



TOMAX  
NEWS

**Issue 186**  
**25<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

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**PLUS:**





# MARKET SUMMARY

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Congestion is building on shipping schedules already even though we are only in July with some lines starting to make moves to skip ports of call in order to get vessels back on their original schedules. OOCL announced today that the OOCL Chicago v.112S will skip the port of Sydney on the current voyage which was scheduled to arrive in mid August. Industry commentators believe this year's peak season will see a lot of unreliability and changes in liner scheduling causing widespread difficulty for importers and exports trying to plan their shipments. Keep this in mind when planning cargo arrivals as weeks could be added to transit times during the peak season this year.

## TARIFF CONCESSIONS GAZETTE (TC)

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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.

[CLICK TO VIEW LATEST GAZETTE](#)



# AUSTRALIA'S ELECTRIC FREIGHT ROADMAP

**T**he Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) has released the Electrifying Road Freight report, marking the country's first comprehensive national roadmap for transitioning heavy road freight to battery-electric vehicles.

The report offers a thorough examination of the opportunities and barriers to decarbonising road freight, covering market readiness, emerging technologies, infrastructure requirements and projected energy demand. It outlines how electrification could progress across urban, regional, and interstate freight operations.

The report outlined the following:

## **Charging Infrastructure**

Up to 165 heavy vehicle charging hubs will be needed nationwide, strategically located near ports, major highways, and intermodal hubs. However, precise site planning will require further local-level analysis.

## **Grid Capacity Constraints**

While future energy generation is expected to be sufficient, limitations in transmission and distribution networks – particularly along long-haul freight corridors – pose a major obstacle. Overcoming these grid bottlenecks is critical for large-scale deployment.

## **Urban Freight Leads the Way**

Urban freight is well positioned for electrification, thanks to shorter routes and centralised, depot-based operations. In contrast, interstate and regional freight will require a staged approach and significant investment in charging infrastructure.

The report builds on ARENA's ongoing efforts through its Driving the Nation program, which supports real-world electric freight trials to evaluate charging, vehicle performance, and impacts on the grid.

Current ARENA-backed initiatives include:

**Centurion:** \$15.8 million to roll out 30 battery-electric trucks and 15 dual-port chargers at its Hazelmere depot.

**Patrick Terminals:** \$2.5 million to deploy electric terminal trucks at Fremantle Port.

**ANC:** \$12.8 million to electrify 112 last-mile delivery vehicles.

These projects reflect ARENA's strong commitment to decarbonising the transport sector and accelerating the shift to cleaner, low-emission freight.

Hazell, P. (2025). Australia's roadmap for electric freight takes shape. Retrieved from <https://mhdsupplychain.com.au/2025/07/18/australias-roadmap-for-electric-freight-takes-shape/> on 23rd July, 2025.





# AUSTRALIA EASES U.S BEEF BAN

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**T**he Australian Federal Government has announced it will ease biosecurity restrictions on U.S beef, paving the way for the resumption of imports under a new permit-based system. While this change does not mean unrestricted access, eligible importers can begin applying for permits from 28 July 2025.

The existing restrictions had been a point of contention for U.S authorities, including President Trump, who cited them as justification for proposed tariffs on Australian exports.

An investigation by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry into the import conditions began around 18 months ago—prior to the second Trump administration—but the timing of this

announcement comes just ahead of the US decision on reciprocal tariffs, expected on 1 August 2025. The move is likely to support negotiations between the two countries.

The government has emphasised that biosecurity will remain a top priority under the revised import framework. Simultaneously, Australia will also begin allowing direct beef imports from Canada.

Hudson, A. (2025). INSIGHT: Australia lifts restrictions on US beef. Retrieved from <https://www.thedcn.com.au/news/insight-australia-lifts-restrictions-on-us-beef> on 24th July, 2025.





# E-COMMERCE DRIVES WAREHOUSE DEMAND

Australia's online retail sector is experiencing rapid growth, with e-commerce now accounting for a record 14.3% of total retail sales. That share is projected to rise to 17% by 2029, according to new research from CBRE.

In its latest E-commerce and its Impact on Logistics Real Estate report, CBRE estimates that an additional 1.7 to 1.8 million square metres of logistics space will be needed over the next five years to keep up with surging online retail demand.

However, this demand is colliding with a tight supply pipeline. CBRE warns that upcoming logistics developments between 2025 and 2027 won't be enough to meet demand—not only from e-commerce, but also from the food and beverage sector and ongoing population growth.

