



**Become an AMIC
Smallgoods member...**



... we're here for you



... an industry that directly and indirectly employs over 200,000 Australians and is worth an estimated \$30 billion to the Australian economy.

The Australian Meat Industry Council (AMIC) is the only peak industry body representing the post-farmgate Australian meat industry. AMIC's 1,500 members include retailers, processors, wholesalers, commercial exporters, and smallgoods manufacturers. Our focus is to provide services and support to Members to improve their working environment and achieve best industry outcomes; an industry that directly and indirectly employs over 200,000 Australians and is worth an estimated \$30 billion to the Australian economy, with the Australian smallgoods market worth over \$4bn.

The smallgoods industry in Australia has unique challenges and equally unique opportunities. AMIC has an exciting program of work for the year ahead, that will see increased focus on member and partner value. Upgraded systems, improved communications, and new products and services mean a year of outstanding value for our members.

Access to Labour

Our industry directly supports 100,000 jobs in Australia with labour accounting for more than half of a business's cost to operate. But members are held back by labour deficits and a visa system hampered by COVID impacts. Together with inadequate funding for training, this has led to many businesses being prevented from running at full capacity, with difficulties in filling job vacancies an ongoing concern. The impact of processing workforce shortages will be especially pronounced once the current herd/flock rebuild is complete, or seasonal conditions shift to a drier outlook.

Animal Welfare

AMIC and our membership are committed to proper, stringent, and accountable animal welfare practices across the supply chain. We have a welfare committee within AMIC that is solely focused on understanding and implementing the best practices around welfare, and we also have an independently assessed welfare certification system.

Food Regulation

The meat industry's food safety reputation is built on a strong framework of legislation, industry, and government programs. Australia's meat industry and AMIC have implemented measures along the supply chain to ensure the safety, quality, and integrity of Australian produce.

Market Access

Free Trade Agreements (FTA) are essential to gaining market access and there have been some good wins on this front in recent years-but FTAs are not enough to help our members maximise their market potential. With more than 70 per cent of the beef and sheep meat produced in Australia being exported and 9 per cent of pork meat.

Retaining and improving market access has never been more important. AMIC will be strongly delivering on our market access strategy throughout FY21-22, in partnership with government.

Animal biosecurity and traceability

The meat industry's access to premium international markets is underpinned by Australia's favourable animal health status and an efficient and effective traceability system. AMIC is focused on driving continuous improvements in our biosecurity preparedness and traceability systems.

Shipping and logistics

Being able to physically export perishable meat and meat products to destination markets is contingent upon exporters being able to access freight and logistics networks at a competitive rate, with reliability and within a timely fashion. AMIC is committed to assisting our members to advocate for a sustainable balance of air and sea freight.

Other focus areas for Smallgoods sector

- **Food safety and domestic food standards**
- **Energy policy and energy costs**
- **Regulation and the cost of compliance**
- **Engagement on nutrition and health**



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COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

National Smallgoods Council (NSC) is elected by the members of the Smallgoods Industry Group every four years. The Council represents the interests of manufacturers and retailers within the smallgoods sector, including policy and advocacy.

- Represents smallgoods and further processors.
- No state divisional councils.
- Elected by the members of the Smallgoods Industry Group.
- All financial members are eligible to be nominated or to participate in elections every four years.

Smallgoods Industry Reference Committees (SIRC) are sub-committees of the NSC, which review and discuss topical matters specific to the Australian smallgoods industry.

- SIRC 1 - Technical & Industry Standards
- SIRC 2 - Communication
- SIRC 3 - Domestic Pork
- SIRC 4 - Employment Services

SIRC deal with issues including:

- Country of Origin Labelling (CoOL)
- Cost of Regulation - Overlap and National harmonisation
- Industry Knowledge, Skills & Training
- Industrial relations
- Smallgoods Consumption (Health and Perception)
- Food safety activities
 - Listeria risk assessment
 - Abuse of product at retail level
 - Acidified sodium chlorite treatments
 - UCFM Expert panel report
 - Food safety advisory group
 - Cooling of cooked meats
 - Common food safety audits
- Shelf life and its effect on the industry
- Imported pig meat risk assessment.





