



Photo courtesy of TGR Transport



Message from the CEO

Welcome to this fortnight's issue of *On the Road*.

October is National Safe Work Month – a time to think about better ways to create safe workplaces for the heavy vehicle industry and supply chain.

The theme for National Safe Work Month this year is 'A moment is all it takes'.

It coincides with the changes to Chain of Responsibility laws, which begin on 1 October. If you or your business have not made preparations for these changes, I would urge to you to visit www.nhvr.gov.au/cor and check your safety systems immediately.

This is an opportune time for all of us to examine the work practices of ourselves and our employees. This could be as simple as spending five minutes every morning talking with your team about the hazards and risks in your particular workplace, and how to prevent harm.

A safety incident can happen in a moment, and a moment's forethought can prevent harm.

[Click here](#) for more information on National Safe Work Month.

Regards,
Sal Petrocchio
CEO, National Heavy Vehicle Regulator

Notice supports drought transport

An exemption allowing larger loads of hay and fodder has been extended across a further five states and territories to support farmers struggling with drought.

NHVR Access Manager Roger Garcia said the *National Class 3 Drought Assistance Notice* would reduce red tape when transporting baled or rolled hay in drought-affected regions of Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and NSW.

"The Notice began on 21 September, allowing longer and higher loads of hay and fodder on state and national controlled roads in five additional states," Roger said.

"We are working to reduce the permits required by heavy vehicle operators supporting farmers to feed livestock and move fodder during the drought.

"This work was undertaken by the NHVR with state governments to support the transport of fodder for farmers during this period.

"It extended the access already available in NSW under the *NSW Drought Assistance Notice*.

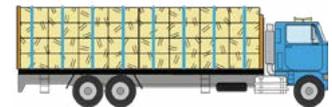
The new *National Drought Assistance Notice* will apply to the transport of baled or rolled hay, and straw.

Under the Notice heavy vehicles up to a maximum height of 4.6 metres and 2.83 metres wide will no longer require a permit to access the existing state-controlled road networks.

Previously access was limited for Class 3 vehicles up to 4.3 metres high and 2.6 metres wide.

The NHVR will continue to prioritise access permits for properties in drought-declared areas.

Permits will still be required through the NHVR Portal (www.service.nhvr.gov.au) for access to some local government roads.



New Chair and Director appointed to NHVR Board

Former NSW Roads & Maritime Services Minister Duncan Gay has been appointed as the next Chair of the NHVR, with current Chair Bruce Baird retiring next month.

Duncan is a well-known figure in the heavy vehicle industry, particularly across NSW, where he served in roads and transport portfolios during his political career.

Former Victorian Police Commissioner Ken Lay AO will replace Vincent Tremaine who is also retiring as a Director of the Board next month. Ken is the current Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria.

Peter Garske was reappointed as Deputy Chair of the Board. Coral Taylor and Robin Stewart-Crompton were also reappointed.



New NHVR Board appointments Duncan Gay and Ken Lay.

Changes to heavy vehicle Chain of Responsibility laws are coming on October 1

Is your business ready?



www.nhvr.gov.au/cor

Heavy vehicle safety is everyone's business

New videos released ahead of CoR changes

The NHVR has released the latest round of Chain of Responsibility information videos ahead of changes to the laws on 1 October.

NHVR Safety Director Greg Fill said the series of four videos were developed following feedback during the recent round of information sessions.

"While we answer questions at each session, it's important that those responses are available for other heavy vehicle supply chain businesses preparing for the law changes," Greg said.

"Many businesses are finalising their preparations with 3000 people attending the 21 sessions across Australia over the past six weeks."

The four part video series covers safety duties, adopting a Safety Management System, tools and templates, Codes of Practice and accreditation schemes.

The changes on 1 October will align the existing Chain of Responsibility laws more closely with workplace health and safety provisions.

This means that each party in the supply chain that has control or influence over the transport task is responsible for complying with Chain of Responsibility provisions.

Greg said it was also important to remember that no one will be liable for breaches they cannot control or have influence over.

"I encourage all parties in the heavy vehicle supply chain to adopt and utilise a Safety Management System as part of their everyday business, to help effectively consider and manage their operations' day-to-day safety risks."

To view the videos visit www.nhvr.gov.au/cor or for more information on adopting a Safety Management System visit www.nhvr.gov.au/sms

New SMS resources available

Additional guidance materials and tools are now available on the NHVR website to support implementing a Safety Management System (SMS) in your business.

The new guidance materials and tools will assist you in getting your own business in order and can be edited to suit the size and complexity of your business.

You can find the new tools here.

A SMS assists you in meeting your safety duty obligations under the amended Heavy Vehicle National Law.

The safety of transport activities relating to a heavy vehicle is the shared responsibility of each party in the chain of responsibility for that vehicle.

Remember, no one will be liable for breaches they cannot control or have influence over.

Online training for new Registration Module

From 1 October 2018, heavy vehicle operators will be able to access details of their registered assets for free in the new Registration Module of the NHVR Portal.

Operators will be able to:

- confirm that details recorded by jurisdictions align with their own records
- check registration changes and transfers have been processed correctly
- forecast registration renewals and costs
- download or print vehicle records to provide to other parties in the supply chain.

The NHVR is inviting operators to participate in a restricted release of the Registration Module. The training session is scheduled for:

Friday 28 September 2-4pm (AEST).

Operators can register their interest through **Eventbrite.**

Please note: Victorian vehicle details will not be available in the Portal until 1 October 2018. If you have questions about this session, please email Tammy.Wigg@nhvr.gov.au, Registration Business Manager.

SMS SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS Incident investigation (Basic) - Quick Guide

What is an incident investigation?
An incident investigation is a coordinated activity undertaken to establish how and why an incident occurred. You can use the information to improve your business, but it is not a legal requirement.

Why investigate incidents?
Incident investigation can help you to identify what you can do to prevent a similar incident from occurring and also to identify the underlying causes of an incident so that you can prevent similar incidents from occurring in the future.

How you can investigate incidents
When you investigate an incident, you should be able to identify the cause of the incident and identify the factors that contributed to it.

Before commencing an investigation

- **WARNING!** This must consider the following notification requirements before commencing an investigation.

Step 1. Collecting the information
Collecting information relating to an incident is important and should be done as soon as possible after the incident. The more information you collect, the more likely you are to identify the cause of the incident. It is important to collect as much information as possible about the incident. This includes:

- People - interview, statements and observations
- Equipment - incident scene, weather conditions and the work task
- Evidence - vehicle, machinery and tools, including photos and video
- Processes and procedures - policies, procedures, fact sheets
- Organizational and management systems - risk management, training, supervision, testing and certification records

Also, the Who, What, When, Why and How questions for each category.



1800 931 785

Heavy Vehicle Confidential Reporting Line

www.nhvr.gov.au/HVCRL

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