



TOMAX
NEWS

Issue 179
21st March 2025



PLUS:

MARKET SUMMARY

- Chaos in various terminals this week with national system outages, stoppages for infrastructure upgrades (which terminals elect to do on week days rather than on the weekend when things are quieter), and MUA meeting. Delays are expected to impact deliveries well into next week as well.

- Freight rates are highly volatile at the moment with shipping lines attempting to manipulate the market to push price increases through, whilst demand remains a little weaker than expected on southbound trades.

TARIFF CONCESSIONS GAZETTE (TC)

Tariff Concession Orders (TCOs) are an Australian Government revenue concession that exists where there are no known Australian manufacturers of goods that are substitutable for imported goods. The weekly Tomax Client Newsletter will contain a link to the latest Gazette document so that you can stay updated.

[CLICK TO VIEW LATEST GAZETTE](#)



PATRICK FREMANTLE - TERMINAL CLOSURE

Please be advised that Patrick Fremantle Terminal will be closed on Monday 24th March between 7:00am and 11:00pm due to a site shutdown for critical planned infrastructure works.

As a result, no gate processing will occur during this time and Landside & Head Clerks may also be offline for periods.

R&D Gates will close at 6:40am and will recommence at 10:40pm on Monday 24th March.

Any VBS slots issued during this period will be cancelled so please re-request for either Tuesday or Saturday/Sunday.

Please reach out to the terminal directly for any storage related questions and/or the relevant shipping line to discuss any detention related matters relating to any shipments impacted.



\$75M FOR MELBOURNE'S SOUTH-EAST ROAD UPGRADES

The Federal and Victorian State Governments have unveiled two significant road upgrades in Melbourne's south-east, with a total investment of \$75 million aimed at enhancing safety and connectivity for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.

The first project, the Nepean Highway and Overton Road Intersection Upgrade, valued at \$50 million, will improve safety by introducing traffic signals and enhancing footpath links to the Kananook Creek Trail. The second, the McLeod Road and Mornington Peninsula Freeway Intersection Upgrade, at \$25 million, is designed to improve traffic flow between the suburbs and the coast.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese emphasised the importance of investing in Victoria's transport infrastructure. "We want to make sure all Victorians have the services and the infrastructure they need now and into the future. This is good for local jobs, good for local businesses and good for commuters," he stated.

These upgrades are part of the \$1 billion Road Blitz initiated by the Albanese Government, aligning with the Victorian Government's

existing road investment program, which has been boosted by an additional \$200 million.

