



Media Release

15 November 2019

Michael Byrne to step down - Thomas Knudsen appointed as Managing Director of Toll Group

Michael Byrne today announced he was stepping down as the Managing Director of Toll Group on 31 December 2019 after three years in the role. Thomas Knudsen will be the new Managing Director of Toll Group, effective 1 January 2020.

Mr Knudsen is currently President of Toll Group's Global Forwarding division, which he began in January 2018. Originally from Denmark, Mr Knudsen has over twenty-five years' experience in freight forwarding and contract logistics, including living and working across Asia, Australia, the United States, Europe and the Middle East. Mr Knudsen will continue to be based in Singapore.

Toll Group Chairman John Mullen said Mr Byrne, together with his team, has led Toll Group through numerous challenges since his appointment in January 2017.

"Michael was appointed as Managing Director at a pivotal time for the company. Under Michael's leadership, Toll has delivered on a comprehensive transformation program resulting in improved safety, a more efficient operating model, stronger operations, and better governance across compliance, tax and regulatory matters. Toll is now well-positioned because of the foundations that Michael has created," Mr Mullen said.

"Thomas is a seasoned logistics executive with proven capability to lead through significant change and growth across Asia in what is a very challenging environment. Thomas was a standout candidate because of his deep knowledge of the industry, deep understanding of Asia, global experience and track record in building high performing international teams. The internal appointment will provide continuity while bringing fresh perspectives and ideas."

Mr Byrne said his time as MD had been focused on developing a strong safety culture, building a strong leadership team and renewing the fundamentals of the business.

"I am proud of the enormous strides we have made that will position the company for future growth. Our journey to be a truly global, world class logistics company is a long-term aspiration. We have achieved much as a team, but there is a lot more to do," Mr Byrne said.

Mr Knudsen said he was delighted to have been appointed MD to build on Mr Byrne's transformation of Toll Group.

"The Toll Board has exciting ambitions to expand Toll's operations in Australia, Asia and the rest of the world. We have enormous opportunity and I look forward to get to work."

In line with the company's ambitions to improve the performance of the Australian Global Express division while driving growth in Asia, Bruce Wilson, President Global Express, will assume full accountability for the operations and performance of the division.

“The arrangement ensures Toll customers benefit from dedicated focus on the Australian Global Express operations while the company pursues growth opportunities for Toll and our customers in Asia and the rest of the world,” Mr Mullen said.

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About Toll Group

With over 130 years' experience, Toll Group, proudly part of Japan Post, operates an extensive global logistics network across 1,200 locations in more than 50 countries. Our 44,000 employees provide a diverse range of transport and logistics solutions covering road, air, sea and rail to help our customers' meet their global supply chain needs. www.tollgroup.com

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