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<th>Licence</th>
<th>Registration</th>
<th>Work Option</th>
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<td>73245694</td>
<td>EWD 234</td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>30/01/2018</td>
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Total Work

Total Rest

Heavy vehicle safety
It’s your business

What does an EWD mean for heavy vehicle drivers?

Driving while fatigued or drowsy is dangerous, whether driving a car, motorcycle or heavy vehicle. For drivers of heavy vehicles over 12 tonnes GVM and buses with more than 12 adult seats, work and rest hour limits are outlined in the Heavy Vehicle National Law.

Currently drivers can only use a Written Work Diary (WWD) to record work and rest and show that their fatigue is being managed in accordance with the law. Operators and drivers will soon have a choice – to continue to use a WWD or use an approved Electronic Work Diary (EWD).

Is the law changing?

No. The law already provides for an EWD, provided it meets essential requirements and is approved by the NHVR.

Will EWDs be voluntary?

Yes. EWDs will be a voluntary alternative to using a WWD. This means drivers have the option of whether and when to use an EWD.

What is an EWD?

An EWD can be any electronic recording system for use as an alternative to a WWD that meets the EWD Standards and is approved by the NHVR. This could include portable devices like mobile phones, tablets or more traditional telematics devices.

What is the difference between an EWD and WWD?

In many cases there is very little difference between the two. An EWD will require less time and provide alerts when a driver is approaching a work time limit. An EWD is able to record time more accurately – to the nearest minute – and policies are in place to ensure a consistent approach to compliance.

Does an EWD have to be fitted to a heavy vehicle?

No. The EWD Standards require an EWD be suitable for use in, or fitting to, a fatigue-regulated heavy vehicle.

Why does the NHVR want to approve EWDs for use as an alternative to a WWD?

Many operators already use an electronic system in addition to the paper-based system. Approving EWDs for use as a work diary means drivers or operators won’t have to pay for both, and they have the option to use whichever system suits their needs.

Know the signs of fatigue

Drivers may be impaired by fatigue even when complying with work and rest limits. It is important to spot the signs of fatigue and take a break.

Your body

- A lack of alertness
- Inability to concentrate
- Making more mistakes than usual
- Drowsiness, falling asleep or micro-sleeps
- Difficulty keeping your eyes open
- Not feeling refreshed after a sleep
- Excessive head nodding or yawning
- Blurred vision
- Mood changes
- Changes to personal health or fitness.

Your vehicle

- Near miss or incident
- Not keeping in a single lane
- Not maintaining a constant speed
- Overshooting a sign or line
- Poor gear changes.
Will an EWD start recording work when the engine is turned on?
No. Drivers must log into the EWD and agree to record an activity as work or rest before it is recorded against their name.

Will an EWD automatically make records?
No. Once the driver has logged in, the EWD may provide suggestions on what to record (e.g. place names, odometer readings).

What if an automatic suggestion made by an EWD is wrong?
If the driver does not agree with the suggestion they can correct the suggestion.

What if I’ve logged in to an EWD and the vehicle is moved (e.g. during loading/unloading)?
If a record is made accidentally, the EWD Standards require that the driver can correct the information.

Will an EWD warn of potential breaches?
Yes. The EWD Standards require all EWDs must be able to alert the driver of potential work and rest hour breaches before they occur.

Can I make corrections if I forget to log off?
Yes. The driver can correct an entry as long as the new information being recorded is accurate.

Will I get training on EWDs before I have to use them?
Yes. The technology provider and transport operator must provide drivers with training on their regulatory obligations and how to use the EWD before they begin using the system.

Will EWDs record in 15 minute blocks, like the written work diary?
No. Under the EWD Standards, EWDs will record time in minutes.

Will I be penalised for exceeding my work limit by one minute?
No. The EWD Standards require that EWDs will not show any potential breaches of less than 15 minutes.

Will authorised officers (including police) be able to monitor my work and rest remotely?
No. The EWD Standards require that all relevant information is contained in the EWD itself and only transmitted to the driver’s record keeper. The NHVR and authorised officers will only see driver information from an EWD during an intercept, or if the information is requested as part of an investigation.

Can I swap between different EWD systems?
Yes. If the driver moves from a business with one EWD to another business with a different EWD, the EWD Standards require that previous EWD information is automatically transferred to the new EWD when the driver logs on.

What if I break my EWD or think it isn’t working?
If at any time you are not sure that the EWD is working properly, you can make work and rest records using supplementary records. You must also contact your record keeper as soon as you can and report the issue. Your record keeper will be able to advise if any of your work and rest information can be retrieved.

Can I swap between using an EWD and a written work diary?
Yes. Drivers can swap between either form of work diary as required. If they do this, drivers must carry both their EWD and their WWD information with them.

Where can I get more information?
Visit www.nhvr.gov.au/fatigue or if you have a question that we haven’t covered, email fatigue@nhvr.gov.au
There will be a variety of EWD products. While EWDs must meet the requirements of the EWD Standards, they may have additional functionality to meet business needs.

When presenting an EWD for inspection by an Authorised Officer it must be put into Compliance View. It will have a graphical grid with the driver’s name and other details, similar to a WWD.

When in Compliance View an EWD will also have tabular views of work and rest times. While the EWDs will record times in minutes, it will not highlight potential breaches under 15 minutes.