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Media Release: For Immediate Release

Inaugural Australian Grain Logistics Conference message “trust builds value”

The inaugural Australian grain Industry Logistics Conference was held in Melbourne on April 9 and 10 2019.

Delegates heard how increasing trust across the supply chain can grow economic value and improve efficiency, and how new technologies such as Blockchain will play an important part in building trust from producers through to consumers, and how this increase in value will flow back to each end of the supply chain.

Delegates attended from across the sector including producers, storage builders, storage operators, road and rail freight operators, researchers, regulators and consumers.

Industry experts discussed issues facing the grain logistics including strategic planning, government policy, road, rail and ports. CEO of host organisation Grain Trade Australia Mr Pat O’Shannassy, said “this was an important conference as it is the first time that industry has had event to focus specifically on logistics and discuss how collaboration can help to increase efficiency and value to participants across the supply chain.”

The Conference was opened by Mr Maurice James, Managing Director of ASX listed logistics company Qube and Chair of the National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy. Mr James outlined the challenges and opportunities in the supply chain and highlighted the importance of sound policy & strategy to provide a framework of certainty to support investment to improve efficiency in the supply chain.

Industry leaders in global and domestic trade discussed challenges and opportunities in the delivering grain to consumers more efficiently and giving consumers more confidence in the product there are purchasing.

Conference speakers outlined how sharing of certain information could increase efficiency mutually benefit supply chain operators and customers alike, for example allowing reallocation of trucks to improve utilization and reduce delays, to allow better inventory management for processors.

Mr O’Shannassy, said “we created this logistics conference as we understood there was demand from industry for a targeted forum to identify and discuss issues with a specific segment in the grains supply chain. The response from industry and delegates has clearly supported this”.

The inaugural Grains Industry Logistics Conference was hosted by GTA, organizers of the annual Australian Grains Industry Conference (AGIC), which will be held on 31st July and 1st August 2019 in Melbourne.
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Media Contact:	About GTA
Mr Pat O’Shannassy CEO, Grain Trade Australia Tel: 02 9235 2155	Grain Trade Australia is a national trade organisation and has over 270 member organisations ranging from regional family businesses to large national and international trading/storage and handling companies. The role of GTA is to provide a framework across industry to facilitate and promote the trade of Australian grain. GTA plays its part in the value chain by providing core products of Trading Standards, Contracts, Trade Rules, Arbitration and Dispute Resolution, Professional Development and advocacy for Market Access. GTA’s grain trading standards and contracts are used across the Australian grain industry. GTA Members operate within all sectors of the grain industry in Australia, as well as related commercial activities such as banking, communications, grain advisory services and professional services. www.graintrade.org.au

Photos of Conference Delegates and Mr O’Shannassy are available upon request