

BEVCHAIN LOGISTICS

This case study represents an example of how the Intelligent Access Program (IAP) helps industry and government to work together in getting improved access.

THE TRANSPORT OPERATOR

Established in 2006 as a joint venture between Linfox Logistics and brewer Lion Nathan, BevChain Logistics has moved quickly to become a leading supplier of transport and logistics services to alcoholic beverage companies. BevChain Logistics has a fleet of 150 trucks and a total of 600 employees, including 200 warehouse staff located throughout Australia.

THE OPERATION

One of BevChain Logistics' responsibilities is the transport and warehousing of beer from the Castlemaine Brewery at Milton in Brisbane to its warehouse in Hendra (another suburb in the North East of Brisbane).

BevChain Logistics sought approval from the Brisbane City Council to run specially designed vehicles on this route. Castlemaine brewed beer is then distributed from Hendra to hotels and other licensed premises, principally in Queensland.

'We sought access for specially designed quad axle prime mover/trailer units to run a shuttle service from the brewery at Milton to Hendra, a total journey length of 11 kms.' Mr Tony Franklin, BevChain Logistics Chief Executive Officer said. 'We have 5 prime movers fitted with IAP through the support of Transport Compliance Services (TCS) our IAP Service Provider and their partner MTData'.



Mr Franklin also added that using these specially designed combinations will enable BevChain Logistics to use a smaller number of vehicles which will undertake fewer journeys resulting in reduced emission levels and less trucks on the road while undertaking the same transport task.

The telematics solution provided by TCS, fully integrates into BevChain Logistics' system, as required by the company's implementation plans. The open platform design of IAP allowed a seamless integration with BevChain Logistics' existing tracking and fleet management system. The telematics solution provided by TCS will be used for current as well as new vehicles. The IAP service facilitated BevChain Logistics' system implementation plans.

WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT

BevChain Logistics have been working closely with both Brisbane City Council and the State agencies for a number of years regarding the optimum vehicle combination before being granted approval for the use of the quad-axle prime mover/trailer combination on the specified route. The use of IAP provided the successful 'circuit breaker' in the approval process.

Mr Franklin said, 'BevChain Logistics worked closely with TCS and MTData, the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads and the Brisbane City Council to identify suitable roads and used IAP to provide the necessary level of assurance that these vehicles would only run on the approved route.'

BENEFIT OF IAP TO THE OPERATOR

As part of its approach to customer service, BevChain Logistics has investigated innovative solutions which are designed to improve the safety and efficiency of its operations while reducing its environmental footprint.

Since operating under the IAP, Bevchain has had an overall increase of 14.6% tonnage gain per load. This equates to an additional four pallets for each trip.

'As a leading edge logistics company, we are interested in how the IAP may allow us to enhance our business operations while providing the necessary level of assurance sought by owners of road assets,' Mr Franklin said.

The IAP uses advanced GPS technology to track participating heavy vehicles and ensure they stay on permitted routes. This proof of compliance may allow usage of heavier, longer and generally more productive vehicles onto suitable parts of the road network.

The use of IAP on the specially designed quad axle semi has enabled a positive outcome for BevChain Logistics in a win-win scenario which fulfils both commercial as well as government objectives.

AT A GLANCE

- Positive outcome brought about by IAP enabling industry and local council to work together
- With a specially designed quad axle combination and the IAP, the approval to access an 11 km stretch of local road was granted to BevChain Logistics by Brisbane City Council
- TCS is an IAP Service Provider helping BevChain Logistics in managing their transport task

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, visit the TCA website at www.tca.gov.au

The information contained in this case study is intended to convey the experiences of the transport operator/s concerned. The benefits of IAP mentioned in this case study may not be true for all transport operators. Transport operators should consider the appropriateness of IAP to their business operations, objectives and circumstances before enrolling in IAP.