

Information Sheet

Concessional Mass Limits (CML)

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance on Concessional Mass Limits (CML) and when CML can be applied to a freight task.

What is CML?

CML allows National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme Members (NHVAS members) to utilise mass limits above the national General Mass Limits (GML).

Operators wishing to benefit from the productivity gains of CML, are required to become a NHVAS member and meet the eight standards of compliance in the [Mass Management Accreditation Guide](#) and nominate vehicles to participate in the scheme.

For additional information on NHVAS please contact 1300 MYNHVR (1300 696 487) or visit the NHVR website <https://www.nhvr.gov.au/safety-accreditation-compliance/national-heavy-vehicle-accreditation-scheme>.

What are the limits for CML?

CML authorises an increase mass to a nominated heavy vehicle by a maximum of 5% above GML, subject to:

- A maximum of 1 tonne (t) for a vehicle or combination with an allowable gross mass not exceeding 55t.
- A maximum of 2t for vehicle combinations with an allowable gross mass exceeding 55t.
- The mass of each axle group for a vehicle or combination not be more than the mass limited states in Table 1 and Table 2.

Additional mass concessions in Queensland

In Queensland a maximum increase of:

- 3t for vehicle combinations with an allowable gross mass exceeding 85t but not exceeding 120t
- 4t for vehicle combinations with an allowable gross mass exceeding 120t.

Access restrictions

NHVAS Members have access to GML networks that apply to that vehicle at CML, except where prohibited by a load limit specified for a road, bridge or causeway by a sign or notice.

Table 1 CML upper mass limits for tandem axle groups

Tandem Axle Groups	Mass Limit (t)
Tandem axle group fitted with single tyres on all axles	
(a) if the section width of the tyres is less than 375mm	11.5
(b) if the section width of the tyres is 375mm or more but not more than 450mm	13.8
(c) if the section width of the tyres is more than 450 mm	14.5
Tandem axle group fitted with single tyres on 1 axle and dual tyres on the other axle or axles	
	13.5
Tandem axle group fitted with dual tyres on all axles.	
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Table 2 CML upper mass limits for tri-axle groups

Tri-axle Groups	Mass Limit (t)
Tri-axle group on a vehicle fitted with—	
(a) single tyres with section widths of less than 375mm on all axles; or	15.5
(b) single tyres with section widths of less than 375mm on some axles and dual tyres on the other axles	
Tri-axle group on a vehicle other than a pig trailer fitted with—	
(a) single tyres with section widths of at least 375mm on all axles; or	21.0
(b) dual tyres on all axles; or	
(c) single tyres with section widths of at least 375mm on some axles and dual tyres on the other axles	

Application of CML

CML does not apply to the following vehicles (due to safety reasons or because they are eligible to operate at masses higher than those afforded by CML):

- a bus
- a combination consisting of a truck and pig trailer
- class 1 vehicles including special purpose vehicles, agricultural machine or agricultural implement
- Any other vehicle operating under a permit, notice or exemption that authorises axle or axle group loads over those specified in the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL).

Class 2 Permits and Notice

CML can be applied to class 2 vehicles under permit or notice, where access has been granted at GML and the combination is eligible for CML.

CML is an exception under Heavy Vehicle National Law; the Class 2 permit does not require the exemption to be noted on the Notice or permit.

In the instance a Notice or permit specifies a condition opposing the application of CML, the operator must comply with the mass stipulated in the Notice or permit.

Performance Based Standards

Performance Base Standard (PBS) Vehicles are issued PBS Vehicle approvals which specify mass limits the vehicle is approved to operate.

PBS vehicles are therefore only permitted to operate at CML, if approved via the mass limits stipulated on the PBS Vehicle approval.

Hire trailers

Where a hire trailer is used by an NHVAS member under the Mass Management module, a Statement of Compliance stating that the suspension of the trailer has been maintained equivalent to the criteria identified in Standard 8. This standard can be found:

https://www.nhvr.gov.au/files/0001-mass_management_accrediation_guide.pdf

This will require that the hirer of the trailer to have an auditable maintenance system that demonstrates the trailer's suspension has been maintained according to Standard 8.

For further information please visit the NHVR website at:

https://www.nhvr.gov.au/files/0001-mass_management_accrediation_guide.pdf

Other requirements

Heavy vehicles must not exceed manufacturer's ratings and must comply with the axle spacing requirements listed in the Heavy Vehicle (Mass, Dimension and Loading) National Regulation.

For more information:

Visit: www.nhvr.gov.au

Subscribe: www.nhvr.gov.au/subscribe

Email: info@nhvr.gov.au

Phone: 1300 MYNHVR* (1300 696 487)

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

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