

# 19 JANUARY 2022 - MEDIA RELEASE

# FREIGHT & TRADE ALLIANCE PARTNERS WITH CONSORTIA PROVIDING RATS TO THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE SUPPLY CHAIN

In response to an extraordinary demand by supply chain participants following the Omicron outbreak, *Freight & Trade Alliance (FTA)* has partnered with *Protective Health*, a leading provider of medical supplies, as a part of a consortia to provide Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) approved Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) to the Australian market.

Paul Zalai, FTA Director stated that urgent action was needed in response to the recent state and federal government re-assessment on testing regimes. 'Once PCR testing was no longer a sustainable option we had to find a commercially viable solution for our members to maximise the safety of staff and allow continuity of sustainable business operations'.

'After engaging leading business consultants BDO Australia in search of a large volume, reputable provider of RAT kits, we identified Protective Health as an ideal partner with a proven track record as a leading large-scale supplier of quality medical supplies since the first peak of COVID-19.' Zalai said

The next critical step to the success of the consortia was the appointment of *HubX* as the warehouse and logistics provider for the projected large scale import volumes. Importantly, their state-of-the-art facility is strategically located in the heart of Sydney's cargo hub Port Botany and within close proximity of Sydney International Airport.

Stephen Chard, Director of Protective Health stated the TGA approved the *Clungene Covid-19 Antigen Rapid Test* on 7 January 2022 for use by companies and individuals for self-testing purposes. *'Furthermore, our products undergo independent quality testing to the highest standards by various global authorities to ensure they are compliant in all of the regions we serve.'* 

'Whilst we are proud the TGA has rated the test as being of very high sensitivity and specificity, this would count for little if we could not get our supplies to market. To that end we look forward to partnering with our sponsors, manufacturer, FTA, BDO and HubX to support the critical needs of the supply chain sector and the Australian community.' Chard said

In terms of the product, Zalai stated that member feedback positioned the industry body to negotiate a rate of \$6.99 per test (boxes of 5 equating to \$34.95 excl GST). In order to

streamline handling and distribution processes, the offer is only available for businesses purchasing a minimum of 1 carton holding 240 boxes (1200 tests).

'Our members can readily collect the tests from HubX with no additional delivery charge or alternatively, distribution will be offered within the Sydney metropolitan and interstate at competitive commercial rates.' Zalai said

### **ABOUT THE CONSORTIA - CONTACTS:**

Further product detail and how to purchase online is available at <a href="www.FTAlliance.com.au">www.FTAlliance.com.au</a>

# Freight & Trade Alliance (FTA)

Paul Zalai - Director, Freight & Trade Alliance (FTA), Secretariat, Australian Peak Shippers Association (APSA) pzalai@ftalliance.com.au / (02) 9975 1878 / www.FTAlliance.com.au

### **Protective Health**

Stephen Chard – Director Protective Health <a href="mailto:service@protective.health">service@protective.health</a> 1800 948 052 / 0438 171 411 / <a href="mailto:www.protective.health">www.protective.health</a>

# **APAC Security**

The sponsor of the test kit assessed as being best suited for the FTA project scope www.apacsecurity.com

### **Hub X Transportation**

The provider of warehouse, logistics and distribution solutions <a href="https://www.hubx.net.au">www.hubx.net.au</a>

# Hangzhou Clongene Biotech Co., Ltd

The manufacturer of the test kits <a href="https://www.en.clongene.com">www.en.clongene.com</a>

### **BDO**

Commercial advisor, auditor and compliance www.bdo.com.au