IADC-AC Rig Moving/Logistics Sub-Committee update 2018

The IADC Rig Moving/Logistics Sub-Committee Forum (RMLSC) continued to support members during 2018/2019.

On 22 November 2018, IADC-AC Forum held at Toowoomba was supported by approximately 50 participants from various entities associated with the drilling industry.

Speakers included:

- Safer Together (Arrow Energy)  Travis Kearsley
- NHVR    Kerry Platter
- Transport Main Roads TMR Qld  Shane Lynch
- Transport Safety Training Victor Gado

Companies attending included:

The following companies were invited but did not attend:
Neil Mansell Transport, BHD, IOR, JJ Richards, Kinetic, Momentum Well Servicing, MPC Group, Beach Energy, NOV, Origin Upstream, Pritab, QGC, Santos, Scomi Group, Senex, SLR and Westside.

Industry participants were kept up to date with relevant issues happening in the industry through regular communications from the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator, the State Transport Authority and the Australian Logistics Council plus continued support and guidance from key industry figures including Santos, QGC, Origin APLNG and Arrow Energy.

As previously discussed the NHVL through the NHVR, and National Transport Commission (NTC) is addressing numerous matters of current heavy vehicle law following the 1st Oct 2018 changes which were

- The introduction of Primary Duty of Care – similar to WHS legislation
- The introduction of the Supply Chain
- The introduction of Risk Based Safety in meeting the prescriptive law

The outcome from these initiatives will hopefully see the adoption of one rule book inclusive of Western Australia and Northern Territory, Initial forecasts the changes will be brought before government in 2020.

A key and significant benefit if accepted by government – federal and state will be the prescriptive reduction of NHVL to a new Principle Based Heavy Vehicle Safety Based Operations – this is the same philosophy as WHS and Rail Safety legislation.
The NHVR are committed to supporting the IADC Rig Moving Forum going forward with whatever assistance is required and believe that the forum is a strategic part of the government’s interaction with industry.

The Safer Together Land Transport committee has provided valuable insight into safety standards that are acceptable in our industry.

Safer Together have agreed to work closely with the IADC to ensure that these standards are practiced throughout the oil and gas drilling industry. This being said, there is a distinct lack of oil and gas logistics experience in the Safer Together Transport Committee, this is evident in the proposals that are discussed, the need to have experienced people on the committee is critical, the interest from rig moving companies is waning, this is highlighted in the lack of attendance from participants. It’s important to understand that Safer Together looks at rig moving separately to on road transport and general logistics.

The IADC-AC and the Safer Together team have held a number of meetings culminating in the establishment of a framework which will allow the IADC-AC and its members to not only benefit but provide a conduit capable of getting their message to the coal face. This is based upon the IADC-AC RMLSC reaching a different demographic with our respective meeting participants. The IADC-AC RMLSC and Safer Together are investigating the possibility of joint forums held in both Toowoomba and Roma, the focus being Safer Together holding the Brisbane forum, IADC-AC RMLSC holding the Toowoomba Forum and Safer Together in conjunction with IADC-AC RMLSC holding the Roma Forum.

Victor Gado, Secretary of the IADC-AC Rig Moving/Logistics Sub Committee has been participating in the Safer Together meetings as the IADC-AC representative.

Ultimately this has given the IADC-AC insight into discussion and the decision making process, these decisions ultimately affect all of us and our industry.

The previous CSG Safety Code of Practice which was registered through the Australian Logistics Council – ALC was revoked in 2018 by NHVR, as was all other industry safety codes.

To replace this is a new industry safety code of practice framework which commenced in November 2018. The process for industry to develop their own code of practice. The process is very detailed and specific and timeframe and resource hungry, which will involve significant funding if this was to be adopted, we are looking at developing a submission in conjunction with Warwick Williams TMR.

The purpose of the Code of Practice is to ensure that the Industry implemented measures meet those obligations under the State Transport Authority and National Heavy Vehicle Regulator.

Over the past 7 years we have made significant inroads into the safety aspects of rig moving, as such we need to ensure that we do not lose this momentum, it’s important that as an industry we realise that regulation is necessary and together we have made the industry a better and safer place, as an industry we have invested heavily in training and competency standards for drivers, pushers, allocators and swampers.
We have not only been improving our safety culture, but we have been changing the way that we are perceived to operate, we now try and involve the public, enlighten them, work with local councils and government bodies.

How do we do this?

- Regular meetings with government and local councils;
- Forward planning with drilling companies;
- Open communication and Sharing knowledge and
- Consideration for the public and landowners

Technology is playing a greater role in our daily tasks:

We have seen the introduction of a number of initiatives

- The NHVR have effectively taken over from the transport Departments in QLD, NSW, VIC, SA;
- The introduction of multi truck permits is a significant step forward;
- Soon to be introduced NHVR – Electronic Work Diaries – EWD for heavy vehicles;
- Journey Management aps, effectively advising drivers to use caution when travelling across cattle grids, past schools etc. or making sure that headlights do not shine on landowner’s houses, being able to monitor driving behaviour;
- Real time rig movement information and
- Improvements in Communication through IADC meetings and newsletters

The IADC-AC RMLSC encourage:

- Accredited Training and are examining the various competency standards for drivers, pushers and swampers;
- Communication at all levels between energy drilling companies and rig moving companies;
- Sharing of information is at the core of our safety intuitive and
- Interaction with public where ever possible with support from STA, Local Councils and Energy Companies

Lobbying for NHVR, government support for industry obstacles allowing:

- greater axle mass and HML;
- Batch permitting allowing one permit to cover the whole rig and
- Multi truck permitting

We intend to run future events in conjunction with key stakeholders, Safer Together, State Transport Departments / National Heavy Vehicle Regulator and Local Councils, we also need a keynote industry representative from the drilling industry, the next meeting is scheduled for July 2019.

There has been a significant number of people coming into the industry for the first time, we need to maintain the momentum with the safety culture, a primary focus with industry representatives attending industry forums.

The IADC-AC Rig Moving/Logistics Sub-Committee is asking for assistance from the IADC-AC members, we want to engage people and encourage them to participate, to do this we need to give them value for money, they need to have an expectation and be able to take something away from our forum for the time that they have invested in attending.

We will target a review of learnings from past incident investigations, this will be the theme for the next forum.
Engagement is critical to our safety, from an individual members perspective a critical element is open and transparent engagement between drilling companies and transport companies providing rig moving services, when was the last time that as energy drilling companies leading the industry we invited our rig movers and rig support companies to sit with us in an attempt to make the industry safer, a culture that sets the drilling industry above all others

In conjunction with The Safer Together Land Transport team we will be looking to hold joint meetings in Toowoomba in the later part of 2019 and Roma in December 2019

Thomas Ingledew  
IADC-AC Rig Moving/Logistics Sub-Committee  
Chairman