



Australian Road Transport Association Inc College Proposal

Released By: Executive Committee, ARTSA

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ARTSA has played a useful role over many years as a forum and information provider to its members and the broader transport industry. The Executive Committee believes that the time has come to further define and develop ARTSA's role. This paper sets out proposals to reinvigorate and reform ARTSA into a broader, college based organisation, with more focused outcomes. The Executive recommends the proposals to the members and seeks constructive commentary.

The Executive has carefully considered changes to ARTSA's structure over the past few months. It recommends a College model be adopted. The intention is to bring together participants with similar technical and industry interests to keep abreast of developments in a focused, College domain, to seek to influence the agenda with government and work at providing information that might address problems or issues. The College model should deliver focused and useful outcomes to members and others.

The Executive Group also believes that ARTSA should publish a Mission Statement and proposes that following:

Proposed ARTSA Mission Statement

ARTSA seeks to bring together suppliers of parts and services to the road transport industry so as to represent member interests with authorities and other industry associations. ARTSA also seeks to promote the uptake of technologies that will enhance the safety, productivity and reputation of the road transport industry.

Proposed Colleges

The colleges should bring together members and other participants with common interests in specific transport domains. They could be chosen along the following lines:

1. Safety, Compliance and Productivity College

Domain: Regulations, relations with Government, administration of motor vehicle standards, road safety developments, quality standards for parts, working at removing impediments to the introduction of new technologies

2. Braking and Stability College

Domain: Braking systems, brake balance, new technologies, electronic braking and stability systems

3. Energy Efficiency College

Domain: engine technologies, transmissions, energy losses, regenerative systems, alternative fuels, emissions issues, aerodynamics, fuel efficiency techniques

4. Trailers and Running Gear

Domain: Trailer technology, axles, tyres, new technologies

There may be cross-overs in the interests of the Colleges. Colleges must co-operate to achieve the best outcomes.

ARTSA should start with two or three Colleges and get experience with the operation of the new system.

College 1 (Safety, compliance and productivity) is a high priority because there is an urgent need to influence government with respect to regulations.

College 2 (Brakes and stability) is also a priority because significant challenges and developments exist and will occur in this domain over the next couple of years.

College 3 (Energy efficiency) will certainly be a major issue for transport operators, government and the community into the future. Major new technologies will emerge. There is a good case to establish this college now and also develop links with other industry bodies.

College 4 (Trailers and running gear) will be of interest to a significant proportion of the membership because it is the only industry forum in this domain. Technological developments are occurring rapidly and pushing the 'envelope'. Many regulatory issues exist in this domain.

College Administration

The Colleges should arrange their own meetings and aim to publish review papers / proposals.

The Colleges should have an honorary Chairman (or joint Chairman) and a Secretary. At least one of these should be an Executive member of ARTSA so that there is feedback to the Executive Group about College performance.

The Colleges should publish an annual review of the status of issues within their domain, and develop change proposals or publish guides, from time-time.

The Colleges should seek to engage people in the industry that share a common interest, whether they are ARTSA members or not.

Colleges should aim to engage with interested participants, whether they are ARTSA members or not.

2008 Activities

The Executive Group envisages that ARTSA's 2008 activities could include the following:

- Four general meetings. Each to receive a report from each College. Half the time devoted to general interest presentations of substance.
- Eleven breakfast Executive meetings. A larger number of Executive meetings will be needed to keep track of the pulse of the new organisation.
- Four breakfast meetings by each Chapter. Ad hoc meetings as necessary.
- Development of two Codes of Practice / Substantial Reference Publications this year.
- Support for student project. Whilst the 2007 student project did not deliver an outcome, ARTSA should persist. The concept is right. The controls need further development. The project should be under control of one of the Chapters plus an ARTSA mentor.
- Trailer Body Builder articles. One per month according to a pre-planned topic schedule.
- Representation at Transport Safety Industry Group, Industry Technical Council, Technical Liaison Group, ADR Working Groups as they arise, and the NTC Industry Advisory Group

The transport industry overall has done a poor job of influencing the AMVCB. These meetings are usually held immediately prior to the TLG. The AMVCB meets to discuss regulation policy and specific issues. It is a powerful group. Whilst its chair is the Administrator, there seems to be little prior feedback from the Administrator to the AMVCB Group. The Safety Compliance and Productivity College should seek to put matters directly in front of the AMVCB.

Comments

The Executive Committee seeks the opinions and support of the membership on these proposals. Whilst the Executive is keen to introduce these reforms, it will be responsive to constructive critique.

The paper will be discussed at the Annual General Meeting to be held at 8:30am at DECA on 22nd February 2008. The view of the ARTSA Executive is that these reforms are worthy of immediate adoption and is seeking the support by the membership base.

Comments can also be directed to exec@artsa.com.au

Members are invited to nominate the Colleges that they want to join. There is no charge for membership of Colleges. Members can nominate different people to be members of different Colleges.
