27 August 2026

Introduction of Generation 2.0 Electronic Work Diaries

What industry needs to know

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR), in partnership with Transport Certification Australia (TCA), has developed a new Generation 2.0 (Gen 2.0) Electronic Work Diary (EWD) framework, including an updated EWD System Specification and supporting testing and governance arrangements.

Gen 2.0 strengthens the existing EWD framework through enhancements to technical requirements, interoperability arrangements, and assessment and assurance processes.

Importantly, there are no immediate changes for Drivers, Transport Operators or Record Keepers currently using an approved EWD. Existing approved EWD Systems remain approved and available for use. There is no requirement to replace an existing approved EWD System following release of the Gen 2.0 System Specification.

The introduction of Gen 2.0 EWDs does not form part of the changes to the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL), associated Regulations or the Heavy Vehicle Accreditation (HVA) scheme, which have commenced on 1 August 2026. The Gen 2.0 EWDs do however complement these changes, including by supporting Alternative Compliance Hours (ACH). Existing approved EWD Systems remain available for use and there is no immediate action required to be taken because of the release of Gen 2.0.

Key messages

- The Gen 2.0 EWD System Specification is expected to be released in the coming weeks.
- There are no immediate changes for Drivers, Transport Operators or Record Keepers currently using an approved EWD.
- Existing approved EWD Systems remain approved and available for use.
- Gen 2.0 does not require existing approved EWD Systems to be immediately replaced.
- Gen 2.0 strengthens the EWD framework through improvements to the System Specifications, testing, assurance and supporting services.
- Gen 2.0 does not affect existing telematics certifications or telematics arrangements managed by TCA
- No immediate action is required by approved EWD Providers. It is voluntary for providers to immediately commence development and seek approval of a Gen 2.0 EWD System.

What is Gen 2.0?

Gen 2.0 is an enhancement of the EWD framework comprising an updated EWD System Specification together with supporting testing, assessment and governance arrangements.

The Gen 2.0 framework is designed to support:

- Improved consistency across approved EWD Systems
- Improved interoperability between EWD Provider Systems
- Continuity and portability of Driver work and rest records
- Improved management of Driver registration and identity information
- Improved integrity and reliability of EWD records
- Enhanced testing and assessment processes

Why is Gen 2.0 being introduced?

Gen 2.0 has been developed in response to industry feedback, independent assurance activities and lessons learned from the operation of approved EWD Systems. These activities identified opportunities to strengthen consistency, interoperability, record integrity and assurance arrangements across the EWD framework.

The improvements to the EWD framework are intended to strengthen the existing framework while supporting future fatigue management arrangements and the continued evolution of EWD technology.

Was industry involved in developing Gen 2.0?

Yes. The NHVR and TCA worked closely with approved EWD Providers and other stakeholders throughout the development of Gen 2.0.

The framework has been informed by industry feedback, operational experience gained from approved EWD Systems and independent assurance activities undertaken across the existing EWD ecosystem. This feedback has helped identify opportunities to improve consistency, assurance and interoperability across the framework.

Gen 2.0 and HVNL reforms

Are the 2026 HVNL reforms and Gen 2.0 EWDs the same thing?

No. Gen 2.0 EWDs do not form part of the HVNL amendments but rather complement the changes which have been introduced on 1 August 2026. The amended HVNL introduced a range of legislative and accreditation reforms for the heavy vehicle industry.

The program of work on Gen 2.0 EWDs is an initiative focused on strengthening the EWD framework through improvements to specifications, implementing a standardised assessment and testing process, as well as implementing new data sharing arrangements.

The introduction of Gen 2.0 does not change how Drivers, Transport Operators or Record Keepers currently use an approved EWD, require them to immediately switch systems or replace existing technology.

Gen 2.0 does however introduce the ability to support ACH functionality, which is a result of the amendments to the HVNL.

Information for Drivers

Do I need to do anything when Gen 2.0 is released?

