

EWD Policy Framework and Standards - Addendum

Device agnostic approvals

Background

This document is an addendum to the Electronic Work Diary Policy Framework (EWD Policy Framework) 2018, which establishes the NHVRs approach to administering EWD provisions under the Heavy Vehicle National Law 2012.

Section 343 of the HVNL provides the NHVR with the authority power to approve electronic recording systems for use as an alternative to the paper-based National Driver Work Diary. Provisions also provide additional powers to monitor EWD performance and to address operational issues.

The administrative policies are approved by the NHVR and define the scope of the NHVR's EWD function, standards for EWD operations, entry controls, and monitoring and assurance activities.

Issue

Electronic Work Diaries (EWDs) are becoming increasingly popular, with industry pushing technology providers to make approved EWDs available on a broader range of devices.

To ensure Authorised Officers have confidence that a presented EWD has been approved by the NHVR, changes to the compliance information stored and displayed in approved EWDs is required, in turn facilitating the opportunity for greater device flexibility through device agnosticism.

In the context of EWD approvals, 'device agnostic' means the approval of the software component of an EWD without the need to explicitly name compatible devices on the certificate of approval or conditions of approval; while at the same time, introducing changes to the compliance components of the EWD.

Additionally, there is appetite for the NHVR to move away from the approach where specific devices and conditions are listed on certificates of approval, to an enhanced mechanism of structured self-assessment that provides evidence-based assurance of compliance against the EWD Standards.

Related references

[Heavy Vehicle National Law Act 2012](#)

343 Deciding application for approval

(2)(i) The Regulator may approve an electronic recording system only if the Regulator is satisfied the system is capable of readily reproducing, on being accessed by an authorised officer while the vehicle to which it or a part of it is fitted, or in which it or a part of it is used, is on a road, the information the system contains in a form that—

- (i) is readily accessible by the officer; and
- (ii) is reasonably capable of being understood by the officer; and
- (iii) can be used as evidence.

[Electronic Work Diary \(EWD\) Standards May 2018](#)

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(2) The NHVR must be satisfied that any proposed EWD will not impede Authorised Officer's operational activities.

Response

In order for the NHVR to issue a device agnostic approval, the EWD software application must be able to be restricted at point of download and/or point of login to only operate on a device conforming to the minimum device specifications. Distribution for device agnostic systems must occur through the Apple App Store and/or Google Play and/or any other distribution mechanism the NHVR is satisfied with.

The minimum specifications for devices utilising approved EWD software are to be determined by the technology provider and their system must include specifications that ensure devices meet the minimum specifications.

In order to satisfy the requirements of Section 343 of the *Heavy Vehicle National Law 2012*, operation of approved EWD device and its specifications must also conform to the requirements of the EWD Policy Framework and Standards and not allow the EWD to fail.

The device model, make, and operating system that is currently in use must be displayed in the approved EWD's Compliance View as well as the Compliance Report generated and transferred to the authorised officer.