

## Navigating Drivers Home Safety Initiative

## NHVR HEAVY VEHICLE SAFTEY INITIATIVE ROUND 6 FINAL REPORT

PREPARED BY ARANA MCDONALD



## **Navigating Drivers Home Safety Initiative**

Truckwiz, Australiar Navigation





The efficient and correct movement of all road freight is vital for the safety of all road users including the public.

The Navigating drivers home safety initiative program was funded via the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator's (NHVR), Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative (round 6) and available to truck drivers in every state throughout Australia. Our focus is to enhance safety within the heavy vehicle industry focusing on trip planning and real-time information delivered through our digital platform, Truckwiz.

To help improve the efficiency and correct movement of road freight we focused on 4 key areas:

- Real- time updates
- Rest Stops/Truck Stops (street view and truck access limitations)
- Bridge Heights
- Digital Pre-Starts

We believed by concentrating on these 4 points we would limit distractions for truck drivers, keep heavy vehicles on the correct routes which in turn would reduce traffic congestion, bridge strikes, and help mitigate stress levels. The greatest achievement throughout this process was creating a platform which offered real-time information for Rest Areas and Truck Stops.



One of the biggest successes we have had with this project upon completion was the real-time aspect available to drivers in one location.

Previously drivers would need to access multiple platforms for real-time information between multiple states, this would include rest areas, truck stops (suitable for their truck), road closures, traffic delays and accidents.

With our Navigating Drivers Home Safety Initiative incorporated with our real-time notifications allowed us to bring several platforms together in one location. This allowed drivers to trip plan with a little more confidence whilst receiving live notifications on the road.

Navigating Drivers Home Safety Initiative has been live for a few months and the greatest achievement we have noticed is during the floods Sept – Nov 22. Our platform traffic had increased significantly the website aspect alone had increase over 300% with drivers accessing our live traffic updates for road closures. This combined with our members sending in road updates made our platform vital amongst drivers during this time.

From our experience most drivers would need to access different social platforms at different times of their journey to get updates on their route. As per photo above our delivery of real-time updates makes it easier for drivers without the need to access other platforms or touch their device whilst driving.

Where possible our notifications will notify them of road closures, diversions if any available and if possible accessible.



The hardest challenge we faced with our project was information gathering and the accuracy of each location. This included:

- Road closures and real-time updates for that closure.
- Rest areas and accessibility of the rest area for trucks. We found several rest area locations had ceased to exists or locations had moved or incorrect
- Truck stops access points, canopy heights, facilities and trucks dimensions allowed.

Although we tried to validate each location we wanted another way to make this process easier for us and at the same time making the information more accessible to our members.

Therefore to get around this where possible we introduced the "Street View" feature. By adding this functionality it made it easier to drivers to site each location before arrival. If possible we added Street view to service stations, Truck stops and rest areas.

## SCREEN SHOTS











