



Message from the CEO

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

From today heavy vehicle on-road compliance and enforcement services across Tasmania will be undertaken by the NHVR.

The NHVR's Safety and Compliance Officers in Tasmania will have the authority to stop and check heavy vehicles, drivers and compliance with the Heavy Vehicle National Law.

They will be easily recognisable by their distinctive uniforms, badges and vehicles.

Thanks to Tasmania's Deputy Premier Jeremy Rockliff and the Department of State Growth for their efforts and support during the transition over the past 12 months.

The Tasmanian transition is one of several changes to heavy vehicle regulations, registration, fees and penalties which came into effect across Australia from 1 July. Further details can be found on page 2.

Regards,

Sal Petrocchio

CEO, National Heavy Vehicle Regulator



Confidential reporting line for heavy vehicle users

The aim of the new NHVR confidential reporting line is so that heavy vehicle drivers and supply chain employees can report potential safety breaches relating to heavy vehicle transport activities.

NHVR Director Safety Standards, Greg Fill, said that heavy vehicle safety concerns can be received and addressed, with the NHVR deciding what action is to be taken.

"The confidential reporting line will protect the identity of the reporting individual throughout all stages of the process," Greg said.

"Under the Heavy Vehicle National Law everyone in the heavy vehicle industry has a responsibility to prevent or minimise potential injury, danger or loss to themselves and others by ensuring their transport activities are safe.

"Confidential reporting systems are important as they allow people to report issues that are not being addressed by a company or operator, or if a person is afraid that speaking up might cost them their job.

"NHVR has partnered with Crime Stoppers Queensland to take advantage of their expertise in receiving confidential calls and ensuring they are processed appropriately," added Greg.

Appropriate information to report may include:

- an incident or situation that affects the safety of a heavy vehicle or its operation
- a procedure, practice or condition that endangers the safety of a heavy vehicle driver, their passengers, other road users

or the community

- a procedure, practice or condition that leads to non-compliance with the HVNL.


Calls to the confidential line number will be free from any landline in Australia (and some mobile providers).

Anyone with a safety concern can call 1800 931 785, 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week.

For more information go to: www.nhvr.gov.au/HVCRL



1800 931 785
Heavy Vehicle Confidential Reporting Line



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What is the Heavy Vehicle Confidential Reporting Line [HVCRL]?
The HVCRL is a secure, confidential telephone service established by the NHVR for participants in the heavy vehicle industry, including the supply chain, to report operational safety issues relating to heavy vehicle transport activities.

The HVCRL is operated by an independent third party. All the information they receive will be managed in a way that protects the caller's identity and ensures confidentiality in compliance with applicable laws, policies, and agreements concerning information security.

What can I report?
The HVCRL is specifically for reporting safety issues relating to heavy vehicle transport activities. These may relate to such things as:

Business practices	Policies, procedures, strategies and systems (or lack thereof) that are unsafe or encourage a breach of the Heavy Vehicle National Law
Fatigue	Driver fatigue, inadequate fatigue management systems, falsified fatigue management records, unrealistic schedules, pressure to drive while fatigued
Mass	Overweight/overloaded vehicles, unauthorised movements
Dimension	Unauthorised oversize vehicles
Loading	Inadequate restraints, poor load security, issues with loading or unloading practices
Speed	Internal policies, practices or vehicle modifications that facilitate or encourage speeding, Unrealistic schedules
Vehicle standards and mechanical safety	Non-compliance regarding vehicle design, condition, configuration, functionality, maintenance, modifications, defects etc

Who to report to?
Use an immediate safety risk to a person should police (e.g. a traffic accident involving a heavy vehicle or swerving over the road).
Provide examples of other matters for which the line should be used:

Issue	Responsible agency
Speeding, unauthorised	Police
Smoky or smoky	Environmental protection agency or transport authority
Overweight/oversize	State/territory government or local council
Unauthorised movements	State/territory government or local council
Work issues	Fair Work Ombudsman or Fair Work Commission

Who to report to made through the HVCRL?
Reported that falls within the HVCRL's criteria will be reported to the relevant agency. NHVR will determine what action is required.

www.nhvr.gov.au/HVCRL



Photo courtesy of www.midlandind.com.au

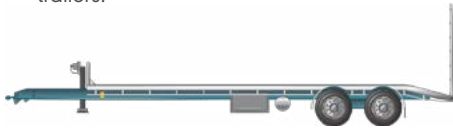
Changes to regulations, fees and penalties

A series of changes to the National Heavy Vehicle Law came into effect on 1 July.

