

COMMUNIQUE

Transport and Storage Industry Sector Standing Committee

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The Transport and Storage Industry Standing Committee (the Committee) convened on 17 July 2024. Ms Julie Russell, the Chair, welcomed members and guests to the Committee's second meeting.

The Work Health and Safety Board (WHS Board) had endorsed the Committee's Terms of Reference.

Mr. Sebastian Bielen, Director of Data and Evaluation Services, joined the meeting to demonstrate the Power BI dashboard developed for Board and Committee data reports. Developed as an alternative to paper-based reports, the dashboard offers enhanced functionality with drill-down options and cross-industry data for easy comparison and reference. Efforts are underway to grant access to Committee members. The Committee considered the dashboard as a useful tool and looks forward to getting access for it.

The Chair facilitated discussion on the heat stress information scan, a matter referred by the WHS Board. The Committee discussed the benefits of a code and/or guidance for heat stress management. The code would simplify implementation and provide clarity, but not account for the individual works and timely development may not be achievable. The guidance could provide tools and education. It was also noted that the developed guidance could also shape the development of code over time. It was noted the controls used for managing heat stress may have potential to interact with other risks and their controls. The Committee noted that consultation and involvement of this Committee would be important for development of guidance or code.

In noting matters, the Chair expressed interest in diesel particulate matter, in the provided Safe Work Australia workplans, and to be kept updated on the evolution of this matter. The Committee expressed content on ongoing Rail Safety National Law Review.

The Committee reviewed its draft forward plan. The Committee recommended that the plan be update with the key industry issues discussed in the Committee's first meeting.

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 22 October 2024.