Challenges in the Industry

Australia’s freight volumes are expected to almost double by 2030 and triple by 2050. The effective movement of goods across multi-leg freight supply chains is therefore critical to Australia’s growing economy.

The highly fragmented nature of Australia’s transport and logistics industry means the efficiency of the complex logistics flows involving multiple parties are often compromised:

• Multiple transport modes operating in silos across the supply chain
• Lack of interoperability between multiple parties results in poor visibility of shipments for all stakeholders
• The industry is still heavily reliant on manual processes that are costly and inefficient
• There is no standard approach to identify and track the movement of goods, from origin to destination

Industry Collaboration

It is critical that the Australian Transport and Logistics industry work together to improve overall productivity in the way goods are identified and information exchanged across Australian supply chains.

The ALC Supply Chain Standards Working Group has been active for several years delivering a significant body of work that will help industry meet these challenges. Participation by major cargo owners and transport and logistic service providers has paved the way for change – it is now up to industry to implement these standards, so that economic benefits can be achieved.

“This initiative lays the foundation for major improvements in the Australian Transport and Logistics industry that will be of benefit to all stakeholders.”

David McNeil
Chair of the ALC Supply Chain Standards Work Group and eCommerce Manager, OneSteel
ALC research shows a one per cent improvement in supply chain efficiency would boost GDP by $2 billion – The Australian Freight Labelling and EDI Standards, have the potential to help achieve this goal.

Michael Kilgariff
Managing Director, Australian Logistics Council

Benefits of GS1 Standards

The Australian Freight Labelling and EDI Standards are based on GS1 Open Global supply chain standards and will help companies achieve new levels of visibility.

Each label has a “license plate” known as a Serial Shipping Container Code (SSCC) for common identification of the logistic or transport unit across different buyers and providers.

The SSCC is made up of a GS1 Company Prefix, identifying the company that created the logistic or transport unit and, a Serial Reference number, uniquely identifying each unit.

Goods can be tracked seamlessly as they travel through the supply chain, from business to business and ultimately to consumers. Answers to important “what”, “where” and “when” questions help to meet demands for accurate, detailed visibility and shipment traceability information.

GS1 Freight Labelling and EDI Standards enable business to:

• Reduce waste caused by relabeling freight as it travels across a multi-leg supply chain
• Improve interoperability and visibility across multiple transport carriers by providing a common tracking identifier
• Improve productivity and reduce costs by automating manual processes
• Lay the critical foundation for end-to-end supply chain automation initiatives