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**THE HON DAN TEHAN MP**

Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment

**THE HON STUART ROBERT MP**

Minister for Employment, Workforce, Skills, Small and Family Business

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**New taskforce to simplify trade**

The Morrison Government is cutting red tape and simplifying border processes to help Australian exporters boost productivity and save time and money.

A new Simplified Trade System Implementation Taskforce will review international trade regulations and modernise outdated ICT systems, to assist more than 57,000 Australian exporters, and more than 380,000 importers.

Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Dan Tehan announced Mr Randall Brugeaud would lead the Taskforce, commencing on 1 July. Mr Brugeaud will leave his current role as CEO of the Digital Transformation Agency (DTA) to take up the position to lead the Taskforce.

“Mr Brugeaud is uniquely qualified to work hand in hand with businesses to design and implement a cross-border trade system that meets their needs,” Mr Tehan said.

“Our Government’s focus on cutting red tape will give businesses more time to focus on growing their business and employing more Australians. We announced an additional \$37.4 million for the Simplified Trade System reform, to further strengthen Australia’s economic resilience, in the May budget.”

Minister for Employment, Workforce, Skills, Small and Family Business Stuart Robert thanked Mr Brugeaud for his work at the DTA and said his experience will ensure the Taskforce would further improve the Government’s digital services for businesses.

“The Taskforce will complement the Morrison Government’s \$1.2 billion Digital Economy Strategy that is helping to drive Australia’s jobs-led recovery by ensuring businesses can focus on growth and interact with Government in a way that is simple and efficient,” Mr Robert said.

The Taskforce will work with the Simplified Trade System Industry Advisory Council, the Deregulation Taskforce, other border agencies, and Australian businesses to review and improve regulations and trade systems.

**ENDS**

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