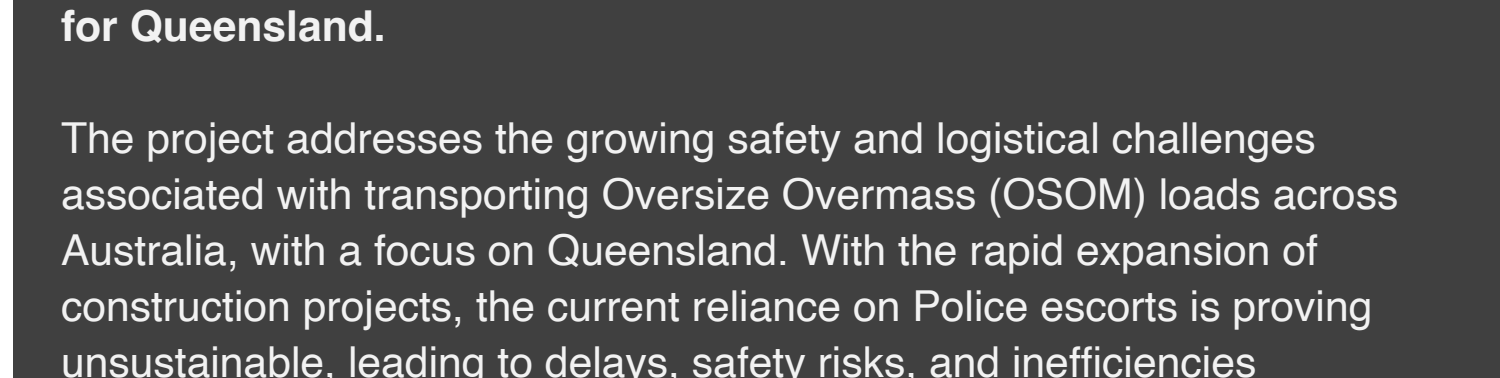
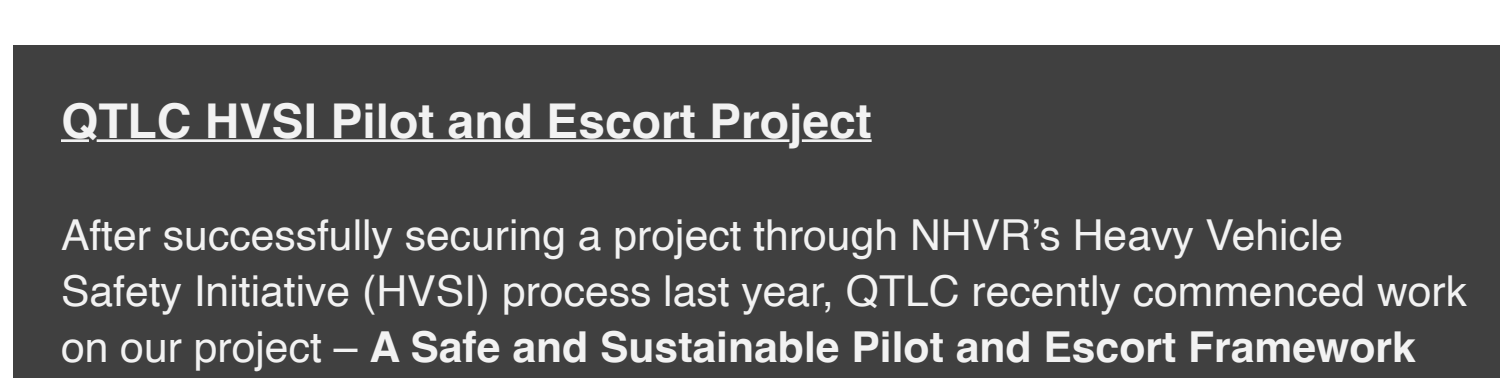
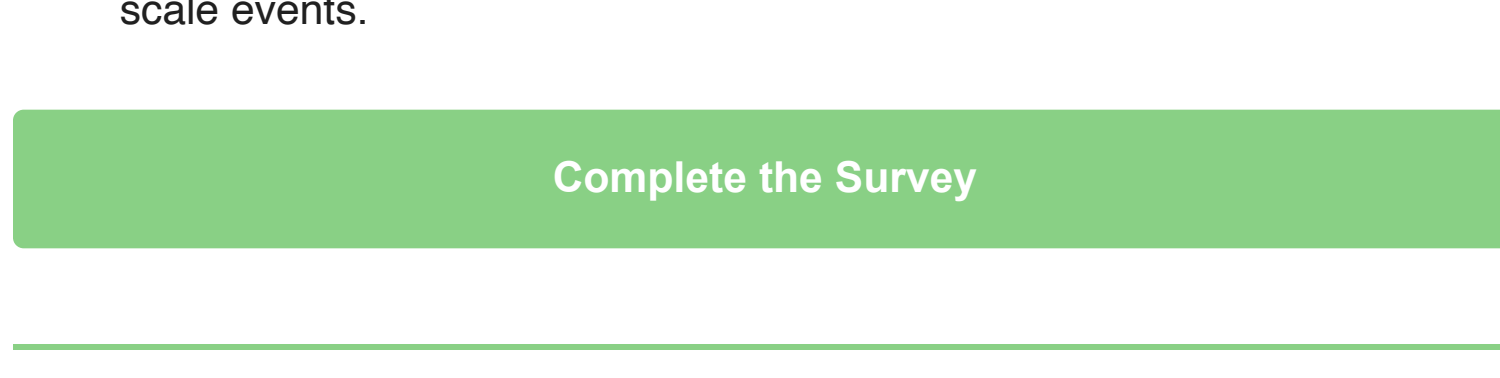
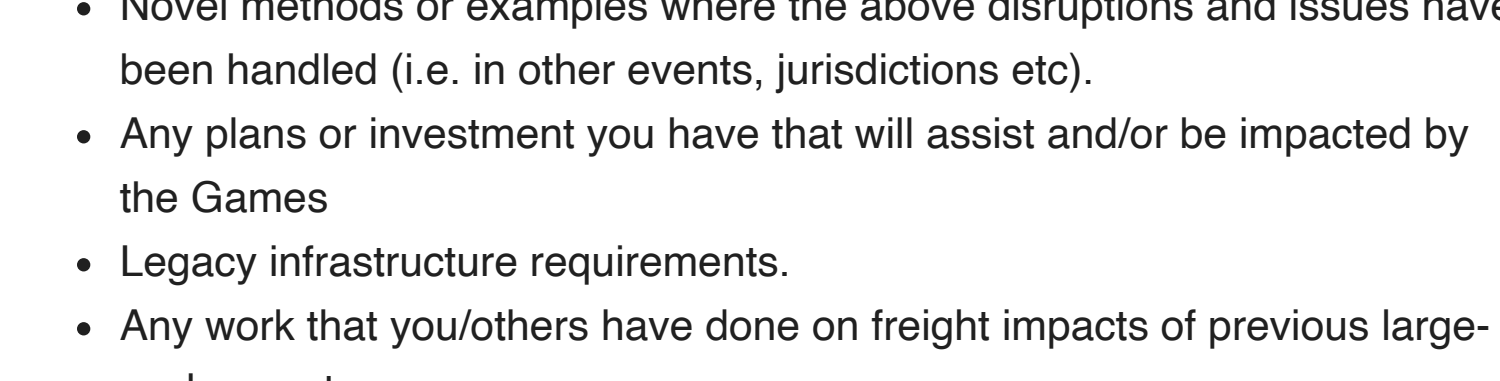
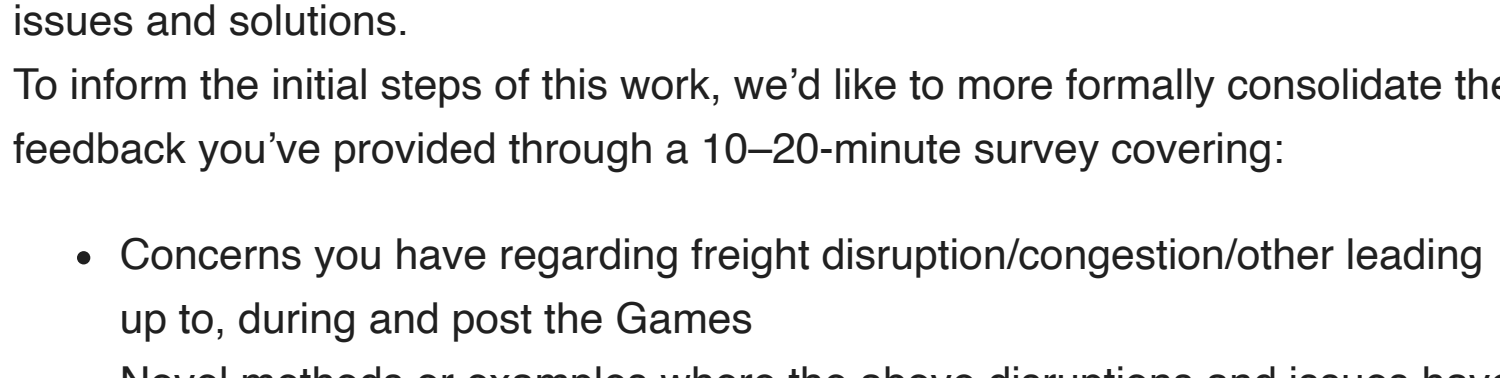
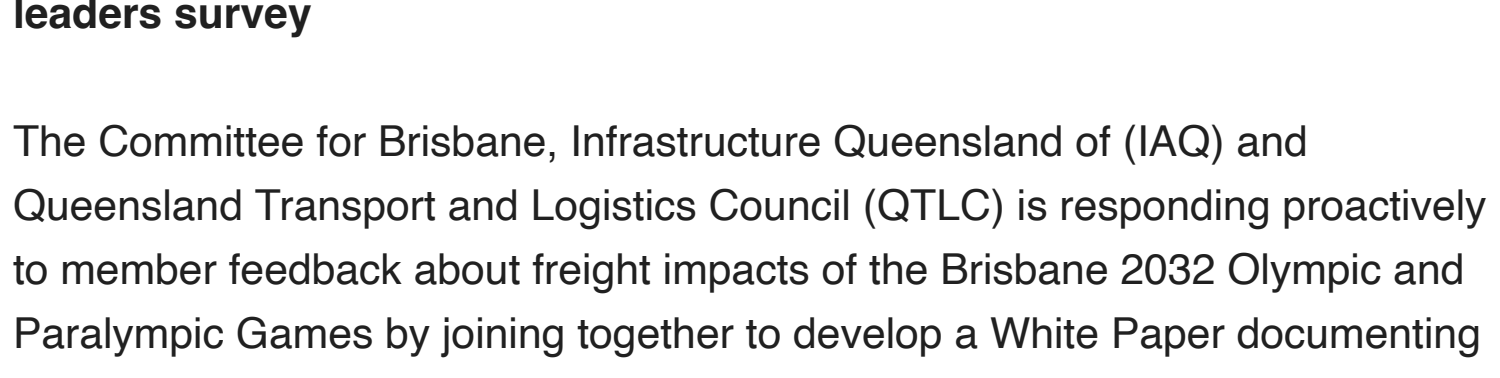
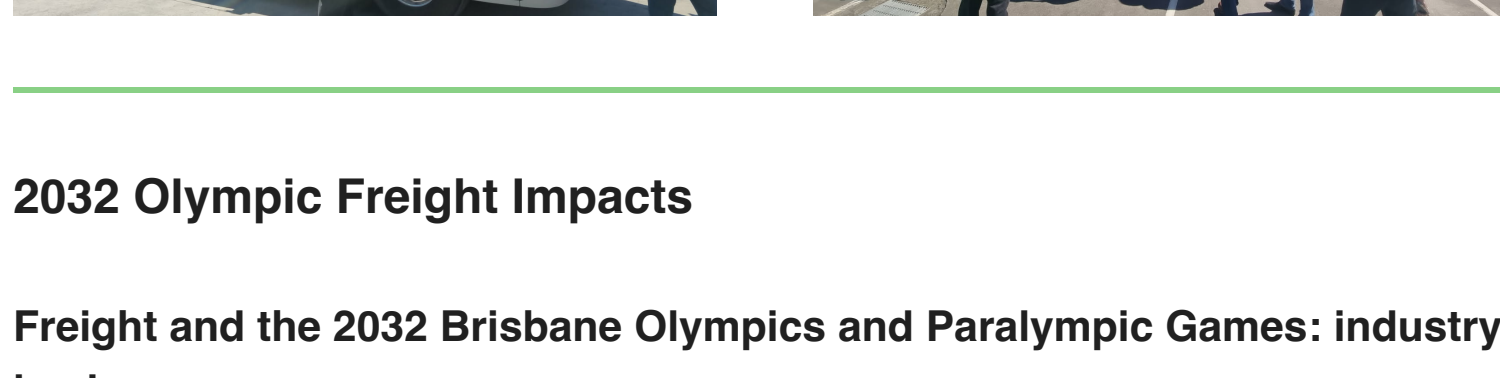
- Firstly at Keolis Downer's North Lakes Hornibrook Bus Lines depot to see planning, systems and EV charging which supports 16 buses given this provides a template for similar sized trucks sites.
- Secondly to SEQH's depot near Port to see their world-first Volvo electric trucks and hear their plans for pushing the envelope on electric trucks.
- Of course, nothing is complete without a party pie and softdrink at a quality Queensland pub and this provided a great opportunity for the audience to speak to depots further.
- Our final stop on the day was to All Purpose Transport's depot on the southside to see how they've progressed on their journey from their first electric truck to now having more than 20 electric trucks in the fleet, with all the challenges of charging, financing and motivating a mostly sub-contractor fleet.

