



Message from the CEO

Welcome to the first issue of our fortnightly newsletter *On the Road*, replacing our previous *Industry Update*. I trust everyone in the heavy vehicle industry enjoyed the Christmas and Festive Season. I know the NHVR staff are ready and enthusiastic to tackle the challenges ahead of us in 2017.

One of our key goals this year is to continue to deliver on our National Heavy Vehicle Productivity Strategy, which we released in August last year.

This includes the implementation of the Road Manager Portal which will commence rollout in the first half of 2017. You can see more details on the work of the team on this page.

The rollout of the Road Manager Portal follows on from the successful implementation of our Customer Portal last year. The Customer Portal processed more than 95 per cent of the 5526 permit applications to the NHVR between October and December 2016.

I continue to look forward to your feedback on the Portal to make it quicker and easier for operators to gain permits and get on with the business of trucking.

Regards
Sal Petrocchio

New Road Manager Portal to streamline permit processing

The latest version of the NHVR's new Road Manager Portal was released recently to a small group of 20 road managers for initial testing and review.

The group, comprising councils and state jurisdictions from across Queensland, NSW, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and the ACT were asked to offer feedback on the functionality of the Portal, ahead of the full rollout over the coming months.

NHVR's AccessCONNECT Program Director, David Carlisle said that the current email system for road managers would be phased out as the new centralised Portal with end-to-end solutions for permit management was progressively implemented.

"The feedback has been rolling in providing useful and practical solutions which we will now be incorporating into the final Portal. It will replace the email process with the same system customers are now using, but tailored for their part of the permit process."

The rollout of this Portal follows the successful delivery of the Customer Portal in August 2016, which is now processing more than 95 per cent of all permit applications submitted to the NHVR.

There will also be a number of new features for customers released shortly, including a new look account summary page with improved permit status, the ability to manage information requests within the Portal and interactive network layers in the embedded route planner that will change based on the application type.

Both the Customer Portal and the new Road Manager Portal are important steps in the NHVR's ongoing efforts to streamline the permit approval process, deliver more pre-approved routes and standardise notices and networks.

Mr Carlisle said that the NHVR is committed to developing a more collaborative and innovative heavy vehicle industry.

"Our aim is to make permit applications as seamless and efficient as possible and both our Customer Portal and new Road Manager Portal are key initiatives towards achieving this," he said.

More details on the Road Manager Portal's success will soon be released as part of the upcoming issues of *On the Road*.



Industry engagement

The NHVR has kickstarted engagement, anticipating a busy year for industry and local government working together.

Industry Engagement, Strategy & Stakeholder Relations Manager, John Gilbert (pictured) said the NHVR will be looking to target areas where access issues are identified, requiring industry and government to work together to boost productivity. The Engagement team will also maintain their focus on understanding industry priorities towards safety and productivity.

“Together, we’ve achieved significant gains in improving the productivity and safety of the freight tasks across Australia by opening up networks to safer, more freight efficient vehicles,” John said.

This follows a number of significant recent events including the Australian Local Government Association heavy vehicle demonstration at the National Local Roads and Transport Congress in Toowoomba and the second NHVR Local Government Heavy Vehicle Access Forum jointly hosted with Blacktown City Council and Local Government NSW in early December.

The NHVR intend to hold more of these demonstrations in 2017.

To contact the NHVR Industry Engagement team phone 07 3309 8576.



New NHVAS labels more robust

A new, smaller label design for vehicles nominated in the mass and maintenance management modules of the National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme (NHVAS) is now available.

The NHVR will issue the labels from this month when either a new vehicle is added to the operator’s accreditation or a label is replaced

due to loss or damage. Note that individual module strips can no longer be ordered.

In addition to allowing the operator greater flexibility in displaying the label on the vehicle, the labels are also more physically capable of withstanding the all-weather environment on the road.

All current NHVAS labels will remain valid until replaced. For more information, [click here to open the fact sheet](#).



NHVAS approaches significant milestones

The National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme (NHVAS) is approaching some significant milestones in the coming months.

The NHVAS is expected to top 10,000 modules completed and 100,000 vehicles accredited under the scheme, during the first half of 2017.

The NHVAS provides flexibility in managing fatigue and concessions for mass and maintenance for operators that have robust and compliant management systems.

During Q2 there were 6396 heavy vehicle operators accredited in 9983 modules. The Maintenance module applies to 97,539 heavy vehicles, while the Mass module applied to 35,173 heavy vehicles.

Accreditation holders are reminded that applications to maintain accreditation must be lodged no later than one month prior to the expiry date of the accreditation.

For more information on the scheme visit www.nhvr.gov.au

Notices, Bulletins & Updates

- The NHVR’s **Compliance Bulletin for Heavy Vehicle Mass Assessment** has been updated. The key addition is a new section to include mass measurement adjustments for oversize or overmass vehicles using heavy trailers with grouped axle configuration.

- An **Information Sheet on 4.6 metre road trains carrying cotton bales** is now available. This document provides information on policies relating to the operation of road train combinations transporting bales from farm to cotton gin.

- National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle Controlled Access Bus Authorisation Notice and National Class 3 Heavy Vehicle Controlled Access Bus Dimension Exemption Notice 2014 Amendment Notice 2017 (No.1)** has been amended. The Amendment Notice published in January 2017 makes changes to the Class 3 part of the notice.