



## Message from the CEO

Welcome to this fortnight's edition of On the Road.

Once again, I enjoyed a chat with drivers at our most recent Truckie Info Day near the Port of Brisbane last week.

There was a wide range of issues discussed in an informal face-to-face setting, including fatigue laws, permits, moving dangerous goods and mass limits. The feedback is important in our future discussions around reform to heavy vehicle regulation.

Keep an eye out for future events and if you're in the area, please stop by.

If you do get a chance to attend the MegaTrans event at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre this week (10-12 May), be sure to stop by the NHVR stand and have a chat to our staff.

Regards,

**Sal Petrocchio**

CEO, National Heavy Vehicle Regulator



## PBS data marks first decade

The NHVR and Australian Road Transport Suppliers Association (ARTSA) marked the first decade of the Performance Based Standards scheme with a new report released at today's Global Heavy Vehicle Leaders Summit.

NHVR Chief Engineer Les Bruzsa said the report was a collaborative effort between ARTSA Data and the NHVR.

"It shows that PBS has continued its phenomenal success with 2500 PBS units being added to the fleet in 2017," Les said.

"PBS vehicles now make up almost one-in-six new vehicles manufactured in Australia. There are now 22 truck manufacturers and over 60 trailer manufacturers that have delivered PBS units for operation."

The joint ARTSA-NHVR report titled *Performance Based Standards - Australia's PBS Fleet* shows:

- 17 per cent of new heavy vehicles manufactured in 2017 were PBS approved
- 55 per cent of all PBS approved combinations are truck and dogs
- The median age of the PBS fleet is 3.6 years, compared to average age of the heavy vehicle fleet at 12.2 years

A 2017 NTC report found that PBS-approved vehicles were also delivering significant safety and productivity benefits, including:

- Involved in 46 per cent less major crashes per kilometre travelled compared to conventional vehicles
- Saving more than 320 million truck kilometres travelled between 2014 and 2017.

The NHVR recently improved the design approval process to significantly reduce processing times for the most common vehicle combinations. The improvements allow some PBS designs to be 'pre-advised' by the Panel, meaning the NHVR can assess and issue a Design Approval without submitting the application to the Panel.

It is estimated that 85 per cent of all PBS design applications will qualify for approval under the process, reducing the average processing time from four weeks to three business days.

For more information on the PBS scheme or to get a full copy of the report visit [www.nhvr.gov.au/pbs](http://www.nhvr.gov.au/pbs)





## NHVR hosts national vehicle forums

NHVR headquarters at Newstead, Brisbane was the venue last week for a series of national vehicle standards forums, including the 226th meeting of the Australian Motor Vehicle Certification Board, the 46th meeting of the Technical Liaison Group and various in-service and new vehicle standards working groups.

This was the third time the NHVR has hosted these events, according to the NHVR's Manager, Vehicle Safety and Performance Peter Austin.

"Both regulators and industry associations from both heavy and light vehicle sectors are brought together at these forums.

"The groups focus on ensuring harmonisation between new and in-service vehicle standards

and act as an important avenue for consultation between regulators and industry.

"We focused on the current reforms of the Motor Vehicle Standards Act reforms being undertaken by the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities at this series of meetings.

"There was also an opportunity to provide members with information about developments at international vehicle standards forums, such as the United Nations Working Party 29.

"It was a productive three days with the opportunity to thoroughly discuss the issues.

"I'm looking forward to the next round of meetings," added Peter.



## See you at MegaTrans!



The NHVR has a stand at the upcoming largest logistics and supply chain event held in Australia.

It will bring together exhibitors, presenters and guests from the entire logistics supply chain, including the wider infrastructure and logistics industry.

Venue and date: Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre from 10-12 May.

Looking forward to seeing you all there! Be sure to visit our stand and say hello!

Time is running out to complete **NHVR's Safety Survey** as it closes on 9 May. This is your chance to offer feedback on the industry. [Complete the survey here.](#)

## Change to Permits – Victoria

### NHVR to process Class 1 vehicle permits from 28 May 2018

The NHVR and VicRoads have commenced the planning for the return of heavy vehicle permit processing to the NHVR.

VicRoads will hand back the processing of Class 1 heavy vehicle permit applications for Victoria to the NHVR from 28 May.

The NHVR will process all Class 1 (Oversize Overmass, Special Purpose Vehicle and Agricultural) heavy vehicle permit applications that were previously processed under delegation by VicRoads for travel in Victoria.

To apply for a permit from 28 May, operators will need to continue to lodge applications with the NHVR. Applications can be lodged using the NHVR Portal.

To access the NHVR Portal, log on to [www.service.nhvr.gov.au](http://www.service.nhvr.gov.au)

For more information on the changes to the permit process in Victoria, contact Annette Finch, Project Director, at [annette.finch@nhvr.gov.au](mailto:annette.finch@nhvr.gov.au) or by calling 1300 696 487.

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