



Message from the CEO

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

With amended Chain of Responsibility (CoR) laws due to begin on 1 October, the NHVR has been busier than ever engaging with heavy vehicle supply chain businesses across the country explaining changes.

In particular we've recently conducted sessions in regional Tasmania, South Australia and Victoria explaining how the changed CoR laws will affect primary producers.

Although the CoR laws will change, they will still only apply to activities that a person or business has responsibility for and could influence. In other words no-one will be liable for breaches they cannot control.

The NHVR will shortly announce another round of industry information sessions across Australia during July and August.

If you haven't attended a session, it's worth taking a few hours to ensure your business is prepared for the new laws.

For details on up-coming information sessions and more information for all parties in the chain go to www.nhvr.gov.au/cor

Regards,
Sal Petrocchio
CEO, National Heavy Vehicle Regulator

Changes to bus limits and twin-steer tri-axle combinations

A national mass increase for two-axle buses and twin steer tri-axle heavy vehicle combinations will be among a number of changes to the Heavy Vehicle National Law and regulations starting 1 July.

NHVR Access Manager Roger Garcia said the changes would provide nationally consistent mass limits for the two classes of heavy vehicles.

"Two-axle buses equipped with dual tyres on the rear axle in South Australia, ACT and Tasmania can operate at the increased mass limit, similar to buses that are currently operated in Queensland, NSW and Victoria," Roger said.

"This means this class of bus can operate up to 18 tonnes, conditional on the bus being equipped with some additional safety features."

When operating an eligible two-axle bus the NHVR recommends drivers carry some form of documentation to demonstrate to Authorised Officers that the bus is equipped with the required additional safety features.

"Providing this information to Authorised Officers at the roadside will streamline and expedite the process."

Note that the mass limits for eligible two-axle buses are not intended to increase the existing passenger carrying capacity. For more information [click here](#).

Mass limits for twin steer tri-axle heavy vehicle combinations will also increase from 42.5 tonnes to 46.5 tonnes, providing more flexibility for operators.

This amendment will also start from 1 July 2018.

Concessional Mass Limits (CML) will allow an operator to operate above general mass limits if the operator is accredited under the Mass Management Module of the National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme.

Companies must also meet the eight standards of compliance in the [NHVR Mass Management Accreditation Guide](#).



Photos courtesy of Volgren Australia



EWD industry guidelines released

The NHVR has released a series of EWD Guidelines for transport operators, record keepers, drivers and technology providers.

NHVR Productivity and Safety Executive Director Geoff Casey said the guidelines would assist those who use EWDs as a voluntary alternative to the written work diary.

The guidelines outline the roles that each person plays in operating EWDs, specific requirements for each role and where to get help.

“By condensing a lot of information into a couple of pages, the guidelines will assist industry and technology providers to begin preparations for introducing EWDs into their businesses,” said Geoff.

Transport operators and technology providers who intend to develop an EWD for approval, are invited to register with the NHVR by lodging a [Notice of Intent](#) and request an EWD Application Toolkit.

You can access the [EWD Guidelines here](#).



Changes to training requirements for NHVAS

From 1 July 2018, new units of competence for fatigue under the National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme (NHVAS) will start.

In 2017, the NHVR worked with the heavy vehicle industry and Australian Industry Standards to develop new fatigue units of competency for NHVAS participants to effectively manage the risk of fatigue in road transport operations.

According to NHVR's Fatigue Specialist Andreas Blahous, any previously recognised fatigue management course that was completed prior to 1 July 2018 will still be accepted.

“This means nominated drivers and schedulers who are currently operating under a BFM or AFM accreditation do not need to complete the new units.”

However after 1 July the NHVR will only accept statements of attainment for training in the new fatigue units of competency from Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) approved by the NHVR.

RTOs should apply for NHVR approval now so that their training in the new fatigue units of competency (TLIF0005 and TLIF0006) can be accepted for NHVAS accreditation purposes.

More information, including a list of approved RTOs is available on the [NHVR website here](#).



Portal Tip

When plotting your route, note that the route planner tool operates in the same way as Google Maps or any other navigational applications.

It will provide you with the shortest path from your start address to your destination.

It won't automatically map to your specific heavy vehicle and its pre-approved or gazetted networks.

Click here to visit the [NHVR Portal](#).



VicRoads Certified Pilot Vehicle Driver Authority goes online

What does this mean?

Moving the Certified Pilot Vehicle Driver Authority application online gives operators better access to submitting applications for new, renewal or replacement cards. It will also speed up turn around times, with applications processed much faster once all the information is received.

How do I apply?

Head to the Driver of Pilot Vehicles page on the VicRoads website.

- Choose your application type from New, Renewal or Replacement (please note: there is now a fee for a replacement card)
- Check which supporting documents you need to attach to your application
- Fill out the online form and attach supporting documents
- Proceed to the payment screen and finalise your payment

What happens next?

VicRoads will process your application and send your card to you by mail.

How long will it take?

You can expect to receive your new card within 7-10 working days.

Further Information:

To find out more about the upcoming changes to Certified Pilot Vehicle Driver Authority applications, visit the VicRoads website or call VicRoads on 131171.

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