



2025 Tasmanian Freight & Logistics Forum



The Ship
CONSULTING

EVENT SUMMARY

Held at the University of Tasmania in Hobart on 14 May, the 2025 Tasmanian Freight & Logistics Forum brought together industry leaders, port operators, government representatives and international shipping stakeholders.



Francis Murugan (Kuehne & Nagel), Paul & Caroline Zalai (FTA/APSA), Fhiona & Sam Smeaton (LogiHire)

Four panel sessions were featured throughout the day:

- **Port Interface** explored the efficiency of port operations, featuring executives from TasPorts, Qube Ports, and Ports Australia.



Mike Gallacher (Ports Australia), Paul Collins (Qube Ports) Brett Charlton (FTA/APSA) Anthony Donald (Tasports)

The following presenters' slides (PDF) are available below:

[Michael Gallacher \(CEO Ports Australia\)](#)

[Anthony Donald \(CEO TasPorts\)](#)

- **Shipper's Perspective** provided insights from peak industry bodies, including the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Tasmanian Agricultural Productivity Group.



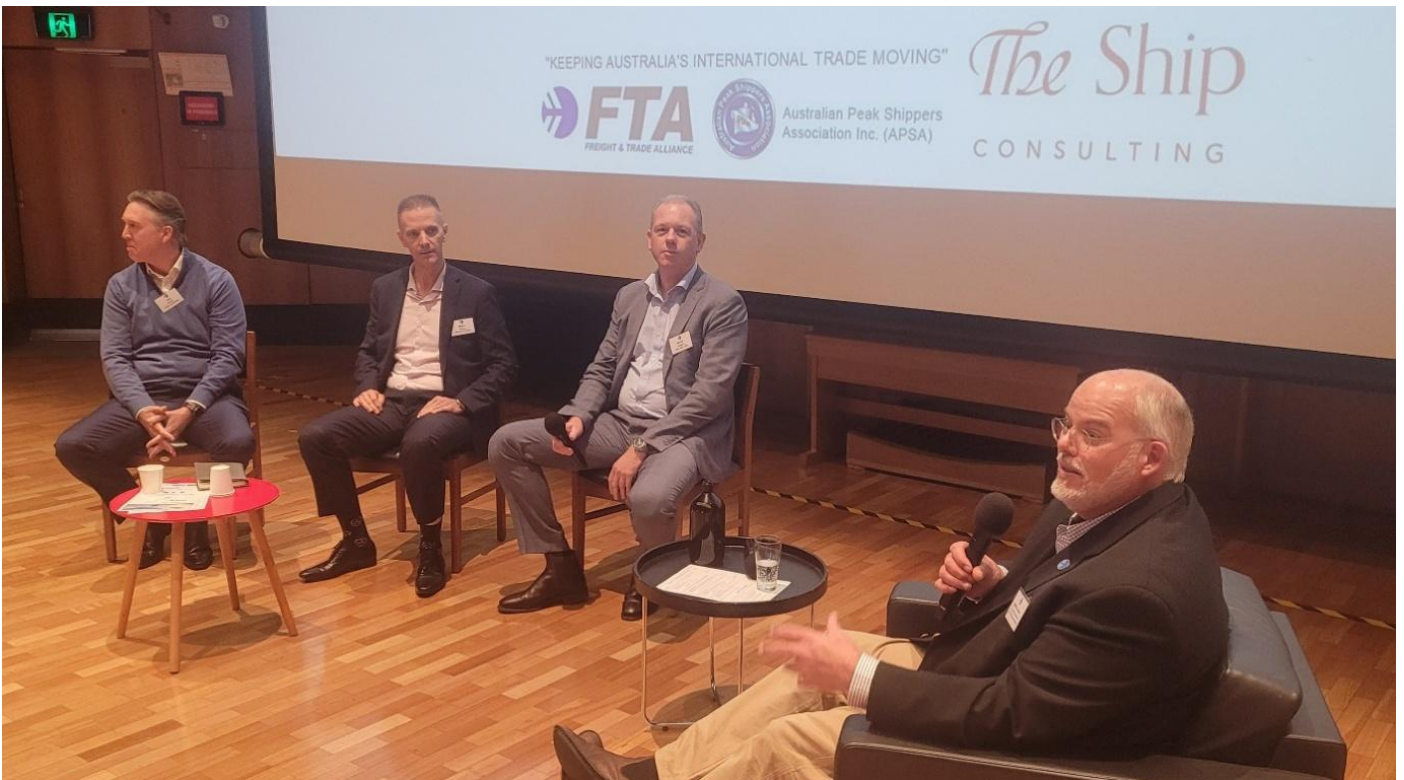
Michael Bailey (Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce & Industry) Mark Kable (Tasmanian Agricultural Productivity Group / AustVeg) Patrick Dooley (Noske Skog / Tasmanian Minerals Manufacturing & Energy Council) Brett Charlton (FTA/APSA)