Learnings from the tour?

- Our audience could not believe how open and transparent the depots/companies were. It's one thing to read a paper or a glossy presser on what's happening, but the ability to have a raw discussion about what worked, didn't work and see all the moving bits coming together is something else.
- Our audience was diverse – and strangely bought their own knowledge and solutions to some of the issues encountered at the depots. This was mesmerizing to watch!
- There is an ongoing need for practical demonstrations, trials and sharing in this raw form. Building on past knowledge (and failures) is critical to success.

QTLC is thankful for the support of our bus tour sponsors CleanCo, our technology partner for the Future Freight Energy Hub program Mov3ment, and the amazing depots who opened their doors – SEQH, Keolis Downer and All Purpose Transport.

We are all ears on what support you need from us next through this freight initiative.



2032 Olympic Freight Impacts

Freight and the 2032 Brisbane Olympics and Paralympic Games: industry leaders survey

The Committee for Brisbane, Infrastructure Queensland of (IAQ) and Queensland Transport and Logistics Council (QTLC) is responding proactively to member feedback about freight impacts of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games by joining together to develop a White Paper documenting issues and solutions.

To inform the initial steps of this work, we'd like to more formally consolidate the feedback you've provided through a 10–20-minute survey covering:

- Concerns you have regarding freight disruption/congestion/other leading up to, during and post the Games
- Novel methods or examples where the above disruptions and issues have been handled (i.e. in other events, jurisdictions etc).
- Any plans or investment you have that will assist and/or be impacted by the Games
- Legacy infrastructure requirements.
- Any work that you/others have done on freight impacts of previous large-scale events.

[Complete the Survey](#)

QTLC HVSI Pilot and Escort Project

After successfully securing a project through NHVR's Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative (HVSI) process last year, QTLC recently commenced work on our project – **A Safe and Sustainable Pilot and Escort Framework for Queensland**.

The project addresses the growing safety and logistical challenges associated with transporting Oversize Overmass (OSOM) loads across Australia, with a focus on Queensland. With the rapid expansion of construction projects, the current reliance on Police escorts is proving unsustainable, leading to delays, safety risks, and inefficiencies