COMMUNICATIONS

www.amic.org.au

AMIC's website provides a key channel for communication with our members, industry, non-members, the wider public and press. Our member portal provides a hub for information, resources, webinars, campaigns,

Charcuterie News

Distributed to all AMIC Smallgoods and Retail members, the bi-monthly e-newsletter keeps you up to date on the latest projects, industry news, member profiles, policy developments, and updates on the Annual Operating activities.

Social media

AMIC's social media channels have continuous growth month on month, with a strong audience reach of members, industry, and regulators. Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn provide regular updates on AMIC's positions, activities, and commentary.



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These partnerships and associated offers provide significant discounts for members on their energy and insurance bills.

PARTNERS AND JOINT INITIATIVES

AMIC has partnered with EnergyAustralia for exclusive member only energy offers; and AMIC and Marsh have a joint initiative with AMIC Insurance, a risk management program leveraging the insurance broking expertise of Marsh and deep industry engagement and understanding of AMIC.

The AMIC Insurance team at Marsh is committed to delivering a comprehensive suite of services and solutions for AMIC members, across:

- **Insurance;**
- **Risk Management and Strategy;**
- **People Risk;**
- **Workers Compensation; and**
- **Return to Work**



EXAMPLES OF SUPPORT

Detained consignments

AMIC regularly assists members with detained consignments. This may involve AMIC interaction with DAWE regional certification staff and DAWE central office, as well as agriculture counsellors and industry representatives in each market to achieve the best outcome for detained consignments. AMIC has successfully facilitated consignments to various markets, with significant cost savings to the Australian exporter (at least \$10,000 in each case).

Technical assistance

AMIC provides technical assistance to members on issues including food standards/ food safety and microbiology. AMIC successfully assisted one member with a consignment disposition based on the interpretation of a laboratory report. AMIC helped to save the consignment from being downgraded for heat treatment, saving the exporter at least \$50,000.

Development of standards

AMIC is the number one Peak Industry Council that government turns to for industry input in the development of standards. For example, AMIC provided detailed comments on the 470+ page Export Control Bill that forms the single biggest piece of legislation that governs meat exports.

All of AMIC's extensive comments were accepted and adopted in the final Act.



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Participation on committees / reviews

AMIC leads industry participation on several committees, including food safety, animal welfare, finance and staffing and government operations. These occur at least four times a year (or more). Through these committees, AMIC provide members with a platform for engaging with regulators to ensure that decisions are fair, practical, and transparent.

Employment services and activities

AMIC is custodian and administrator of the Meat Industry Award, which is the sole award that covers all meat processing, smallgoods and retailing establishments in Australia.

AMIC provides members with advice, service, and representation in relation to all areas of employment relations including wages, leave provisions, enterprise agreements, apprenticeships and traineeships, industrial disputes, disciplinary and dismissal matters, work health & safety and workers compensation.

AMIC is partnering with the Federal Government on the PaTH Careers program to trial attraction and retention programs for workers in the meat industry, and working closely with government on the development of the Agriculture Visa.



MEAT BUSINESS WOMEN

AMIC is the exclusive Australian Territory Partner for Meat Business Women (MBW), the global professional networking movement for progressive women working across the meat industry.

MBW is for women working within the post-farmgate meat supply chain with three key objectives:

- Develop the image, culture, and landscape of the meat industry to make it more attractive to female talent.
- Nurture new female entrants into the sector through networking, education, and mentoring.
- Skilfully improve networking.

AMIC holds two MBW events per year.



INSPIRE · NETWORK · GROW

NEXT STEPS

Contact us for more information and membership pricing:

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WHY JOIN?

Influence over AMIC smallgoods strategic direction

A strong voice in sector issues and advocacy

National presence within AMIC membership

Opportunity to be elected to the National Smallgoods Council

An opportunity to be nominated to the Board.

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