

MEDIA RELEASE

LIFE SAVING TRAINING UNVEILED FOR AUSTRALIA'S TRUCK DRIVERS

- **St John Ambulance Australia and the National Road Transport Association (NatRoad) have partnered to rollout a new online first aid training course for truck drivers.**
- **Most Truck Drivers have been a First Responder at the scene of a crash. Making their role in life-saving roadside interventions essential.**
- **Australia's National Road Toll has continued to rise each year with 1,204 reported in March 2023.**

St John Ambulance and the National Road Transport Association (NatRoad) are working together to save lives on Australia's roads. This new online First Aid program will be made available to all Truck Drivers – who are often the first on the scene in a critical road incident.

St John Ambulance Australia Chief Executive Officer, Brendan Maher explained that truckies are an important audience for both training and first aid kits.

“This First Aid initiative recognises the important role of Australia's truckies. With accidents often occurring on regional or remote stretches of road, access to emergency medical care can take time. Having basic first aid skills that can be applied until help arrives, can save a life.”

A 2023 poll of Australian adults* found that First Aid Training more than doubled the confidence to provide care to someone experiencing an accident or emergency. Equipping truckies with new knowledge through accessible eLearning, will help them to be prepared with skills including, keeping an airway open, stemming a bleed, or performing CPR.

The training via an online platform takes truckies through basic roadside first aid skills, with a certificate issued on completion. The training will be provided free to all truck drivers, and has been tailored specifically for their knowledge and experience. Access will be made easy through a QR code, which will be promoted in Prime Creative Media publications. The QR code will also be printed onto Written Work Diaries, thanks to the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator.

NatRoad CEO, Warren Clark thanked partners at the Association's Annual Conference on the Gold Coast.

“NatRoad's thanks go not only to St John Ambulance but the NHVR and Prime Creative Media for their support of this important initiative.”

“This partnership is a reminder that our entire industry has a stake in keeping people safe. We know that most truckies have reported being the first responder at an accident, so we want to ensure that they are prepared,” said Mr. Clark.

St John and NatRoad will also release a targeted first aid kit available to truck drivers at a heavily discounted price. Normally \$264, the kit will be available to all NatRoad members for \$79 via the St John Ambulances ecommerce platform, thanks to the generous support of Ampol, Bridgestone, NTI and PACCAR & the Dealer Industry Fund.

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*YouGov survey commissioned by St John Ambulance Australia, June 2023.

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