No. Drivers can continue using their existing approved EWD in accordance with current arrangements. No immediate action is required following the release of the Gen 2.0 System Specification.

Can I continue to use my existing EWD?

Yes. Gen 2.0 does not affect the approval status of existing EWD Systems. Drivers can continue using an approved EWD in accordance with existing arrangements with their EWD Provider.

Does Gen 2.0 change how I use my EWD?

No. For Drivers, the day-to-day use of an EWD will remain largely unchanged. An EWD is the electronic alternative to the Written Work Diary and must continue to record work and rest information in accordance with legislative requirements.

Gen 2.0 is focused on improving the underlying EWD framework through enhanced technical requirements, testing and assessment processes and how data is managed between EWD systems. These changes are designed to improve the consistency, reliability and performance of approved EWD Systems, while maintaining the functionality that Drivers already use to record their work and rest activities.

Does this change my obligations?

No. The introduction of Gen 2.0 does not change existing work and rest requirements, fatigue management obligations, record-keeping requirements or any other obligations under the HVNL.

Information for Transport Operators

Do I need to replace the EWD System currently deployed across my fleet?

No. Transport Operators can continue using their current approved EWD System. The introduction of Gen 2.0 does not require operators to replace an approved EWD System, change providers or redeploy technology across their fleet.

Does my existing EWD provider need to move to Gen 2.0 immediately?

No. The release of the Gen 2.0 EWD System Specification does not require approved EWD Providers to immediately transition their existing systems to Gen 2.0. The timing of any transition remains a matter for each EWD Provider, who may communicate future plans directly with their customers.

EWD Providers may choose to pursue Gen 2.0 approval to support future functionality, including Alternative Compliance Hours (ACH). The NHVR has also established transition arrangements to support ACH capability within existing approved EWD Systems where appropriate.

Does the commencement of the amended HVNL mean I need to move to a Gen 2.0 EWD?

No. The introduction of Gen 2.0 EWDs does not form part of the HVNL amendments or the HVA transition. The EWD program of work does however complement changes being introduced with the new HVNL, including changes to fatigue-related provisions

Transport Operators can continue using their existing approved EWD System following the commencement of the amended HVNL on 1 August 2026.

Does Gen 2.0 affect my fatigue management accreditation?

No. Gen 2.0 does not alter existing fatigue management accreditation arrangements or operator obligations.

Transport Operators currently holding BFM or AFM accreditation may continue operating in accordance with their accreditation and applicable transition arrangements under the amended HVNL.

I currently operate under Basic Fatigue Management (BFM) and Advanced Fatigue Management (AFM). What happens next?

Transport Operators currently operating under BFM or AFM may continue to use those arrangements, including through an approved EWD until their accreditation expires. This applies regardless of whether the operator is using an existing approved EWD System or a Gen 2.0 EWD System. From 1 August 2026, Transport Operators can no longer apply for BFM or AFM accreditation. Operators seeking fatigue accreditation may apply for Alternative Compliance Accreditation – Fatigue (ACA–Fatigue) and Alternative Compliance Hours (ACH).

The ACH functionality is supported as part of the Gen 2.0 EWD System Specification. Where approved, ACH may also be supported through an existing approved EWD System under the NHVR's transition.

I have ACA–Fatigue. What does this mean for my EWD?

ACA–Fatigue (and subsequent ACH functionality)is supported as part of the Gen 2.0 EWD System Specification. The NHVR has developed transition arrangements to support approved EWD Providers where a Transport Operator has been approved to operate under ACH and intends to use an EWD to record work and rest activities. These arrangements allow approved EWD Providers to support ACH through existing, approved EWD Systems while Gen 2.0 EWDs are being developed and waiting to be approved for industry use.

Transport Operators approved for ACH or planning to apply for ACH who intent to use an EWD, should engage with their EWD Provider, as early as possible, to understand implementation arrangements, system availability and any approval requirements.

