



Photo courtesy of John Rens



Message from the CEO

Welcome to this fortnight's edition of On the Road.

There have been major changes to Australia's heavy vehicle permitting process in recent years.

The NHVR is not a road owner or road manager, but plays an important role in coordinating a range of access applications, linking operators with more than 400 road managers, including state and territory road authorities and local governments to manage applications and issue permits.

Since late 2016 this has been done through the NHVR Portal which now processes more than half of all permit applications across Australia. We are now getting a clearer picture of what permits are required and the time it's taking to process applications.

Over the coming months we'll be providing that information to road managers and incorporating it into our public reporting from 2018-19.

I'm also an active advocate for a comprehensive review of permitting laws and will continue to openly discuss options with industry and government agencies.

Regards,
Sal Petrocchio
CEO, National Heavy Vehicle Regulator

Report reveals jump in Portal permit applications

The NHVR processed 8652 permit requests between January and March 2018 - a 56 per cent increase on the same period the previous year.

NHVR Access A/Executive Director Roger Garcia said the NHVR Portal was now providing a clearer picture of road access across Australia.

"More than half of all permits across Australia are processed through the NHVR Portal and that number is continuing to increase as outlined in the *Q3 NHVR Quarterly Snapshot*," Roger said.

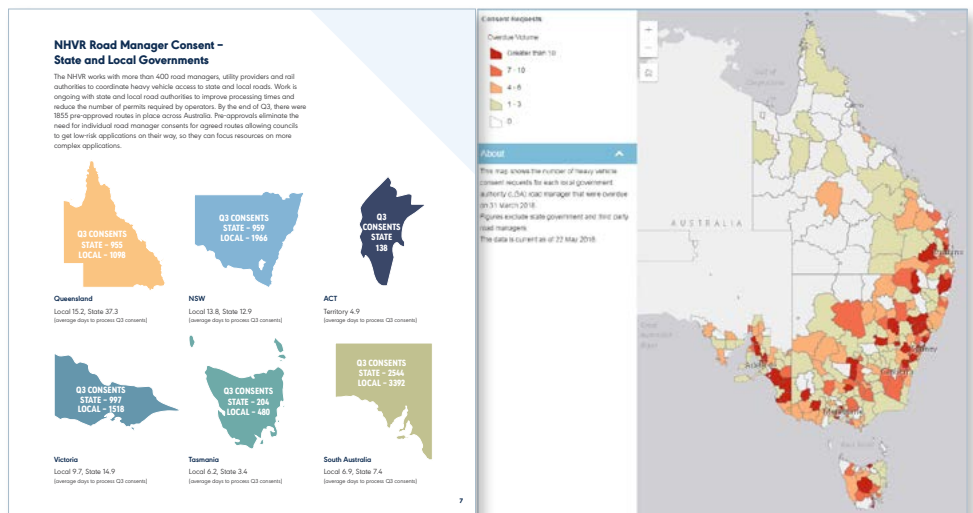
"We are getting a clearer picture of Australia's permitting times and the performance of road managers - understanding what is working well and what needs improving.

"Over the coming months we will start reporting details such as turn around time to jurisdictions to get a better understanding of their issues when it comes to balancing the safety and infrastructure assessment against the productivity benefits of heavy vehicle access."

According to the *Q3 Quarterly Snapshot* the NHVR is on target to process more than 30,000 permit applications in 2017-18 - compared to 24,585 in 2016-17. The increase follows recent changes of permitting delegations in South Australia, Tasmania, ACT and Victoria.

Average processing time across all classes of heavy vehicles is 19.7 days, which includes the NHVR processing time of seven days.

For more information or to access the NHVR Quarterly Snapshot for Q3 [click here](#).





Are you applying for a drought relief permit?

Operators applying for drought relief permits in New South Wales need to follow the correct procedure to have their permits approved.

To help the NHVR and road managers identify and prioritise your drought relief access request, please ensure you do the following:

1. List the word "DROUGHT" in your "Create New Permit application reference" - this shows as a pop up box when you select "New" application. (see example right)

2. In the confirmation page of your application (Step 6) - please add into the Additional Comments "NHVR please be advised this application is for drought relief access in NSW".

The NHVR will routinely search for these applications and prioritise your access request.

To apply for a permit go to:

<https://www.service.nhvr.gov.au>

Portal Tip

Before applying for a permit, make sure you check for any relevant National or State notices. Certain vehicle types do not need to obtain a permit when operating under specific conditions.

For a copy of all Notices, go to:

www.nhvr.gov.au/law-policies/notices-and-permit-based-schemes



CoR changes for primary producers

The NHVR has released a second round of common questions raised by primary producers.

The latest myth-busting information is available at www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201806-0820-cor-primary-producers-more-common-questions.pdf

National Heavy Vehicle Inspection Manual updated

The NHVR has released version 2.3 of the National Heavy Vehicle Inspection Manual (NHVIM).

According to NHVR's Manager Vehicle Safety and Performance Peter Austin, the changes are minor in nature and reflect changes to the Heavy Vehicle National Law that come into effect on 1 July 2018.

They also action maintenance items raised by the industry.

"We publish any revisions to the manual at least one month prior to commencement to ensure vehicle inspectors can get up to speed with the changes.

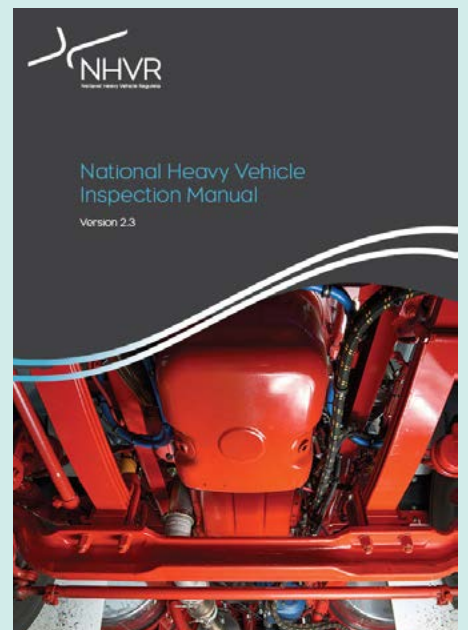
"We also publish a schedule of amendments which outline each change made.

"Vehicle inspectors who are accredited or approved by a state or territory transport agency and use the NHVIM to conduct inspections will be notified shortly by their local agency to advise of the new version.

Peter says that the NHVIM is a live document and is routinely updated by the NHVR to ensure it remains current and up to date.

"The NHVR welcomes feedback to improve the manual. If you wish to provide feedback or to access the NHVIM visit www.nhvr.gov.au/NHVIM," added Peter.

The NHVIM is the national standard for vehicle inspections used in all Australian jurisdictions except Western Australia.



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