- **Domestic Shipping** centred on Bass Strait freight issues, with input from SeaRoad, Strait Link Shipping, and TT-Line including the need for strong advocacy to mitigate the potential cost and operational impacts of the proposed relocation of berths at the Port of Melbourne.



Brett Charlton (FTA/APSA) Ian Whitechurch (TT Lines) Geoff Gruebner (Strait Link Shipping) Patrick Guarino (Searoad)

- **International Shipping** offered a global outlook with participation from ANL CMA CGM, OOCL and COSCO Australia, complemented by a pre-recorded address from maritime analyst Sal Mercogliano.



Tim Mason (OOCL) Bryce Henley (COSCO) Derek Singline (ANL CMA CGM) Brett Charlton (FTA/APSA)

A presentation by Peggy Chen highlighted the educational initiatives led by the Australian Maritime College and emphasised the importance of collaboration with industry to attract new entrants to the freight and logistics sector—an issue echoed by several panellists throughout the event.

The following presenter's slides (PDF) are available below:

[Peggy Chen \(Australian Maritime College\)](#)

Importantly, a ministerial address by Eric Abetz, Tasmania's Minister for Business, Industry and Resources, reinforced the government's commitment to infrastructure investment and the development of a robust freight strategy.

The event concluded with remarks from Paul Zalai, Director of FTA and APSA Secretariat, calling for continued collaboration to ensure sustainable and competitive logistics solutions for Tasmania.

LinkedIn commentary from Brett Charlton refer [HERE](#)

Mercogliano provided a recorded presentation – available [HERE](#)

2025 Tasmanian Freight & Logistics Forum program is available [HERE](#)



Brett Charlton (FTA/APSA) Peggy Chen (AMC)



Paul Zalai (FTA/APSA) Minister Eric Abetz

SPONSORS

The **2025 Tasmanian Freight & Logistics Forum** is proudly sponsored by the following entities:

--- GOLD ---



<https://tasports.com.au/>

Tasports is a key player in Tasmania's freight and logistics sector, managing and operating the state's port facilities to connect Tasmania to national and international markets. As one of the largest infrastructure assets in Tasmania, Tasports plays a crucial role in supporting economic growth and enhancing trade efficiency for local industries. With ports in Hobart, Launceston, Devonport, Burnie, and other strategic locations, Tasports provides vital services for both bulk and containerised freight, catering to the diverse needs of Tasmania's industries.

The company's core mission is to provide world-class port infrastructure and logistics services that support Tasmania's economic prosperity. Tasports is committed to innovation and sustainability, continuously improving operations to ensure safe, efficient, and environmentally responsible practices. By investing in port infrastructure, operational excellence, and customer-centric services, Tasports plays a vital role in fostering economic growth and global competitiveness for Tasmania.

Tasports also prioritises collaboration with industry stakeholders to drive operational improvements and streamline supply chains. Their integrated services include cargo handling, logistics support, and the facilitation of trade across the Tasmanian and broader Australian supply chains. As a gold sponsor of the Tasmanian Freight and Logistics Forum, Tasports reinforces its dedication to enhancing Tasmania's position as a logistics hub and contributing to the ongoing success of the freight and logistics sector.



