Pilot Project

The ALC Supply Chain Standards Working Group was established in August 2012 to identify areas for improvement in the supply chain to bring productivity benefits to the Australian Transport and Logistics industry.

The decision to focus on this project was due to a consensus that improving end-to-end supply chain visibility on intermodal transport corridors would provide industry wide benefits to shippers and receivers of goods, and transport and logistics providers. The work group chose the road-rail-road across the East-West corridor as the use case scenario for the trial. Nestlé, OneSteel and The Reject Shop, together with their respective road and rail providers have been collaborating to investigate these benefits as examples of how the adoption of GS1 Global Data Standards (GDS) can be used to streamline the information flow across all stakeholders.

Aims & Objectives

The project’s aims are aligned to the objectives outlined in the ALC Supply Chain Standards Working Group Terms of Reference which include:

▪ Resolving supply chain issues resulting from poor visibility.
▪ Aligning the Australian Transport and Logistics sector with global supply chain standards for identification, data capture and information exchange.
▪ Improving freight visibility across multi-modal supply chains.
▪ Demonstrating the Electronic Product Code Information Service (EPCIS) framework for sharing tracking data as a suitable industry solution.
▪ Capturing and reporting event milestones from all stakeholders in the supply chain to make data more accessible.
▪ Reporting and sharing key learnings with industry later in the year.

“This working group has enabled a level of collaboration with supply chain partners that has helped us understand the root cause of the challenges we respectively face in our daily operations.

By working together, sharing problems and exchanging ideas we have been able to identify improvement opportunities in a constructive and inclusive manner to benefit the performance outcomes for everyone”.

David McNeil, eCommerce Manager, OneSteel
Industry Participants

The project has encompassed three case models from diverse supply chains including Nestlé, OneSteel and The Reject Shop. Shipments were followed from cargo owners’ facilities on the East-Coast across to the West, utilising road and rail transportation modes.

Transport Providers

In collaboration with their customers, BagTrans, JLS Express, K&S Freighters, Pacific National and Railroad Transport exchanged valuable industry information about the unique challenges in tracking freight across multiple transport modes and locations.

University of Melbourne

The Centre of Workplace Leadership at the University of Melbourne provided an independent review of the factors influencing end-end supply chain collaboration and the adoption of new disruptive technologies. The findings will be reported in a project case study.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss any aspect of this work, please contact:
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Participating Organisations: