

National Roadworthiness Baseline Survey

Australia's heavy vehicle health check

A heavy vehicle health check

The National Heavy Vehicle Roadworthiness Program was set up in late 2014 to improve the safety and efficiency of Roadworthiness in Australia.

To do our job better we need to improve our understanding of the condition of heavy vehicles throughout Australia.

From August through September 2016 we are conducting a health check of up to 9000 heavy vehicles across the country.

That is national...

The National Roadworthiness Baseline Survey (NRBS) will be the broadest, most well-resourced and comprehensive assessment of the condition of the Australian heavy vehicle fleet ever undertaken.

States and territories have been collecting their own data on heavy vehicles based on local standards and legislation, but there hasn't been a single approach or set of rules for inspecting and assessing the safety condition of heavy vehicles.

Without one data set based on the same criteria and standards we cannot assess how well the national heavy vehicle fleet complies with vehicle standards.

Focussed on roadworthiness...

Data collected from the survey will help us:

- identify factors that increase the risk of incidents
- develop a national risk-based heavy vehicle inspection approach
- identify high risk components, systems, vehicles or operators.

The results of the survey will support the other 7 projects of the National Heavy Vehicle Roadworthiness Program.

The program aims to find ways to reduce the safety, economic, and environmental impacts of unroadworthy heavy vehicles.

Aimed at setting a baseline...

Once we have a clear picture of the condition of Australia's heavy vehicle fleet we can set a benchmark to measure our progress, report on maintenance performance trends, identify risk factors and create a nationally consistent inspection approach.

Inspections are based on the recently released National Heavy Vehicle Inspection Manual (NHVIM); the first time

ever that a single national standard has been used for this purpose.

Our aim is to ensure that heavy vehicle operators no longer face the frustration of enforcement officers applying different standards in different states and territories.

A bit of bother for a few...

Throughout the survey period authorised officers will perform inspections of some 9000 heavy vehicles including rigid, semi trailers, B-doubles, and road trains at roadside check points and buses and plant equipment in depots nationally. There will be quotas for each vehicle type.

Each vehicle that is stopped will be subject to a comprehensive visual inspection and a roller brake test for approximately 45 minutes.

Although mainly a mechanical health check, we will enforce applicable laws if the vehicle is defective and even conduct other checks if warranted for mass and fatigue.

Once the vehicle is inspected it will not have to be checked again at future stops during the NRBS. Trailers towed by a different hauling unit may however be subject to reinspection.

Big benefits for all of us...

Industry bodies such as the Australian Trucking Association (ATA), National Road Transport Association (NatRoad) and Australian Livestock and Rural Transporters Association (ALRTA) fully support the idea of the National Roadworthiness Baseline Survey and the aim of simplifying standards for trucking operators crossing state borders.

One set of rules based on realistic criteria is easier for the industry to comply with and easier for governments to administer.

More importantly, it will be easier for industry to comply with these rules without compromising safety: a big benefit to everyone using the nation's roads.

Information

Should you wish to lodge a complaint or provide feedback, please refer to the complaints and feedback process in the jurisdiction in which you were intercepted.

For more on NRBS

www.nhvr.gov.au/roadworthiness
1300 MYNHVR (1300 696 487)

For more on NHVIM

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