



Media Release

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ASCIANO WELCOMES VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT IN FREIGHT RAIL

Asciano commends the Victorian Government's decision to invest in the capacity and reliability of the freight rail corridor between Sydney and Melbourne.

Mr Mark Rowsthorn Chief Executive Officer of Asciano said:

"The North South interstate rail corridor is critical to the future of freight rail in Australia. Any investment that improves transit times and increases the capacity of the line is a major step in the right direction".

"Rail is three times more energy efficient than road and as fuel prices continue to fluctuate and carbon emission trading becomes a reality there will no doubt be a natural shift from road to rail. It is important that we invest in our infrastructure to ensure the expected growth in Australia's freight task can be accommodated."

"With rail mode share less than 5 per cent on this major freight corridor it is encouraging to see strategic investments like this being made. By improving reliability, adding capacity and enhancing the overall efficiency of the supply chain, rail will become much more competitive in the future."

"The Victorian Government has also provided the rail industry with a long term lease of the enhanced infrastructure. This security of tenure will ensure that further investment in the infrastructure will be viable for decades come."

"This project is a good example of how infrastructure improvements can be achieved through collaboration between Governments and industry participants."

Ends.