



Brisbane Truck Show 2019



Message from the CEO

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

Flexibility around fatigue laws was one of the most common topics raised with me during the recent Brisbane Truck Show and NatRoad Conference.

With the review of the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL) currently underway, we have the opportunity to increase flexibility for operators.

It's timely that last week the National Transport Commission (NTC) released their *Effective Fatigue Management* issues paper - the second of eight papers calling for feedback on the HVNL Review.

The paper acknowledges the limitations of prescriptive rules and observes how technology is changing the heavy vehicle industry and business.

The key challenge for the review is to unlock flexibility without compromising safety. With the review of the legislation we have the opportunity to make it even better, but everyone needs to get involved.

Submissions close on August 16 2019, so now is the opportunity to have your say, either directly to the NTC or through your organisation and the Expert Panel.

[Click here to access the NTC paper.](#)

Sal Petrocitto
CEO, National Heavy Vehicle Regulator

NHVR to release information sheets following fire roundtable

The NHVR will release a series of industry bulletins following the first heavy vehicle fire roundtable meeting in Brisbane last week.

Executive Director, Safety Standards and Assurance Geoff Casey said the roundtable, which brought together leading forensic fire investigators, Fire Service Officials, Police and members of the heavy vehicle industry and supply chain, was focussed on identifying causes and preventative actions following a recent spate of truck fires.

"We have acted to bring together our industry to tackle these issues and to help create a safer road environment," Geoff said.

"What is clear is that prevention is better than cure and there are some measures available to different parts of the heavy vehicle industry that can assist in fire prevention."

A number of common issues were identified during the roundtable that suggested that

most heavy vehicle fires were preventable but required actions by a range of responsible parties.

"Over the coming months the NHVR will work with forensic experts and industry to consider options to raise industry awareness, potentially targeted at specific sectors and addressing known fire causes or contributing factors," he said.

Some of the key issues discussed during the roundtable included:

- Wheel-end fires (wheel bearings, brakes etc)
- Wiring, electrical systems and components
- Engine bay fires - oil and fuel leaks
- Trailer and load fires.

If you have information about a truck fire call the NHVR's Confidential Reporting Line on 1800 931 785 or email vehiclestandards@nhvr.gov.au.



Source: www.abc.net.au/news

ACT compliance to transfer to NHVR

The NHVR will provide heavy vehicle on-road compliance and enforcement across the ACT from July 1.

The NHVR's Safety and Compliance Officers will be authorised to stop heavy vehicles to check compliance with the Heavy Vehicle National Law, driver licences, registrations and road rules.

The NHVR will also take on responsibility for issuing major, minor and self-clearing defects notices.

Self-clearing defect notices - introduced to the ACT for the first time - will be issued for faults that don't pose a safety risk but still need to be rectified as soon as practicable.

Access Canberra will continue to clear major and minor defects for ACT-registered vehicles

Other responsibilities remaining with Access Canberra will be:

- licensing and registration services
- roadworthiness checks for heavy vehicle registration purposes
- accepting payment of infringement notice penalties
- sale of National Written Work Diaries.

In addition to the above changes, amendments to legislation are scheduled



NHVR Safety and Compliance Officers will be operating in the ACT from July 1.

to occur from 1 July 2019 to have the same national heavy vehicle fatigue laws in the ACT as in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania.

This means that drivers will have to comply with the maximum work and minimum rest requirements for their work and rest hour options prescribed in the HVNL.

Click for more information on:

- [Transfer of ACT heavy vehicle enforcement to the NHVR information sheet](#)
- [Compliance bulletin 4 - Heavy vehicle defects](#)
- [Fatigue management.](#)



Upcoming Truckie Info Days

The NHVR recently held another successful Truckie Info Day at Puma Fuel at Moree.

There were plenty of questions about fatigue laws, rest stops and infrastructure and access permits.

Thanks to RMS, local police and the Moree Plains Shire Council for also attending and answering operator questions.

We'll be back on the roadside with Queensland Transport and Main Roads in Townsville on May 31.

[Click here for NHVR event information.](#)



Thanks for a successful Brisbane Truck Show

Thank you to all the operators and drivers who dropped by the NHVR stand during the successful Brisbane Truck Show.

NHVR Stakeholder Engagement Manager John Gilbert said the NHVR engaged with record numbers of heavy vehicle industry representatives at this year's Show.

"It was another great opportunity for NHVR staff to hear directly from industry and further understand some of the challenges they face

day to day.

"Some of the more common questions were around access permits, fatigue laws and Performance Based Standards.

"We came away with lots of ideas and suggestions, which we'll use to help guide our future initiatives."

During the event, the NHVR collected donations for the charity Convoy for Kids, raising almost \$2800 over the four days.

New data shows a jump in PBS approvals

The NHVR recently partnered with the Australian Road Transport Suppliers Association (ARTSA) to release the second annual report into Australia's PBS scheme.

NHVR CEO Sal Petrocchio said the report demonstrated the success of Australia's world-leading PBS scheme.

"In 2017, 17 per cent of relevant new heavy vehicles were PBS approved, in 2018 we saw that increase to 20 per cent of relevant new heavy vehicles," Sal said.

"PBS vehicles deliver significant benefits to productivity and have been shown to be

involved in 46 per cent fewer crashes than conventional vehicles.

"The success of the scheme over the past decade is a clear statement of the industry's desire to be safer, smarter and more innovative."

[Click here to read the full report.](#)



Portal tip

Need help navigating around the Portal? [Click here](#) to view past webinars and training videos in the NHVR Portal Help Centre.

Upcoming webinars

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1800 931 785
Heavy Vehicle Confidential Reporting Line
www.nhvr.gov.au/HVCRL

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