

FAQs | GENERIC TYRE APPROACH FOR PBS VEHICLES

Q1: What is the generic tyre approach?

The generic tyre approach is a new method for the assessment of Performance Based Standards (PBS) vehicles, whereby the prescriptive nomination of specific brand and model of tyres is no longer required on a PBS Vehicle Approval (VA).

Under the generic tyre approach, an operator of a PBS vehicle will be able to use any brand and model of tyre, as long as the tyre fits the size, load rating and configuration for the relevant axle position, as specified on their VA.

Q2: When does the generic tyre approach start?

The generic tyre approach starts on 1 December 2022.

From this date, operators will have the flexibility to use any tyre of the size/s listed on their VA for the relevant axle position, provided the load rating is appropriate for the axle mass.

Q3: Do I need to have my PBS vehicle re-assessed by a PBS Assessor?

No. All existing VAs are still valid and deemed to comply with the generic tyre approach.

Q4: Is the tyre list on my existing VA still valid?

Yes, the current tyre list on your VA is still valid.

You may continue to operate with your existing tyres; however, you will have the flexibility to use any tyre of the size/s listed on your VA for the relevant axle position, provided the load rating is appropriate for the axle mass.

Authorised Officers will no longer take tyre brand and model into consideration when undertaking compliance and enforcement activities.

Q5: What are the compliance requirements for the generic tyre approach?

A PBS vehicle is compliant with the generic tyre approach as long as it meets requirements regarding the tyre size/s, minimum load ratings

and configuration (single/dual) for each axle position.

Tyre load index and inflation pressure must be appropriate for the axle mass. Inflation pressures must be within legal inflation limits.

Q6: My existing VA does not specify a load index for approved tyre sizes. Is my existing VA compliant with the load rating requirements of the generic tyre approach?

Yes, it is. Existing VAs contain a condition for the load rating of fitted tyres to be appropriate for the axle mass.

As long as you meet these requirements, your vehicle is compliant under the generic tyre approach.

Q7: Are retread tyres permitted under the generic tyre approach?

Yes, they are, **except** on the steer axle of a motor vehicle.

Q8: My current VA allows for retread tyres on the steer axle of the motor vehicle. Does this continue to apply?

No, it doesn't. From 1 December 2022, retread tyres are not permitted on the steer axle of a motor vehicle.

Q9: I have an active Design Approval (DA) application with a PBS Assessor. Do I need to recommence/resubmit my existing application?

No, you don't. There will be a transitional period during which PBS Assessors will be able to submit DA applications using the existing method or the generic tyre approach.

This transitional period will end at the end of February 2023, and, from 1 March 2023, PBS Assessors must submit all DA applications using the generic tyre approach. If you do have concerns about your active application, please contact your PBS Assessor directly.

Q10: If my PBS Assessor submits a DA application during the transitional period using the existing method, will a VA be issued with a tyre list that aligns with the generic tyre approach?

Yes, it will. While the NHVR will allow PBS Assessors to submit applications using the existing approach during the transitional period, the NHVR will issue the VA with a tyre list that aligns with the generic tyre approach.

Q11: Will my existing VA be updated to include a tyre list that aligns with the generic tyre approach?

Yes, it will. When an application is submitted to amend an existing VA for another purpose – such as, Adding Identical, Adding Non-Identical, Re-issue/Modification – the NHVR will update the VA to include a tyre list that aligns with the generic tyre approach.

Q12: Am I required to update the tyre list on my VA to the generic tyre approach?

No, you're not. Applications to amend existing VAs to the generic tyre approach will not be accepted.

VAs will only be updated to reflect the generic tyre approach when a VA application is submitted for another purpose (refer to Question 11).

Q13: Can I update my existing VA to amend/include additional tyre sizes?

Yes, you can, but an application to amend a DA will be required in accordance with the existing approval process.

Q14: Can I amend my existing VA to include an updated tyre list that nominates specific brand/model tyres?

No, you can't. After 1 December 2022, applications to update specific brands and models of tyres on an existing VA will no longer be accepted.

Q15: How do I register for a webinar?

The NHVR will be hosting webinars commencing Monday 21 November through to Thursday 8 December 2022.

To register for a webinar, please go to www.nhvr.gov.au/gta

The registration links will take you through to the Eventbrite website. There are a range of dates/times to register for a webinar.

Q16: Do I need to attend all webinars?

No, you don't. Due to limited capacity, it will be one webinar per person. The webinars will run for approximately 30 minutes.

For more information:

Visit: www.nhvr.gov.au/gta
Email: PBSreview@nhvr.gov.au
Phone: 13 NHVR* (13 64 87)

*Standard 13 call charges apply. Please check with your phone provider.

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