Do I need to wait for a Gen 2.0 EWD before applying for ACH?

No. Transport Operators do not need to wait for a Gen 2.0 EWD to become available before seeking approval for ACH arrangements. Existing approved EWD Systems can continue to support operators through the transition arrangements established by the NHVR.

Information for Record Keepers

Do my record-keeping obligations change?

No. Gen 2.0 does not introduce any new record-keeping requirements for users of approved EWD Systems. Record keepers must continue meeting applicable requirements under the HVNL.

Information for Authorised Officers

Does Gen 2.0 change how Authorised Officers interact with approved EWD Systems?

No. Authorised Officers should continue accessing and reviewing records through approved EWD Systems in the same way they do today. The Gen 2.0 framework maintains the existing Compliance View while supporting greater consistency across approved EWD Systems.

Information for EWD Providers

Do I need to take immediate action following release of the Gen 2.0 System Specification?

No. Approved EWD Providers are not required to commence development and seek approval of a Gen 2.0 EWD System immediately following the release of the System Specification. Existing approved EWD Systems remain approved and available for use, and it is up to the providers to determine when they are ready to begin development and submit an application for a Gen 2.0 System.

While there is no immediate requirement to transition, the NHVR encourages providers to review the Gen 2.0 System Specification and supporting documentation and consider their progression to approval for a Gen 2.0 EWD System. Release of the specification marks the commencement of the next generation of EWD approvals and provides an opportunity for both existing and prospective providers to develop and seek approval of Gen 2.0 EWD Systems.

What happens to my existing EWD approval?

Existing approvals remain valid and are not affected by the release of the Gen 2.0 EWD System Specification. EWD Providers may continue operating approved EWD Systems in accordance with the conditions of their current Certificate of Approval. The introduction of Gen 2.0 does not invalidate approvals issued against the 2021 EWD Standards.

What is required to obtain approval for a Gen 2.0 EWD System?

A Gen 2.0 EWD System is approved as a separate system and requires a new application and Certificate of Approval. EWD Providers seeking approval of a Gen 2.0 EWD System will be assessed against the Gen 2.0 requirements through a new application, assessment and testing process.

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What should I consider when transitioning to a Gen 2.0 EWD System?

EWD Providers seeking approval of a Gen 2.0 EWD System should consider how Drivers, Transport Operators and Record Keepers will transition from an existing approved EWD System to a Gen 2.0 EWD System. EWD Providers will be expected to discuss their proposed transition approach with the NHVR as part of the application process.

Does this change my telematics certification or existing arrangements?

No. Gen 2.0 does not impact existing telematics certification arrangements, telematics approvals, telematics applications or operational arrangements that may be held with TCA.

Can I support ACH before developing a Gen 2.0 EWD System?

Yes. The NHVR has established temporary transition arrangements that allow approved EWD Providers to seek approval to support Alternative Compliance Hours (ACH) within an existing approved EWD System where there is a demonstrated operational need. These arrangements are intended to support Transport Operators transitioning to (ACA-Fatigue) while Gen 2.0 EWD Systems are being developed and approved.

These transition arrangements are an interim measure. The Gen 2.0 EWD Framework provides the long-term framework for supporting ACH and other future fatigue management arrangements. EWD Providers intending to offer ACH capability on an ongoing basis should consider development and approval of a Gen 2.0 EWD System.

Further information regarding these arrangements has been provided directly to approved EWD providers.

Information for prospective EWD providers

I want to develop a Gen 2.0 EWD System. What do I do next?

The NHVR anticipates strong interest in Gen 2.0 and expects a range of technology providers to commence development activities following release of the specification. Providers interested in developing a Gen 2.0 EWD System are encouraged to engage with the NHVR and review the published application and approval materials available on the NHVR website.

For more information:

Visit: www.nhvr.gov.au/ewd
Subscribe: www.nhvr.gov.au/subscribe
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