

ATIA International Taxi Conference 2026 Business Program

GOOD

BETTER

BEST

Day 1: Tuesday 25 August 2026

9.00am - 4.00pm Registration Desk Open

11.30am - 6.00pm Trade Exhibition Open (*Boulevard Two*)

1.30pm - 4.00pm Plenary Session #1 (*Boulevard Three*)

Welcome and Conference Overview
Blair Davies, CEO, Australian Taxi Industry Association

Conference Official Opening

Hon Brent Mickelberg MP, Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Queensland

Q&A Panel: *Going from Good, to Better, to Best, to get more people, in more taxis, more often*

Max McBride, President, Australian Taxi Industry Association

Bill Rouse, CEO, LA Yellow Cabs & President, The Transportation Alliance (USA)

James Hart, President, Small Passenger Transport Association (NZ)

Matt Daly, Business Development Director, Autocab (UK)

Presentation: *Making sure everyone pays their tax - good data under SERR can help*

Tony Goding, Assistant Commissioner, Shadow Economy Program & Third-Party Reporting, Australian Taxation Office

Presentation(s): *Technology Products & Services Showcase*

Conference Sponsors & Trade Exhibitors

4.00pm - 6.00pm **Welcome Function** (*Boulevard Room 1-2 & Pre-function Lobby*)

Free evening for delegates & partners to dine and explore the Gold Coast at their leisure.

Day 2: Wednesday 26 August 2026

8.30am - 5.00pm Registration Desk Open

8.30am - 5.00pm Trade Exhibition Open (*Boulevard Two*)

9.00am - 10.30am Plenary Session #2 (*Boulevard Three*)

Presentation: *Robotaxis Insurance - less crashes should mean lower premiums, but who wears the blame when there is no driver?*

Brent Jaenke, Head of Placement - Affinity, Marsh Advantage Insurance

Presentation: *State of the Union - the growth of Uber-Taxi cooperative business models in the USA*

Bill Rouse, CEO, LA Yellow Cabs & President, The Transportation Alliance (USA)

10.30am - 11.00am **MORNING TEA** (*Boulevard Two*)

Tentative Draft: Subject to Change

Day 2: Wednesday 26 August 2026 (cont'd)

11.00am – 12.30pm **Plenary Session #3 (Boulevard Three)**

Presentation: *Beyond the R&D Phase: the impending shift to commercial scale for driverless taxis*

Hugo Fozatti, Chief Business Officer, Tensor

Presentation: *Taxi driver assistance for people with disabilities - legal issues and responsibilities*

Leonie Kyriacou, Partner, Pigott Stinson Lawyers

Cameron Sydes, Senior Associate, Pigott Stinson Lawyers

12.30pm – 2.00pm **LUNCH (Boulevard Two)**

2.00pm – 4.00pm **Plenary Session #4 (Boulevard Three)**

Presentation: *What's next in point-to-point transport accessibility ... getting better and aiming for best*

Katherine McKay, Director, Disability & Transport Standards, Transport Accessibility & Future Fuels Branch, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

Presentation: *What's happening to credit card surcharges on 1 Oct 2026 – the good, bad, ugly*

Fred Lukabyo, Vice President, Australian Taxi Industry Association

Panel Session: *Key Performance Indicators in Centralised Booking Services Contracts – the good, the better, the best*

Lorna Epps, Call Centre Manager, Cairns Taxis

Jason Erickson, Owner, Byron Bay Taxis

Peter Valentine, CEO, Geelong Taxi Network & My Bus Geelong

Colin Wells, Manager, Taxis Associated of Bendigo

Wrap-up Day 2

Blair Davies, CEO, Australian Taxi Industry Association

4.00pm - 5.00pm **HAPPY HOUR (Boulevard Room 1-2 & Pre-function Lobby)**

Free evening for delegates & partners to dine and explore the Gold Coast at leisure.

Day 3: Thursday 27 August 2026

8.30am - 5.00pm **Registration Desk Open**

8.30am – 1.45pm **Trade Exhibition Open (Boulevard Two)**

9.00am – 10.30am **Plenary Session #5 (Boulevard Three)**

Presentation: *Are rideshare drivers having more wins in the Fair Work Commission – what could that mean for other point-to-point drivers?*

Dr Alex Veen, Senior Lecturer, FHEA, University of Sydney Business School

Emerging Scholar Research Fellow, Deputy Head of Discipline (Education) Work and Organisational Studies

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Day 3: Thursday 27 August 2026 (cont'd)

(Plenary #5 cont'd) **Presentation: *Driverless taxis – a safer, smarter and more efficient solution***
Jiazeng Wang, Director, Smart Intelligence Hardware Product Engineering
Solution, Pony.ai (China)

10.30am – 11.00am **MORNING TEA** (Boulevard Two)

11.00am – 12.30pm **Plenary Session #6** (Boulevard Three)

Presentation: *Driverless taxis – NYC's approach for using taxi medallions to promote public policy solutions that prioritise safety and efficiency*
Dawood Mian, Founder, Hudson Far West & Publisher, AutoMarketplace (NY)

Presentation: *Assistance animals are part of the journey too - every passenger with disability deserves to travel with dignity*
Emily McLean, Senior Manager, Communications & Engagement, Safe
Transport Victoria

Panel Session: *Regulating point-to-point transport in a world with & without drivers*
Kate Timbs, A/NSW Point to Point Transport Commissioner
Christopher (Kit) McDonald, Director (Personalised Transport Policy),
Department of Transport and Main Roads, Queensland

12.30pm – 2.00pm **LUNCH** (Boulevard Two)

1.45pm **TRADE EXHIBITION CLOSE** (Boulevard Two)

2.00pm – 4.00pm **Plenary Session #7** (Boulevard Three)

Presentation: *Deregulation doesn't mean no regulation – getting New Zealand to aim for regulatory best practice*
James Hart, National Legal and Compliance Manager, Corporate Cabs Limited
& President, Small Passenger Service Association (NZ)

Panel Session: *Harnessing technological innovations to take taxi businesses from good to better to best*
Matthew Bezzina, CEO & Founder, eCab
Levi Towell, Growth Manager, Flip
Jason Lawrie, CEO, Smartmove
Peter Beatty, Director, Cabcall
Matt Daly, Business Development Director, Autocab

2026 Conference Review & Presentations

2027 Conference Preview

4.00pm **CONFERENCE CLOSE**

7.00pm - 11.00pm **FINALE GALA DINNER** (Boulevard Ballroom)

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Day 4: Friday 28 August 2026 (*Optional Combined Delegates & Partners Outing*)

9.30am – 5.00pm

Mt Tamborine & Canungra Valley Wine Tour (incl lunch)

Delegates and partners are invited to experience the Gold Coast hinterland. Located just a short 45 minutes away, Mt Tamborine and Canungra Valley are worlds where time slows down, flavours linger, and every moment is infused with indulgence. Taste some of Queensland's best wines at 3 family owned, award winning, boutique wineries, with a two course gourmet lunch.

What to Bring: Camera, sunscreen, hat, and sensible shoes.

The Friday Combined Outing will depart and return by coach to the Mantra on View (conference venue).

Dress code: Casual

Tentative Draft: Subject to Change