

## First female Chair for CVIAQ

Sharon O'Phee has been elected the first female chair of the CVIAQ. The annual general meeting, held on October 26, saw Sharon, who is Co-Director of O'Phee Trailers, become head of the Commercial Vehicle Industry Association of Queensland following two years as vice-chair. The meeting marked the retirement of long serving board member Mr. Tony O'Leary of Tramanco Pty Ltd. Tony, a board member since 1991, has provided a sense of continuity and will be missed by all. The meeting also saw Mike Hancock take the Vice Chairman's role. CVIAQ is best known for hosting the Queensland Truck and Machinery Show, the biggest such event in the southern hemisphere. Other important areas of operation

include education and training of apprentices for the commercial vehicle industry and body builders, workplace safety and technical regulations for commercial vehicles. "After spending the last year developing a five year strategic plan, CVIAQ now has clear goals to focus on and the determination and resources to achieve results," said Sharon O'Phee. CVIAQ will ramp up its education and training activities over the next two years to help fill the skills shortage in transport. It will also take over the national secretariat of the CVIAA, the national body for truck, bus and equipment suppliers. Other news includes the appointment of Terence Critchley (Transport Connection) in South



*O'Phee trailer's Co Director, Sharon O'Phee, has been elected the first female chair of the CVIAQ.*

Australia as CVIAA President, replacing Doug McDonald (SFM Engineering) from WA. Brett Wright has also been appointed National Secretary. These significant changes will mean that the CVIAQ remains the national office, irrespective of the home state of the President. Sharon adds she looks forward to taking CVIAQ forward in the future, including building more effective networks. ■

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