<https://amc.edu.au/>

The University of Tasmania's Australian Maritime College (AMC) is Australia's leading institution for maritime education, training, and research. Located in Launceston, Tasmania, AMC is globally recognised for its expertise in the maritime and logistics sectors, offering world-class programs across a wide range of disciplines including marine engineering, maritime logistics, and naval architecture.

AMC's commitment to innovation and industry collaboration makes it a key partner in advancing the future of Tasmania's maritime and freight sectors. Through its cutting-edge research, industry engagement, and specialised training programs, AMC plays a pivotal role in supporting the growth and competitiveness of the global maritime and logistics industries.

AMC's highly skilled graduates contribute to the workforce of Tasmania and beyond, equipped with the practical knowledge and technical expertise necessary to meet the challenges of the evolving maritime landscape. In addition, the college is actively involved in industry research and the development of sustainable and efficient maritime practices, further strengthening its position as a leader in maritime education.

As a gold sponsor of the Tasmanian Freight and Logistics Forum, UTAS AMC is proud to showcase its dedication to fostering excellence in maritime education, research, and industry collaboration, helping shape the future of the freight and logistics sectors in Tasmania and globally.



<https://www.bws.net/>

Blue Water Shipping is a global provider of tailor-made transport and logistics solutions, with a growing presence in Australia and a strong commitment to the local freight and logistics industry. Founded in Denmark in 1972, Blue Water now operates in more than 80 offices worldwide, delivering expertise across general freight forwarding, project logistics, marine logistics and supply chain management.

In Australia, Blue Water serves key sectors including energy, mining, renewables and heavy industry. They deliver end-to-end solutions encompassing air, sea, road freight, customs clearance, warehousing and oversized cargo solutions. Their team combines global capability with local insight, ensuring efficient, safe, and cost-effective transport—even for the most complex freight requirements.

Blue Water's reputation is built on reliability, transparency and a strong customer-first approach. Their commitment to innovation, digitalisation and sustainable practices ensures clients benefit from modern, agile supply chain solutions.

As a sponsor of the Tasmanian Freight and Logistics Forum, Blue Water Shipping demonstrates its ongoing commitment to enhancing freight connectivity and infrastructure across Tasmania and the broader Australian market, contributing to a resilient and future-ready logistics network.



<https://www.msc.com/>

Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) is a global leader in container shipping and logistics, renowned for its commitment to connecting communities, markets, and businesses worldwide. Founded in 1970 and headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, MSC operates a fleet of more than 760 vessels, serving over 500 ports across the globe.

In Australia, MSC provides vital shipping services that link domestic exporters and importers to key international markets. The company plays a pivotal role in supporting Tasmanian industries such as agriculture, aquaculture, forestry, and manufacturing by ensuring the reliable movement of containerised freight to Asia, Europe, the Americas, and beyond.

With a strong focus on customer service, sustainability, and operational efficiency, MSC continues to invest in innovative technologies and cleaner shipping solutions. Their integrated logistics offerings—spanning ocean freight, inland transport, warehousing, and digital solutions—are designed to meet the evolving needs of global supply chains.

MSC's sponsorship of the Tasmanian Freight and Logistics Forum reflects its dedication to supporting the growth and resilience of Tasmania's trade and logistics sectors through strong partnerships and sustainable connectivity.

--- SILVER ---



<https://qube.com.au/operations/ports/>

Qube Ports is Australia's leading provider of integrated port logistics services, with operations at 29 ports across the country and a strong presence in Tasmania. As part of the Qube Holdings group, Qube Ports offers end-to-end logistics solutions encompassing stevedoring, bulk and general cargo handling, and supply chain management for a wide range of industries including mining, forestry, agriculture, and construction.

In Tasmania, Qube Ports operates in key locations such as Burnie, Bell Bay, and Hobart, where it plays a vital role in supporting regional trade and export growth. The company is committed to delivering safe, efficient, and innovative services through its highly trained workforce and continual investment in infrastructure and technology.

