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## TERMS & CONDITIONS

**PITCH STOP** *(August 2025)*

### A. Parties

**Applicant** means an individual applying to participate in the Pitch Stop competition.

**Participant** means a successful Applicant.

**Organiser** means National Heavy Vehicle Regulator ABN 48 557 596 718.

### B. Eligibility

To be eligible for Pitch Stop an Applicant's postgraduate\* research must meet the following criteria. An Applicant may be asked for proof of eligibility at any stage of the competition.

Applicants must meet criteria one and at least one of the other criteria between two and five.

1. Be your original research, focused on a topic related to heavy vehicles, that you have completed as a sole investigator.

AND ANY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING

2. Currently active, or completed within the last five years at an Australian university or research institute.
3. Be a postgraduate research student of an Australian university or research institute who has passed the confirmation stage of a PhD.
4. Be a postgraduate student of an Australian university or research institute who has submitted a thesis for examination, with the approval of their supervisor.
5. Be conducting research in, or for, the transport sector in the last 12 months within five years of obtaining a postgraduate qualification.

\* For the purpose of entering Pitch Stop a postgraduate qualification includes the following

- Masters research degree
- PhD
- Postdoctoral fellowships

### C. Process

#### 1. Timelines 2025

Submissions open 28 August 2025.

Submissions close 22 September 2025, 5pm AEST.

Selection of semi-finalists, 26 September 2025.

Semi-finalists will be notified by email on 29 September 2025.

Finals will be held in Perth on 20 October 2025.

2. The application process is determined by the Organiser and is published separately to these terms and conditions, which includes how:
  - (a) an Applicant applies to Pitch Stop;
  - (b) if the application is accepted by the Organiser and notified accordingly to the Applicant, the Applicant becomes a Participant;
  - (c) the Participant's involvement in Pitch Stop is governed (being in addition to these terms and conditions).
3. The Applicant and Participant agree to comply with such published process and that:
  - (a) their respective agreement is an inherent requirement of these terms and conditions;
  - (b) the Organiser may update the application process from time-to-time without notice to the Applicant (but the Organiser will use reasonable endeavours to inform the Applicant or Participant of updates, prior to the updates taking effect); and
  - (c) if the Organiser reasonably suspects breach by the Applicant or Participant with the published application process, the Organiser may immediately, by notification to the Applicant or Participant, terminate their involvement in Pitch Stop. and may invite other parties to be involved in Pitch Stop in their place.
4. Applicants will be notified of the status of their application following the close of the application deadline.
5. In the event a Participant is unable to participate in the final for any reason, they must inform Organiser's Research Advisor promptly, with a minimum notice of at least three days before the event. The final event is scheduled to be held in Perth, Australia on 20 October 2025. The Organiser may invite other Applicants to compete in the Participant's place.
6. The Participant acknowledges and agrees that, during the presentation, video and photo footage will be captured for publication on the Organiser's website, the websites of sponsoring partners, and made available for media.
7. The determination of the Pitch Stop winner(s) is by the judges, whose decisions are final with no right of appeal.
8. However, the awarding of a prize is at the discretion of the Organiser. The Organiser may elect not to award a prize, for any reason.

#### **D. Presentation**

1. Travel and accommodation to any location associated with presenting or preparing materials is the responsibility of the Participant. The Organiser may, at its discretion, provide a letter of support to assist Participants in their fundraising to compete at the venue where finals will be held.
2. At an in-person event, the presentation must be given in person by the Participant. At a hybrid/online event, the presentation may be screened at the event as the Participant's entry in the final.
3. Participants commit to delivering a presentation between two to three minutes. The language of the event is English, and presentations must be given in English. Participants must supply an introductory PowerPoint slide containing name, institution/organisation, and presentation title.

4. Groups are not permitted to present at Pitch Stop. Only individual applications and presentations are accepted, and presenters must delineate their individual contribution if the project involved a group effort.
5. The presenter must distinctly articulate the problem they are addressing and their proposed solution to that problem.
6. The quality of any information conveyed during the presentation will be considered as an aspect of the judging. Only PowerPoint, MPG4 video and high-quality JPG images will be accepted for use in the competition. No responsibility is taken by the Organiser to address compatibility, aesthetic or other technical issues related to content.
7. The presentation shall not include content that violates any law or regulation, promotes political, religious, illegal, unsafe or dangerous activities or is otherwise deemed inappropriate in the Organiser's sole discretion.
8. Each Participant's presentation must comply with the law, especially design, patent, trademark, and copyright law. The Participant warrants that they have obtained appropriate permissions (including intellectual property rights, privacy or publicity) from any third-party in relation to use of any third-party materials before their presentation at Pitch Stop, including AI generated content.
9. The Organiser may disqualify Participants from the event and end their involvement in Pitch Stop for tampering with the entry process or non-compliance with these terms and conditions. Such cause shall exist in particular in the event of breach of the Participant's obligations pursuant to clauses 7 to (inclusive) of section D.

#### **E. Intellectual Property**

1. By entering, Participants grant the Organiser a non-exclusive, royalty-free, license to use, reproduce, and publish their entry for business and promotional purposes of the Organiser.
2. The Participant warrants that its entry is original and does not infringe any third-party copyright or other intellectual property rights.

#### **F. Privacy Policy**

1. Personal information will be handled in accordance with the Organisers' Privacy Policy, available at <https://www.nhvr.gov.au/files/media/document/743/202506-1644-privacy-policy.pdf>.

#### **G. Archiving & Communication Consent**

1. Names and email addresses of all Participants will be archived for future reference and this process also serves to document the permission granted for the use of materials, as stated above.
2. By entering the competition, the Applicant and Participant consent to the Organiser collecting and using their personal information for the purposes or conducting the competition and awarding the prize.

#### **H. Liability**

1. The Organiser is not responsible for any loss or damage suffered or incurred by any participant in connection with the competition or the prize.
2. The Organiser reserves the right to cancel, terminate, modify, suspend, or postpone the competition at any time, without prior notice, for any reason.

**I. Acceptance**

1. By ticking the respective box on the Pitch Stop application form, the Applicant or Participant confirms that it has thoroughly read, understood, and willingly accept these terms and conditions and that they consent to being legally bound by these terms and conditions.