- A national mass increase for two-axle buses and twin steer tri-axle semitrailer combinations providing more flexibility for operators.

For more information on changes to the mass limits of the semitrailer combinations and bus changes [click here](#).

- Heavy vehicle operators using tag trailers will be required to operate under 1:1 towing mass ratio, similar to pig trailers and dog trailers.



The 1:1 mass ratio does not allow a trailer to exceed the manufacturer's mass limits or applicable prescribed axle mass limits.

More information on the requirements for tag trailers can be found in VSG22 - Requirements for tag trailers at www.nhvr.gov.au/vsg.

- All penalties will increase by CPI and access charges will increase from \$72 to \$73, also in line with CPI. An access fee applies to all Higher Mass Limit permit applications from 1 July.

More information on changes to penalties can be found at www.nhvr.gov.au/penalties,

while information on NHVR fees for 2018-19 can be found at www.nhvr.gov.au/fees.

- There are some minor changes to the Vehicle Standards, including warning sign requirements for long vehicles and road trains, rear marking plate requirements, condensate drain valve requirements and number plate markings for hydrogen and electric powered vehicles.

The changes are available in VSG 2 - Changes to heavy vehicle safety standards, at www.nhvr.gov.au/vsg.

- The first round of changes to national heavy vehicle registration agreed to by state and federal governments will also begin, including:
 - a new national heavy vehicle plate and nationally consistent plate fee in participating states and territories (jurisdictions)
 - more jurisdictions removing heavy vehicle registration labels
 - the option for fleet operators across all jurisdictions to set common registration expiry dates.

Further changes to the registration system, including free read-only access to fleet registration details on a digital platform will be available later this year.

More information on the changes to the registration scheme can be found at www.nhvr.gov.au/registration

Notices and updates

National Heavy Vehicle Standards (Emergency Services Speed Limiting) Exemption Notice 2018 (No. 1) (PDF,593KB)

- Exempts emergency vehicles that are heavy vehicles from complying with certain requirements of the Heavy Vehicle (Vehicle Standards) National Regulation.

Victoria Class 1 4-Axle & 5-Axle All Terrain Mobile Crane Mass and Dimension Exemption Notice 2018 (No.1)

This notice replaces the current Victoria Class 1 4-Axle & 5-Axle All Terrain Mobile Crane Mass and Dimension Exemption Notice 2016 (No 1). It makes three changes to conditional mass and dimension limits:

- Length of cranes;
- Axle spacing, including new tables that allow more granular axle spacing limits;
- Reduced ground contact widths (including a new illustration for GCW).

This notice is a progressive upgrade, and the general operation of the notice is still the same as the previous one.

New South Wales Class 1 Silage Trailer Mass and Dimension Exemption Notice 2018 (No.1)

This Notice replaces in full the previous Ministerial Declaration (Loaded Silage Trailer) Order 2013, which expired on 26 June 2018.

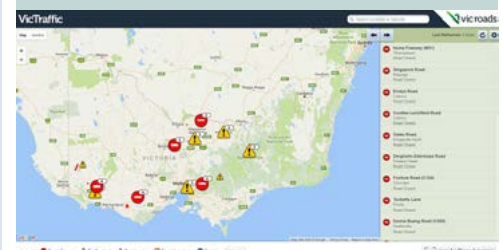
The notice is a simple replacement, redrafted as a notice under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL). This means that references to the law have been updated to reflect the HVNL, as well as to other current notices (eg: the NSW Class 1 Agricultural Vehicle Notice).

This notice can be considered as business as usual, and operators may continue to operate as they currently do under the ministerial declaration of 2013.

OSOM access affected by West Gate Tunnel

Before you travel, operators are encouraged to check out the VicRoads website for all current requirements for the [West Gate Tunnel project](#) and other works around Yarraville. Clicking on the road you wish to check reveals comments about width restrictions, curfews, detours and dates.

For more information visit: <https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/business-and-industry/heavy-vehicle-industry/heavy-vehicle-map-networks-in-victoria>



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