Qube Ports is known for its ability to tailor solutions to meet customer-specific requirements, including project cargo, break bulk, and container logistics. With a strong focus on safety, sustainability, and operational excellence, Qube Ports supports the efficient movement of goods across the supply chain, contributing to Tasmania's economic prosperity.

Their support of the Forum reflects a long-standing commitment to strengthening the state's freight and logistics sector.

--- BRONZE ---



<https://www.optim.global/>

Optim Global Logistics is a proudly Australian-owned company delivering tailored, end-to-end logistics solutions across international freight forwarding, customs brokerage, and warehousing. With a team of highly experienced industry professionals, Optim Global is committed to simplifying global trade for Australian businesses by offering flexible, customer-focused services that prioritise transparency, efficiency, and reliability.

Operating with offices across key freight hubs in Australia, Optim Global has built a strong reputation for going the extra mile to ensure shipments move seamlessly across the globe. Their integrated solutions cover air, sea, and road transport—supported by robust technology platforms and real-time tracking to keep clients informed at every step.

Optim Global takes pride in developing long-term partnerships with customers, offering personalised service that adapts to changing needs. From SMEs to major corporations, their team works closely with clients to design logistics strategies that optimise supply chains, reduce risk, and improve bottom-line performance.

As a sponsor of the Tasmanian Freight and Logistics Forum, Optim Global Logistics demonstrates its commitment to advancing freight efficiency and supply chain resilience throughout Tasmania and beyond.



Global Transport and Logistics

<https://www.dsv.com/en/countries/oceania/australia>

DSV is the leading global transport and logistics company with a dedicated, local Tasmanian team. With operations in 90 countries and over 160,000 staff DSV has an immense global reach offering a full suite of services including air, sea, and road freight, customs brokerage and supply chain management.

In Tasmania, DSV supports local and international businesses with tailored freight and logistics solutions that are efficient, scalable, and technology-driven. With offices in both Hobart and Launceston the local team operate with a deep understanding of the unique challenges facing business in Tasmania and beyond. DSV's commitment to green logistics, reliability, and customer service has earned it a strong reputation in the Oceania region and across the globe.

DSV brings global reach with local expertise ensuring seamless end-to-end logistics, with specialist project teams for the most complicated of shipments. Whether facilitating international trade or supporting domestic supply chains, DSV helps keep goods moving smoothly and on time.

As a proud sponsor of the Tasmanian Freight and Logistics Forum, DSV reaffirms its commitment to supporting the growth and sustainability of Tasmanian business.



<https://www.tasrail.com.au/>

Established in 2009, TasRail has become Tasmania's trusted provider of safe, reliable rail logistics. Its state-wide network of terminals ensures seamless access to key export hubs for heavy industry and freight forwarders. Purpose-built rollingstock for containers, logs, minerals, coal, and cement offer flexible, tailored solutions for industry partners.

TasRail owns and operates the Bulk Minerals Export Facility and Shiploader at the Port of Burnie, supporting West Coast mines with integrated storage and bulk shiploading services via both road and rail.

Jointly funded by the Tasmanian and Australian governments, TasRail is delivering a major infrastructure investment program to modernise the network. These upgrades have driven record operational and safety performance, including unprecedented levels of on-time running. In 2023-24, TasRail achieved its highest annual rail haulage to date, led by strong growth in containerised freight and bulk commodities.

Future capital projects include a new storage and rail loading hub in Northwest Tasmania and improved rail connectivity at Bell Bay.

TasRail is proud to sponsor the Tasmanian Freight and Logistics Forum and contribute to the future of efficient freight movement in the state.

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<https://au.kuehne-nagel.com/en/>

With more than 130 years of logistics expertise, Kuehne+Nagel is a global industry leader, known for delivering innovative and sustainable freight solutions across sea, air, road, and contract logistics. Founded in 1890 in Bremen, Germany, and now headquartered in Switzerland, Kuehne+Nagel has grown into a trusted global logistics partner with operations in over 100 countries.

