



Message from the CEO

Welcome to this edition of On the Road.

Joint compliance operations are allowing the NHVR and other agencies to develop consistent policies and procedures.

Last month the NHVR joined with officers from state road agencies, Police and WorkSafe from Queensland, NSW, ACT, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and Western Australia to inspect 5164 drivers' work diaries across 35 sites.

I was pleased that compliance with fatigue laws was generally high, however we are committed to continuing to target those doing the wrong thing.

Officers found issues relating to fatigue with about six per cent [306 cases] of heavy vehicle drivers and their work diaries. By comparison there were 311 mechanical issues identified over the same period.

One of the findings was the cost of non-compliance - the compliant operator was off the road for half the time of a non-compliant operator.

For me, this type of operation continues to highlight the importance of a coordinated approach to our compliance activities and data collection across Australia's heavy vehicle industry.

Regards Sal Petrocchio
CEO, National Heavy Vehicle Regulator

New Portal functions for road managers and operators

The NHVR has rolled out a number of new features in the NHVR Portal allowing operators, road managers and NHVR staff to interact on the same technology platform for the first time.

NHVR's AccessCONNECT Program Director David Carlisle thanked operators and road managers for their patience and feedback during the transition which began earlier this month.

"More than 400 road managers across Australia now have the ability to respond to consent requests using an online form or an NHVR Portal Form," David said.

"This is the first step moving away from the original email-based process, moving all users onto the same NHVR Portal interface for access applications.

"In the coming weeks, groups of road managers will transition to the full NHVR Portal - Road Manager module functionality. This transition will be based on their individual readiness."

Operators would also have noticed some changes to the way permit applications have been submitted and processed with the latest NHVR Portal upgrade.

Additional features include new permit library, correspondence and notifications, removing the need to respond via email to the NHVR. The new features were the most significant upgrade to the capability of the NHVR Portal since it was launched in August 2016.

"We've had now had over 30,000 permits applications lodged, with 99 per cent of all new applications now submitted through the NHVR Portal," David said. "These additional features have finally delivered a shared view of permit activities and processing in the Portal for road managers and customers."

Operators and road managers can find out more using the HELP button on the Portal. For assistance to use the NHVR Portal, please email accessconnect@nhvr.gov.au or phone 1300 696 487.





New assessment tool fills the CoR gap

Almost 1000 Australian businesses have downloaded the NHVR's Chain of Responsibility Gap Assessment Tool.

NHVR Chain of Responsibility Manager Michael Crellin said the tool, which was launched earlier this month, was a hit with businesses and operators preparing for new Chain of Responsibility laws coming in mid-2018.

"The tool provides a comprehensive list of questions that allows duty holders to assess their operations against the new laws," Michael said.

"It covers 10 roles in the Chain of Responsibility ranging from schedulers, packers, operators and executive officers.

"Finally, it provides a list of recommendations that outline the types of system controls that

you could install to strengthen your compliance and safety management responses."

The tool allows parties in the supply chain to identify what they should do to ensure compliance and manage safety.

The NHVR are currently conducting a second round of workshops for the industry.

The current round of 26 workshops come on top of the 76 sessions we held earlier this year.

There are still some spaces available for sessions in Dubbo, Bathurst, Blacktown (NSW), Adelaide, Renmark, Port Lincoln, Mt Gambier (SA) and three sessions in Tasmania.

For more information on changes to Chain of Responsibility laws or to access fact sheets, information on risk management or safety management systems visit www.nhvr.gov.au/cor

Les scores industry achievement gong

NHVR Chief Engineer Les Bruzsa picked up the prestigious Castrol Vecton Industry Achievement Award at the ATA's Technical and Maintenance Conference in Melbourne recently.

Les was recognised for his passion and expertise as Australia's foremost authority on high productivity freight vehicles.

"It's humbling to have received the award, and the recognition that comes with it," Les said.

The Australian PBS industry has grown significantly to the stage where there were 1403 combinations approved last year, which is a 23 per cent increase on the previous year.

Les has been at the forefront of advocating for PBS since the early 2000s and has taken a lead in pushing the boundaries of innovation, which is absolutely necessary to manage the increasing freight task.



From left – Castrol's Rod Barrett, NHVR's Les Bruzsa and ATA's Ben Maguire

Les joined the NHVR in January 2013 from the Queensland's Transport and Main Roads, and previously the NTC. He studied at the Technical University of Budapest specialising in automotive engineering within his Mechanical Engineering degree.

For more information on the PBS program visit www.nhvr.gov.au/pbs

Updates and Notices

NHVR roadside in SW Qld

The NHVR will host a Truckie Info Day in partnership with BP on November 16 at Goondiwindi.

If you're in the area and have an issue you want to discuss or require some information about NHVR activities drop by the BP Bridge Garage Truckshop at Goondiwindi after 3pm, until late.

We'll also have staff from RMS and TMR in attendance. Remember this is about information, not enforcement.

This event follows the NHVR's first Truckie Info Day at the Bowna Rest Area (picture below) on the Hume Highway near Albury during September.



South Australian Access Supervisor appointed

The NHVR has appointed Sean Pederick as Adelaide-based Access Supervisor.

Sean comes to the NHVR with a background of more than 16 years experience within the SA Transport Industry.

The roles previously encompassed include the responsibility for managing company-wide operations for both general and high-risk (FMCG) freight on a national level.

Sean will be available to assist industry and stakeholders in all facets relating to heavy vehicle access.

Feedback on National Class 1 Agricultural Vehicle and Combination Notice closes November 17

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