TRADE CONFERENCE ROLLS INTO ALICE

The Global Freight Connect conference, involving some of Australia’s leading company executives, arrived in Alice Springs today after a 1500km rail trip from Darwin.

“This is a business conference with a difference and the first of its kind,” Chief Minister and Asian Relations and Trade Minister Clare Martin said.

“The entire conference has travelled across the Territory on the Ghan.

“Participants at the conference include senior executives of major importers and exporters, global logistics operators and international shipping lines.

“The session in Alice Springs will allow local business operators to hear from leading industry experts about trends, opportunities and challenges facing global trade and freight.

“The plenary sessions, including one held in Katherine yesterday, give great exposure for Territory businesses while providing insights into the freight and trade industry.

Participants at the conference include:

- Denis Adams, head of freight for Qantas
- Noel Williams CEO Dow Chemicals
- Stephen Corcoran Director of Access Economics
- John Fullerton and John Parks of Freightlink
- Wilkin Fon Jeans West
- Adrian Sammons CEO Swire Shipping

Ms Martin said the conference allows the Territory to discuss prospects for the growth of the AustralAsia Trade Route.

“Expanding the AustralAsia Trade Route and increasing our profile in Asia is a top priority of my Government. And while the process is still in its infancy we are making headway in key areas like shipping, through the development international trials between Asia and Darwin.

“But because of our massive distances, and dispersed population we have to go about our business in a smarter and more innovative way and hopefully we will learn more on that score from conferences like Global Freight Connect,” Ms Martin said

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