In Australia, Kuehne+Nagel's team of 540 logistics specialists provides seamless, customer-centric supply chain services tailored to meet diverse industry needs. Whether facilitating local freight or managing complex global movements, Kuehne+Nagel combines global capabilities with local insight to keep cargo moving reliably and efficiently.

The company is driven by a bold vision: to connect people and goods while advancing global trade and bringing communities together. With a strong focus on innovation, sustainability, and resilience, Kuehne+Nagel continues to help businesses anticipate challenges and seize new opportunities in today's dynamic logistics landscape.

Kuehne+Nagel is proud to support the Tasmanian Freight and Logistics Forum, reflecting its commitment to strengthening supply chain connectivity across Australia and beyond.



<https://straitlink.com.au/>

Strait Link: Tasmania's vital link—across the island and across the strait.

With terminals and depots across Tasmania—including Burnie, Devonport, Hobart and Launceston—and two strategic ports at either end of the Bass Strait, Strait Link delivers a complete, end-to-end logistics solution across road and sea.

Our two purpose-built vessels operate dedicated sailings six days a week between Burnie and the Port of Melbourne. These are supported by an integrated road transport fleet and local delivery services across Tasmania, with seamless connections into international shipping, and nationwide road and rail networks. Strait Link ensures freight gets where it needs to go —across Tasmania, Australia and the globe.

What sets us apart is our Tasmanian story. We're not just a link in the supply chain—we're part of the community. Our team lives and works here, understands the local conditions, and knows what's at stake when freight is delayed. Whether by truck, ship or local delivery vehicle—from containerised cargo to trailer freight—we take pride in delivering with reliability and care, backed by the strength of an integrated logistics network built for Tasmania.

Driven by experience, built for purpose, and proudly local, Strait Link supports the industries, people and places that power Tasmania. As the state evolves, we continue to invest in operational excellence, safety and service—keeping Tasmania connected to opportunity, and moving forward.

--- TASMANIAN MEMBER SPONSORS ---



<https://www.afilogistics.com.au/>

AFI Logistics is a leading Australian logistics provider, offering end-to-end solutions that span warehousing, distribution, and supply chain management. With decades of experience in the industry, AFI Logistics specialises in tailored services designed to meet the specific needs of its clients, ensuring operational efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and seamless transportation.

The company's services cover a broad range of sectors, including retail, manufacturing, and food and beverage, with a strong focus on delivering superior logistics solutions to support the growth of Australian businesses. AFI Logistics operates a network of strategically located warehouses and offers flexible transportation options, including road, rail, and sea freight.

As a business committed to sustainability, AFI Logistics prioritises green practices, investing in technology and infrastructure that reduce environmental impact while improving operational performance. Their customer-centric approach, combined with a robust digital framework, ensures real-time visibility and control over supply chain processes.

AFI Logistics is a 100% owned Tasmanian business. By sponsoring the Tasmanian Freight and Logistics Forum, AFI Logistics reaffirms its commitment to enhancing Tasmania's freight and logistics capabilities, advancing industry collaboration, and driving innovation for a more efficient supply chain.



<https://linklogistics.com.au/>

Link Logistics is a trusted Australian logistics company with a reputation for providing high-quality, tailored supply chain solutions. With a focus on delivering exceptional service, Link Logistics offers a comprehensive range of freight, warehousing, and distribution services that are designed to streamline the supply chain process for businesses across various industries.

With a strong presence in key Australian markets, Link Logistics delivers efficient and cost-effective transportation options that include road, rail, and sea freight, backed by advanced technology and innovative solutions. The company is known for its ability to adapt to the ever-changing needs of its clients, ensuring that each logistics challenge is met with practical, customised solutions that drive business growth.

Committed to sustainability, Link Logistics prioritises green logistics practices that reduce the environmental impact of freight operations. Their focus on providing reliable, efficient, and sustainable logistics solutions makes them a key player in the Australian supply chain industry.

By sponsoring the Tasmanian Freight and Logistics Forum, Link Logistics reinforces its dedication to supporting industry growth, enhancing collaboration, and contributing to Tasmania's logistics landscape.