

ECP Post COVID-19 Restart

Conversations on the Future of Transport and Logistics



Speakers:

Lisa Williams

Department of Transport, Victoria
State Government

Jonathan Bolton

DHL – Victoria

Dave Coughlin

Mainfreight – Tullamarine

Nicholas O'Connell

DP-World – Melbourne

The COVID-19 pandemic has had significant negative impacts of the global economy. Although Australia has been relatively successful in its efforts to contain its spread, the damage to the economy and people's lives and livelihoods is significant. One indisputable conclusion is that the implications are likely to last many years and decades ahead. As the sector responsible to the movement and delivery of people and goods in society, the Transport and Logistics sector has played a vital role in ensuring that our society and economy retains a level of normalcy. Like other essential sectors, it has ensured delivery of essential services under highly strenuous conditions. In this seminar a panel of industry practitioners, representing different industries, will share their experiences, observations and views on the situation and reflect on how this situation is likely to impact the sector in the medium to long-term.

This event is organised by the **Global Transport and Logistics Research Group**, in collaboration with **RMIT Enabling Capability Platforms**. It is the first of a series of events bringing industry and academia together to consider post COVID-19 recovery efforts and strategies.

Discussion Questions

1. How has the COVID-19 situation impacted on business within your industry and sector and what are the likely long-term implications for policy and practice?
2. In what ways is the use of new/advanced technologies likely to change in the medium and long-term post COVID-19?
3. In what ways will the nature and context of work change in the sector, following COVID-19, with regard to employment, job roles and workforce skills requirements?
4. What strategies can Businesses adopt to build more operational resilience in the face of similar disruptions?
5. Where, and in what ways, can RMIT researchers collaborate with industry and government in post COVID-19 recovery efforts?

Registration

Programme

11:00 - 11:10	Welcome to Country and Introduction - Associate Professor Victor Gekara
11:10 - 11:25	Keynote - Overview of the situation and the impact for policy and practice - Lisa Williams
11:25 - 11:40	First panel speaker - Jonathan Bolton
11:40 - 11:55	Second panel speaker - Dave Coughlin
11:55 - 12:10	Third panel speaker - Nicholas O'Connell
12:10 - 12:50	Open Q&A
12:50 - 13:00	Closing remarks

Panel Speakers

Ms Lisa Williams, Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Transport, Victoria State Government

Lisa Williams is the Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) at the Department of Transport where she leads a multi-billion-dollar procurement portfolio. The scope of her CPO role has recently grown and now incorporates the former VicRoads and Public Transport Victoria. Lisa is the 2019 winner of the Faculty, Asia-Pacific's CPO of The Year, based on her strategic leadership in successfully transforming a large and diverse expenditure portfolio. Lisa also led the design and rollout of innovation, which transformed procurement from largely transactional to a revitalised purpose of mitigating risk and delivering strategic value. A key part of the transformation was the cultural shift to being customer focussed, moving from a very fixed administrative function, to one which was strongly aligned with the organisational strategy to deliver outcomes well beyond its traditional scope. In addition to her public sector experience, Lisa has also worked across the private sector in various consulting roles and with AGL and IBM.



Mr Jonathan Bolton, General Manager consumer and retail, DHL – Victoria

Jonathan Bolton is currently the General Manager consumer and retail at DHL Victoria. He is responsible for 9 sites and the establishment of 2 new ones in the next year, and a total of 600 staff. Jonathan has an extensive 28-year international experience in the area of supply chain and logistics management. Previously he has worked with P&O ports and TNT Logistics. He is an RMIT Bachelor of Business Transport alumni, class of 1991.



Mr Dave Coughlin, Branch manager, Mainfreight – Tullamarine

Dave is currently the Branch Manager of Mainfreight Air & Ocean here in Melbourne, based in Tullamarine, with a Team of 80. In his 8th year at Mainfreight, Dave moved to Melbourne 3 years ago, after successfully running the Adelaide Air & Ocean Branch of Mainfreight for nearly 5 years. Dave started in International Trade in the early 1990s, working through the International Divisions of Westpac for 4 years, before moving into International Logistics. During that time, Dave has worked across all sectors of International Logistics, including landside & container park operations.

Mr Nicholas O'Connell, Operations Production Manager, DP-World – Melbourne

Nicholas is currently the Operations Production Manager at the DP-World West Swanston Terminal in Melbourne. He has an extensive experience in Stevedoring, which spans over 14 years in which he has worked in various roles of terminal logistics operations and management. Prior to his current position, he worked, for 5 years, as the Operations Efficiency Manager across all DP-World terminals and logistics parks in Australia.



Moderator

Associate Professor Victor Gekara, RMIT University

Associate Professor Victor Gekara is the Director of the College of Business and Law's Global Transport and Logistics Research Group and Leader of the Skills, Training and Industry Research Network. He is an experienced and internationally recognised researcher with a strong research track record including managing major research projects, high quality academic and industry publication and active industry engagement. He maintains an extensive network of industry partners with whom he works to translate his research into impactful outcomes for policy and practice.

