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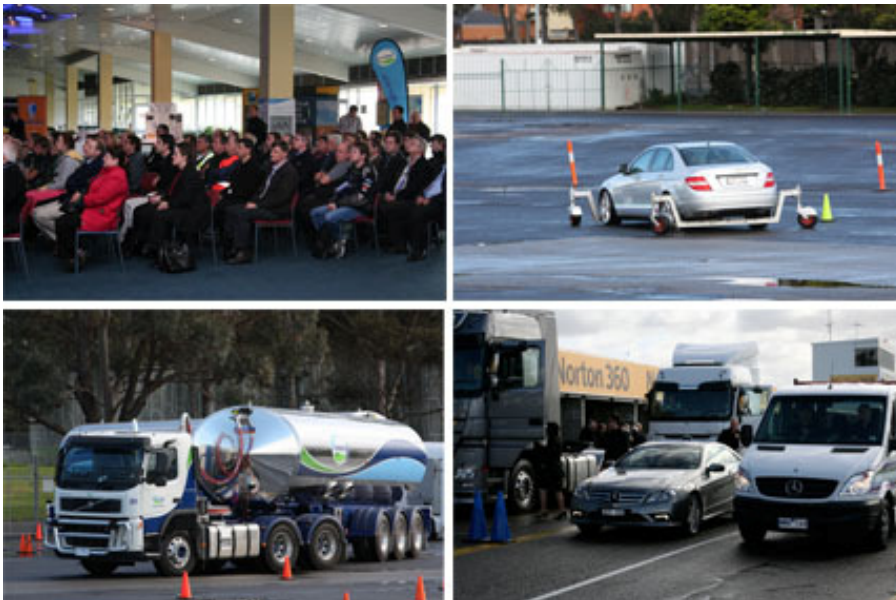
VTA'S SAFETY AND PRODUCTIVITY DRIVE DAY A GREAT SUCCESS

Hosted by the Victorian Transport Association (VTA) and the Victorian Automobile Chamber of Commerce on August 7th, Freight 2009's **Safety and Productivity Day** at Sandown highlighted the remarkable developments in truck and car technology with hands on experiences and discussions with the experts.

The day was an unqualified success, not only because it was a sold out event with over 300 delegates, but because of the quality of the experience for both the attendees, manufacturers and industry bodies.

Dr Philip Swan of Vic Roads said:

"New heavy vehicle technology such as autonomous emergency braking, brake assist, adaptive cruise control and electronic stability control can dramatically reduce accidents and improve productivity. At this event, the VTA has shown leadership in demonstrating this technology in a practical and effective way. The opportunity to be directly involved and personally experience the benefits of these advances was an invaluable learning event."



The following manufactures took part in the event: **Hino, CMV, DAF, Kenworth, Volvo** and **Mercedes Benz**. In addition to the on-track displays, there was participation from other companies in the Exhibition area including **Hino Australia, Goodyear Dunlop, Marshall Lethlean, MaxiTrans, Paccar & Kenworth, Trackaxle** and **Wabco**.

Ken Matthews, Managing Director - Commercial Vehicles for Mercedes-Benz said:

"Mercedes-Benz Trucks are very proud to have been associated with the VTA Safety and Productivity Day at Sandown. The event was a great success and a valuable opportunity for Mercedes-Benz to demonstrate the advanced Actros Safety Package available on all new Mercedes-Benz trucks. The involvement by industry leaders and government bodies is very positive for the improvement and recognition of the importance of safety in our vehicles and on our roads."

Hino is using hybrid vehicles from across the Toyota Group to educate government and fleet buyers about the technology, in collaboration with the VTA. At Safety and Productivity Drive Day, Hino displayed its 300 Series hybrid light-duty truck alongside a 500 Series hybrid evaluation vehicle, with both receiving strong interest from government groups.

Hino Product Planner, Daniel Petrovski said the day at Sandown Racecourse proved an ideal way to educate buyers about hybrid technology and how hybrid vehicles can increase their company's efficiency:

"It was a very well run day by the VTA. It was brand neutral and Hino had the opportunity to inform an audience made up of government, VTA members, fleet managers and industry people about hybrid technology available today that can make their fleets more efficient. Hino look forward to participation in future VTA events"

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