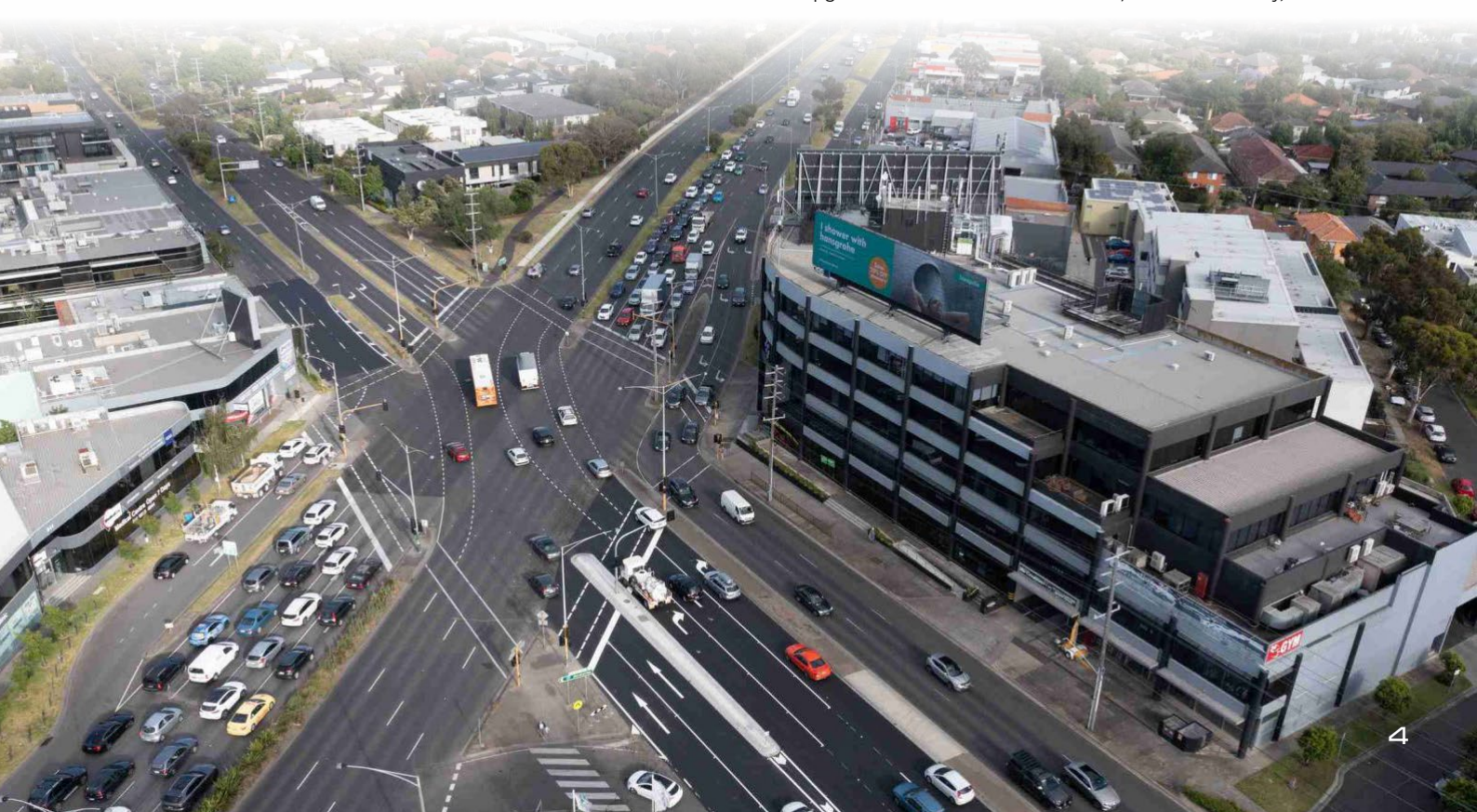
Other funded projects include:

- Sealing and upgrading 5.6 km of Old Sydney Road from Mickleham to Beveridge.
- Duplicating Evans Road in Cranbourne.
- Upgrading the McLeod Road and Station Street intersection in Carrum to improve traffic signalisation.

Victorian Premier Jacinta Allan highlighted the positive impact of these upgrades. "Every Victorian wants to spend less time stuck in traffic and more time with family – that's why we're delivering major road upgrades across Melbourne's south-east."

With consultation on project timelines now underway, Minister for Transport Infrastructure Gabrielle Williams welcomed the investment, stating, "our growing communities deserve the very best road connections, which is why we are investing more to improve traffic flow and boost safety."

Hazell, P. (2025). \$75 million road upgrades for Melbourne's south-east. Retrieved from <https://mhdsupplychain.com.au/2025/03/18/75-million-road-upgrades-for-melbournes-south-east/> on 19th February, 2025.



1-STOP SYSTEM OUTAGE UPDATE

Following on from yesterday's Newsflash, please note that 1-Stop is still experiencing a system outage which continues to impact key services such as Truck Trip Manifesting, Slot Drops and the ability to service drivers already inside the terminals. Terminals have requested that no further trucks be sent in until further notice.

There will be a significant backlog of trucks waiting to be processed once operations resume, which may result in longer turnaround times.

The situation is being actively monitored. Please contact one of our Tomax team members on 1300 186 629 if you have any queries.



ATA URGES SUPPORT FOR TRUCK DRIVER SHORTAGE

The Australian Trucking Association (ATA) is urging the next elected Australian Government to offer increased financial support to address the ongoing truck driver shortage.

At present, over 26,000 truck driver positions remain unfilled, placing the occupation at the forefront of skill shortages in Australia. One contributing factor to the shortage is the disparity in financial support available to both companies and drivers, particularly in comparison to other sectors.

While the Australian Government provides financial assistance to apprentices in various priority occupations, there is currently no equivalent support for those training to become truck drivers.

Mark Parry, Chair of the ATA, said, “The ATA calls on the next government to provide financial support to apprentices undertaking driving operations apprenticeships and their employers.” He proposes that apprentices should receive \$5,000 in support throughout their apprenticeship, with employers receiving \$2,000 after six months and an additional \$3,000 after a year.

Although some state governments are funding short truck driving courses through registered training organisations, there are currently no federal incentives to encourage individuals to pursue a career as a truck driver.

