



If you are part of the livestock supply chain, you may be a party in the Chain of Responsibility (CoR) under the *Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL)*.

If you send or receive livestock using heavy vehicles you are likely a CoR party. The HVNL applies to businesses in the livestock industry such as primary producers, stock agents and facility managers, including many that don't own or operate heavy vehicles. Being a party in the CoR means you have a duty under the HVNL to ensure safety, similar to Work Health and Safety (WHS).

The NHVR has published the 2026 Master Code, which provides information for CoR parties about the safe use of heavy vehicles to transport livestock.

You will find guidance in the Master Code about hazards and risks you need to consider, and about the information you need to provide your transport operator so they can operate safely.

The Master Code provides detailed information for businesses which are preparing livestock for transport and receiving livestock at the end of journeys.

The 2026 Master Code contains activities and controls which are specific to livestock transport, supporting the existing guidance in the Effluent Code.

Arranging for the transport of goods

Encourages the preparation of livestock so they travel well, and the exchange of information about the livestock to be transported. The activity highlights the need for appropriate loading ramps and adequate staffing during loading or delivery, as well as ensuring that the number, mass, or volume of livestock presented for loading does not exceed the vehicle's safe carrying capacity.

Other controls detail how off-road parties can assist in planning livestock transport by providing information about safe access routes and vehicle movement information on premises, the spelling requirements for livestock during the journey and the location of truck wash and effluent disposal facilities.

Designing and managing loading and unloading premises

Highlights the importance of premises design and operational practices in enabling the safe loading and unloading of livestock, supported by appropriate layout, facilities, ramps, personnel, and equipment.



For more information go to www.nhvr.gov.au/master-code