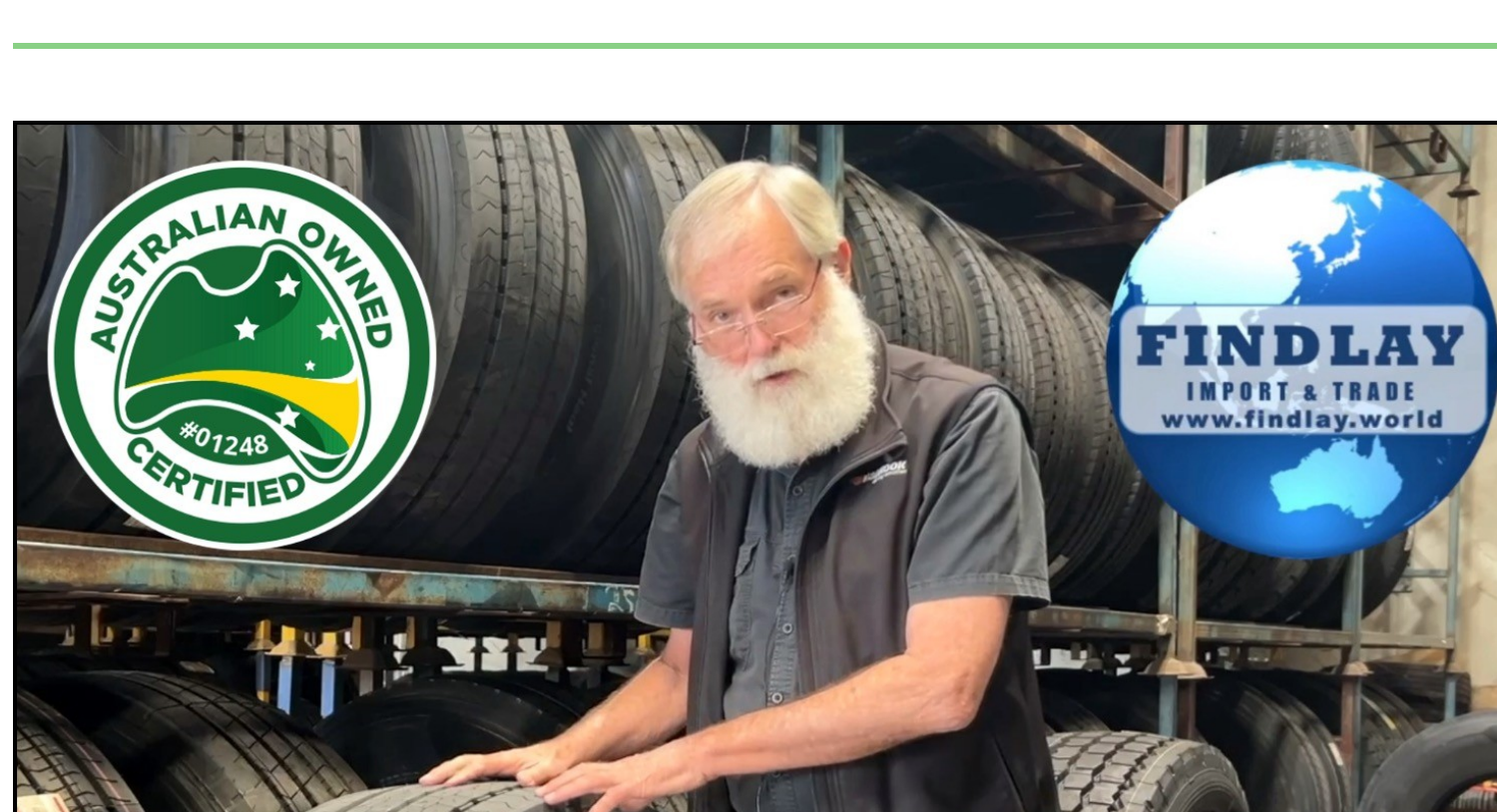
Our project outcomes:

- A harmonised, evidence-based framework for escorting OSOM loads.
- Reduced reliance on QPS resources through safe use of accredited industry escorts.
- Improved safety for road users, reduced congestion, and enhanced project delivery timelines.
- National relevance and potential for cross-jurisdictional adoption.

Our project is separate to, but concurrent, to the one being done by Department of Transport and Main Roads in Queensland.

Over the last month, we've been interviewing freight representatives across Australia about their growing OSOM task and how they're approaching it – importantly all thus far are in violent agreement about the need for reform and even harmonisation.

The next month will see us interviewing the wider industry sector through one-on-one discussions and workshops. If you are willing to participate, please complete this form, this will take approximately 1 Minute, or please forward this to someone else in your organisation who would be more appropriate to participate. <https://forms.microsoft.com/e/15F3WRNBY>



Board Director Interview (Neil Findlay)

QTLC Chair Neil Findlay wears a lot of different hats, both in his private businesses but also in representing the freight sector across Australia. Given how many people seek his council and leadership, we sat down with him this month to get his perspective on what he's seeing as emerging trends.