CBRE's Head of Industrial & Logistics, Data Centre Research Australia, Sass Jalili, highlighted the likely market impact: "with logistics demand expected to outpace supply, we estimate national net effective rents will rise by 4.1 per cent annually over the next four years," she said, "e-commerce operators typically require three times more warehouse space than traditional retailers. For every \$1 billion in online sales, an extra 70,000 square metres of logistics space is

needed. That equates to a further 1.7 to 1.8 million square metres by 2030 – a figure that exceeds what's currently in the pipeline." Jalili attributed the ongoing expansion in online shopping to a more tech-savvy consumer base, improved digital payments, and faster delivery systems.

In 2024, Australia's total retail market reached \$440 billion, with retail tenants accounting for about 20% of all logistics leasing activity. Matthew Kandelaars, Property Council Group Executive Policy and Advocacy, stressed the importance of industrial space for the national economy. "The lack of supply in the industrial and logistics sector can have serious negative flow-on effects on our economy and supply chain efficiency," Kandelaars said, "to support our growing economy and continued rise of online shopping, we simply need more industrial space."

Logistics availability has tightened sharply since the pandemic, with vacancy rates under 3% in most markets from 2021 through to 2025. CBRE estimates annual structural demand for logistics space will average 2.1 million square metres between 2025 and 2027—outpacing the expected annual supply of 1.9 million square metres.

Hazell, P. (2025). E-commerce boom drives demand for logistics space. Retrieved from <https://mhdsupplychain.com.au/2025/07/24/e-commerce-boom-drives-demand-for-logistics-space/> on 24th July, 2025.



# STAYING COMPLIANT WITH SANCTIONS LAW

**T**he Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) has released the Electrifying Road Freight report, marking the country's first comprehensive national roadmap for transitioning heavy road freight to battery-electric vehicles.

Breaching Australian sanctions laws is a serious offence. For corporations, the maximum penalty is the greater of 10,000 penalty units (AUD 3.3 million as of 1 July 2024) or three times the value of the transaction. Sanctions offences are strict liability for corporations. However, it is a defence if a company can prove it took reasonable precautions and due diligence to avoid a breach. Evidence of this may include a documented sanctions policy, risk assessments, screening processes, staff training, software tools, and access to sanctions expertise.

## Step 1: Assess Sanctions Risk

A corporation's compliance controls should align with its specific sanctions risk. Risk assessments should consider:

- Customers, suppliers, agents, and subcontractors
- Services offered and where they're delivered
- Locations of business operations, supply chains, and partners
- Risks of insider breaches

These reviews should be conducted regularly and used to inform compliance procedures, policies, training, and internal controls. Also, review insurance coverage—particularly directors' and officers' insurance. Keep in mind that convictions may void coverage, so seek legal advice.

## Step 2: Establish a Documented Compliance Program

Your sanctions policy should:

- Be supported by senior management
  - Involve qualified personnel (who may also hold other roles)
  - Include whistleblower protections
  - Be regularly reviewed and updated
- Consider external audits to ensure the program works effectively.



## Step 3: Include Sanctions Clauses in Contracts

Contracts should:

- Require the other party to confirm compliance with sanctions laws
- Include force majeure clauses that account for sanctions-related disruptions
- Allow disclosure of confidential information to authorities if required
- Consider jurisdictional differences, especially in the EU, where "no claims" provisions may apply

## Step 4: Screen and Monitor Transactions

Service providers such as freight forwarders and customs brokers must conduct due diligence on:

- Shipment routes, cargo, and counterparties
- New clients in or near sanctioned regions
- Jurisdictional exposure (e.g. U.S. or EU laws if applicable)

Use tools like DFAT's Consolidated List and the PAX portal for screening and indicative assessments. Ongoing due diligence is essential as regulations evolve. If breaches occur, update procedures and provide additional staff training.

## Step 5: Review and Escalate Alerts

Document all alerts and establish procedures for:

- Investigating and reviewing potential matches
- Escalating complex or unclear cases
- Recording all decisions and actions taken

False positives are common and must be carefully assessed.

## Step 6: Train Staff Regularly

Ongoing, documented compliance training is critical. If there's a high risk of a potential breach, immediately cease the activity or decline the engagement.

# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

## LEIF HODGE

**HR TRUCK DRIVER/  
REMOVALIST**

**TOMAX LOGISTICS AUSTRALIA**



**What is your role at Tomax?**

I am a Truck Driver.

**Name your hobbies/interests?**

Fishing, Rugby League (Parramatta Eels, don't hold it against me ), watching my son play basketball and my grandsons playing footy.

