



## AfPA TMAA Co-Host the 2024 QLD Safety Forum to Prioritise Road Worker and Community Safety

On 20 November, the Australian Flexible Pavement Association (AfPA) proudly hosted the 2024 QLD Safety Forum. The Forum gathered industry leaders to address crucial safety concerns within the flexible pavement maintenance, road construction and broader construction sector.

Recognising the pressing need for cross-industry collaboration, the Forum aimed to foster an exchange of insights and ideas among stakeholders. Key issues, such as the separation of worksites, workers, and public traffic, as well as people and plant, were central to discussions. Such priority areas align closely with AfPA's National Health and Safety Committee Safety Priorities Strategy and Actions.

Tony Aloisio, AfPA's Interim CEO addressed the Forum, reaffirming AfPA's commitment to advancing road worksite safety. He emphasised the industry's collective responsibility to address safety challenges, noting that collective resolve and whole industry commitment are necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of our people and the community.

Matthew Bereni, CEO TMAA speaking to the event reaffirmed the importance of open collaboration, stressing that safety insights should be shared transparently across the industry. He stated, "As a unified industry, collaboration is key to ensuring all road workers can perform their roles safely and efficiently while contributing to a safer road network for everyone. Sharing leading practices among our members is vital to continually raising safety standards across the board. TMAA values the strong partnership with AfPA, enabling us to work together toward our shared goal of ensuring every worker returns home safely."

The Forum was framed around three key principles: transparency, ownership, and action. Participants engaged in discussions that challenged current practices and standards while openly sharing insights and experiences.

Looking ahead, the QLD & NT Executive Director Mark Piorkowski reaffirmed the need for continued collaboration and action, urging industry and government to embrace transparency in addressing safety issues with all stakeholders.

"The Forum serves as a stark reminder that while our intentions may be noble, progress is often hindered by working in isolation. By sharing experiences, stories and solutions, we can collectively address safety issues and eliminate hurdles."

The Forum served as a call-to-action for industry and government alike, with interactive sessions focusing on QLD-specific challenges and opportunities. It also provided a platform to explore emerging practices and technologies with the potential for national expansion in the future.

**ENDS**