Parry also highlighted the challenges faced by potential truck drivers migrating to Australia, as the occupation is not currently listed as a skilled trade, limiting immigration opportunities.

“Last year, the Australian Bureau of Statistics recognised that articulated truck and tanker driving required a similar level of skill to a trade certificate,” Parry added, “we welcome skilled tradies to Australia. We should welcome safe, experienced drivers from overseas too, although the overseas driver licensing system needs to be fixed first. We’ll discuss how to do this at Trucking Australia 2025 in April.”

Tan, Amanda. (2025). ATA calls for government support amidst shortage. Retrieved from <https://mhdsupplychain.com.au/2025/03/18/ata-calls-for-government-support-amidst-shortage/>



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

MARY JANE BAGSIT RECEPTIONIST/ADMIN TOMAX LOGISTICS AUSTRALIA



What is your role at Tomax?

Reception / Admin in Clayton Office

Name your hobbies/interests?

Reading books and making coffee.

What is your favourite childhood memory?

Being a part of a dance group who performed at every school event during Primary School.

What do you like about Melbourne?

Melbourne has many things to offer such as good food, a safe environment, diversity and lovely people.

Do you have any goals you wish to achieve?

My goal is to bring our son here with us in Melbourne and for us to become Australian Citizens so that I can continue working here at Tomax!

Your favourite animal and why?

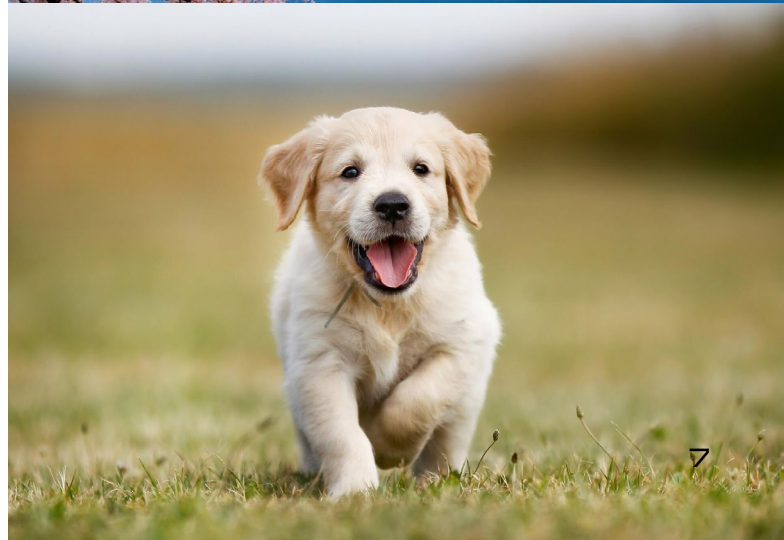
I will always be a dog lover as they will love you genuinely - but maybe it will change to kangaroo?! For now, I am not yet sure!

Dream holiday destinations?

Switzerland and Japan.

The most delicious dish you've eaten?

"Pork Binagoongan" which is a dish from the Philippines consisting of fried pork with shrimp paste and eggplant.



FRIDAY FUNNIES

We hope the following jokes will put a smile on your face as we approach the weekend!

Why is grass so dangerous?
Because it's full of blades!

Why are mountains so funny?
They're hill areas!

What did 20 do when it was hungry?
Twenty-eight.

What does a condiment wizard perform?
Saucery.

A slice of apple pie costs \$2.50 in Jamaica, \$3.75 in Bermuda, and \$3 in the Bahamas
Those are the pie-rates of the Caribbean.

What's the difference between the bird flu and the swine flu?
One requires tweetment and the other an oinkment.

I found a lion in my closet the other day!
When I asked what it was doing there, it said "Narnia business."

What's a cat's favorite instrument?
Purr-cussion.

Why should you never throw grandpa's false teeth at a vehicle?
You might denture car.

I can always tell when someone is lying.
I can tell when they're standing too.

Why did the coffee taste like dirt?
It was ground just a few minutes ago.

I found a book called How to Solve 50% of Your Problems
So I bought 2.

Why can't you make a dinosaur omelet?
They're egg-stinct.

What is the best present?
Broken drums! You can't beat them..

Did you hear about the new squirrel diet?
It's just nuts!

Did you hear about the pirate who became a great chef?
He mastered the seven sea-sonings.

