Information Sheet

Road Train Access in Victoria

This document provides information on the Victoria road access policies for road trains.

Operators wishing to operate outside of the already approved Class 2 Road Train Network may be required to be an approved PBS A-double combination. Please refer to the applicable PBS fact sheet for further information.

What changes have been made to the existing road train network?

In 2011, VicRoads expanded its Road Train network in the North West of Victoria to include Red Cliffs, Hattah, Robinvale, Piangil and Ouyen. Road trains operating on this network were limited to 79.5 tonnes and 4.3 metres high. Under VicRoads’ new policy the following changes have been made:

- The network has been expanded to include Swan Hill
- The maximum mass for road trains has been increased to 85.5 tonnes
- Road-Trains transporting livestock will be allowed to operate at 4.6 metres high as long as they comply with New South Wales Livestock Loading Scheme
- The operating conditions for road trains have been brought in line with the conditions that apply in New South Wales
- An updated and comprehensive road train network has been published on the VicRoads website.

Why have these changes been made?

The bulk of road trains operating in the North West of Victoria either originate in New South Wales or service transport companies in that State. Consequently, by harmonising operating conditions and mass and height limits with those allowed in New South Wales, VicRoads has improved cross border consistency while also reducing the red tape for operators in both States.

What vehicles are covered?

Access is currently limited to A-Double Road-Trains with a tandem-axle dolly. VicRoads will however consider A-Double with a tri-axle dolly, B-Triple and AB-Triple access on a case by case basis. VicRoads may ask for:

- A full route assessment, especially if the combination has a swept path that is more onerous than a 36.5 metre A-Double;
- A bridge assessment of the combination; and
- The fitment of a GPS device that complies with the Intelligent Access Program (IAP). (This does not apply to an A-double with a tri-axle dolly if they are operating at General Mass Limits (GML) or Concessional Mass Limits (CML)).

Operation by Notice (without Permit)

The Victorian Road Train network map has a limited number of roads marked as green that are located in Mildura and adjoin the New South Wales border. These green roads are covered in Schedule 4 of the National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle Road Train Authorisation (Notice) 2015.

Operation by Permit

The majority of the approved roads on the Victorian Road Train network map are marked as orange. These roads require a permit issued by the NHVR to access, subject to specific operating conditions.

Victoria Road Train Permit Map

To view the Victorian Road Train network map, please refer to the VicRoads website:


Dimension Limits

The dimension limits for Road-Trains operating on the network are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension</th>
<th>Approved Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maximum Length</td>
<td>36.5 metres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum Height</td>
<td>4.3 metres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum Height (for livestock)</td>
<td>4.6 metres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum Width</td>
<td>2.5 metres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information:

Subscribe: www.nhvr.gov.au/subscribe
Visit: www.nhvr.gov.au
Phone: 1300 MYNHVR* (1300 696 487)
Email: info@nhvr.gov.au

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*Standard 1300 call charges apply. Please check with your phone provider.
Mass Limits

The mass limits for Road-Trains operating on the network are as follows:

Table 1: Mass limits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Approved Mass</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GML</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steer axle</td>
<td>6t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steer axle (tyre section width at least 295mm)*</td>
<td>6.5t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steer axle (tyre section width at least 375mm)</td>
<td>6.7t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drive Axle or Tandem Axle Group (Dolly)</td>
<td>16.5t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triaxle Group</td>
<td>20.0t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Combination Mass</td>
<td>79.5t</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*If the tyre section width is less than 295mm, the steer axle may still be 6.5t as long as the prime movers meet the conditions set out in Schedule 3 of the Heavy Vehicle (Mass, Dimension and Loading) National Regulation.

Axle Spacings

In relation to axle spacings, the combination must meet the following minimum and maximum axle spacings to safely cross all the structures on the network.

Rail Level Crossings on the network

The network features a number of active rail level crossings including those at Ouyen, Managatang and Swan Hill.

Consequently, prior to operating the combination, the registered owner must obtain a permit from the Over Dimension Load team as part of the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources. Applications stating the length of the Road-Train and the time of day(s) of the journey must be sent to odlpermit@ecodev.vic.gov.au. Please be aware that applications can take up to five days to process.

For more information please contact the following number – (03) 9655 6134. More information can also be found at the Department’s website at http://economicdevelopment.vic.gov.au/transport/height/over-dimensional-load-permits-for-travel-across-railways-and-tramways

Further information

For further information and to view the Victorian Road Train network map, please refer to the VicRoads website:

How do I apply?

To apply for a new permit:

1. Go to https://www.service.nhvr.gov.au and if not already registered, follow the prompts to set up an account.
2. Once registered, from the home screen, click on the ‘Permit Applications’ tile in the centre of the top row.
3. Click on the ‘New Application’ button (on the right) and enter a permit name or reference for your application.
4. Click on the green ‘Select Configuration’ button and then click on the heading ‘Permit Schemes’.
5. Select the “Vic - Road Train Scheme - A-Double”.
6. Enter the ‘Configuration, mass and dimensions’.
7. Enter the ‘Load details’.
8. Click on each component tab and select the correct number of axles and enter the ‘Axle group’ details, including the axle spacing (distance from previous axle).
9. On the ‘Route / area details’ page, click the ‘Route Type – Area’ radio button
10. Check on the ‘Are you seeking to operate under a network?’ option box and select VIC
11. On the ‘Period’ page, you will be prompted to enter the required permit period.
12. Follow the prompts to confirm your contact details and complete payment for your application.