**Favourite place you've been to?**

Fiji and Pacific Islands.

**A goal you wish to achieve?**

Going a trip to the U.K and Europe.

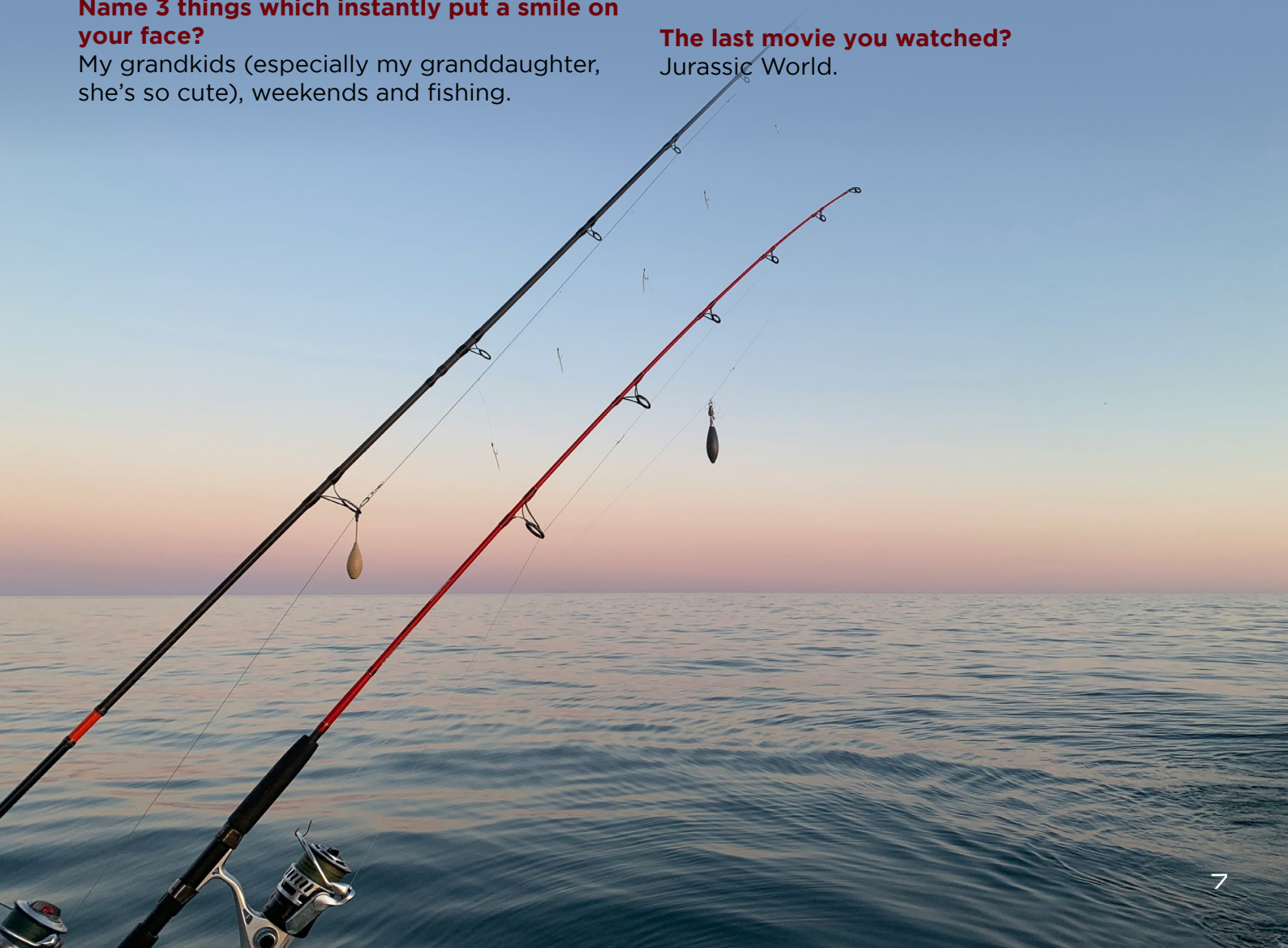
**Name 3 things which instantly put a smile on your face?**

My grandkids (especially my granddaughter, she's so cute), weekends and fishing.

**A singer/band you listened to growing up?**  
AC/DC.

**If you could switch lives with someone for a day, who would it be and why?**  
Donald Trump so I can sack myself.

**The last movie you watched?**  
Jurassic World.





# MAZE CRAZE

Help the ship navigate to the port safely!