[Read the Interview Here](#)

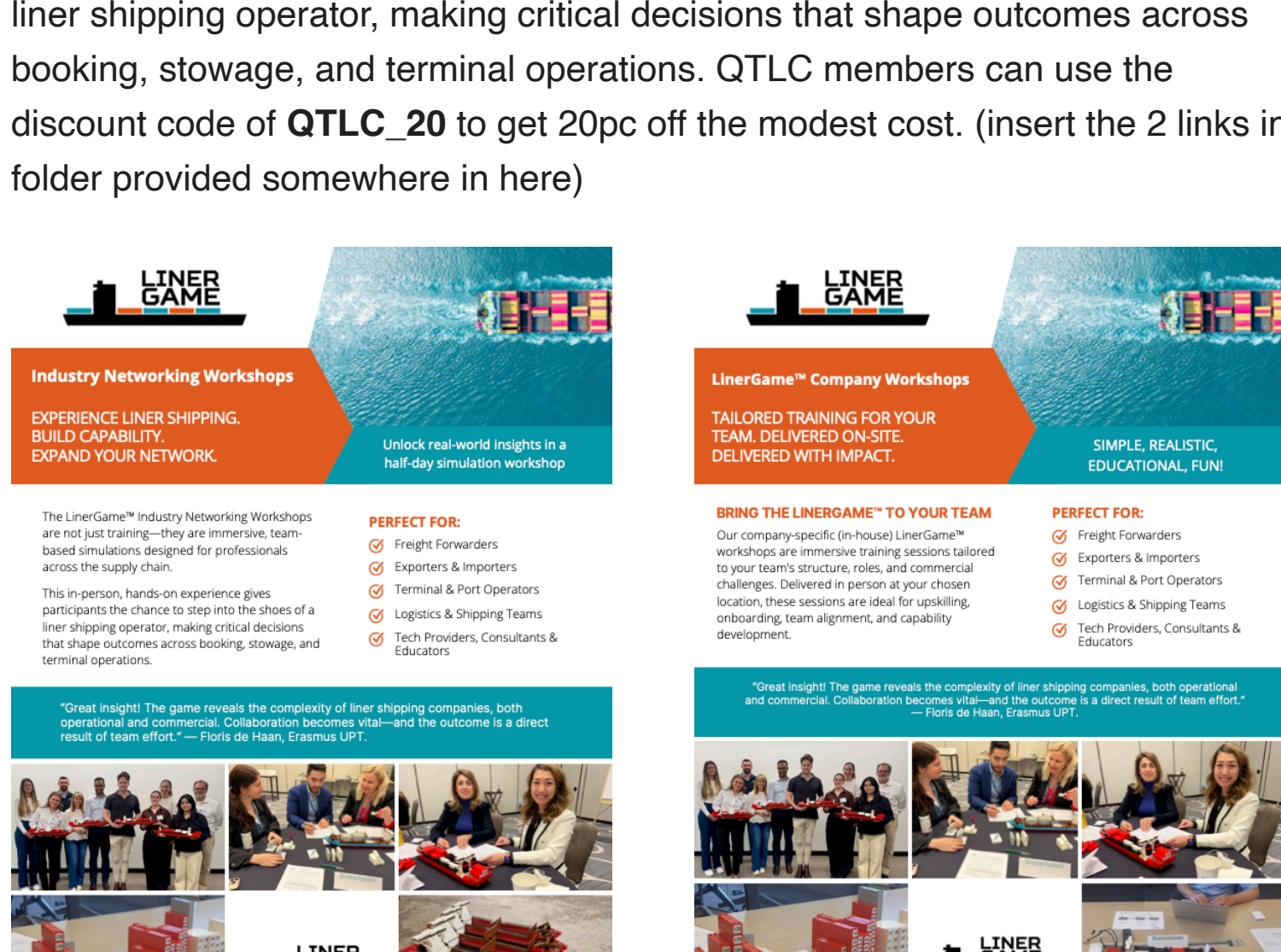
Whats coming up?



LinerGame is coming to Brisbane in October.

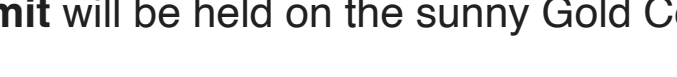
For those of you who haven't heard, the hugely successful LinerGame is coming to Brisbane next month and still has a small number of places available.

The practical, immersion supply chain simulation (albeit with lego) was conceived by two top shippers and serves to provide hands on experience of a liner shipping operator, making critical decisions that shape outcomes across booking, stowage, and terminal operations. QTLC members can use the discount code of **QTLC_20** to get 20pc off the modest cost. (insert the 2 links in folder provided somewhere in here)



QTLC's AGM and Members' Meeting will be held from 10.30 on Thursday 30th October with a series of great speakers lined up including TMR's DG Sally Stannard. Mark your diaries and keep an eye out for this invite.

This year's **ITS Summit** will be held on the sunny Gold Coast **19-21 November**.



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