



# On the Road

**Issue 2** | 3 July 2013

Welcome to Issue 2 of *On the Road* and a big hello to our new subscribers who signed up at the Brisbane Truck Show from 16–19 May 2013. We thoroughly enjoyed the chance to meet you and answer your questions.



We spoke to more than 400 drivers, operators and other members of industry at the NHVR booth and many more at our industry seminars and consultation sessions on the new work diary.

With the new national heavy vehicle law to commence from 1 September 2013, we'll also be out and about over the next few months making sure you know what changes you need to make to get ready. Remember, if you have any questions, get in touch on 1300 MYNHVR (1300 696 487) or [info@nhvr.gov.au](mailto:info@nhvr.gov.au).

Richard Hancock  
**Chief Executive Officer**

## One rule book from 1 September 2013

At the Standing Council on Transport and Infrastructure (SCOTI) in May, Australia's transport ministers agreed that the new Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL) will commence in participating states and territories (except Western Australia) from 1 September 2013.

Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria have passed their enabling legislation and will commence the HVNL on 1 September. South Australia and Tasmania are working through the legislative process and are also aiming to commence the HVNL on 1 September. The Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory will commence the new national law later in 2013.

From 1 September 2013, the NHVR will deliver a significantly wider range of services, evolving into a one-stop-shop for heavy vehicle road transport business with government.

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## Australia's transport ministers also...

- Approved the 2013/14 budget which allows us to continue to recruit and scale-up operations from 1 September 2013.
- Approved the NHVR Corporate Plan 2014-2016 which sets our objectives for the next three years.
- Approved the new Advanced Fatigue Management arrangements for managing driver fatigue (see article in this issue).
- Directed the NHVR to develop a framework for a star rating system for heavy vehicles in 2013-14, with a view to implementing a pilot in 2014-15.
- Directed the NHVR to prepare an implementation plan for a national electronic work diary, based on a recent NSW-lead national pilot of electronic work diaries. The electronic work diaries would be an alternative to the current paper-based system. The NHVR will consult with industry on a possible implementation plan, before submitting a proposal to ministers.

## NHVR at the Brisbane Truck Show 2013

With over 37,000 attendees, this year's Brisbane Truck Show was a great opportunity to meet our current and future customers face-to-face and answer your questions. Over four days, from 16-19 May, we gave detailed advice to more than 400 people, with many more stopping by to chat and pick up fact sheets. We also delivered three industry seminars and two consultation sessions on the proposed work diary.

Hot topics included queries about NHVAS and PBS applications, new arrangements for fatigue, changes to the regulation of vehicles standard and changes to the new work diary. Many of you also wanted to know when the new rule book would be in place, to which we could firmly answer from 1 September 2013.

In the weeks following the Truck Show, we noticed a significant increase in the number of subscribers to our newsletter and visits to our website. It's great to see more people taking a keen interest in the benefits that one national, independent heavy vehicle regulator will bring.



NHVR staff were on-hand to answer your questions at the show.



L-R: President of CVIAQ board, Bob Martin; NHVR CEO, Richard Hancock; Chair of the NHVR board, The Hon. Bruce Baird AM; Premier of Queensland, The Hon. Campbell Newman; CVIAQ CEO, Brett Wright.

## Improvements to NHVAS and PBS services

The NHVR has worked with industry and government to develop the next round of improvements to NHVAS and PBS services.

As we promised in May, we have worked together with industry and government to improve our forms and the submission process for NHVAS applications. We believe the following improvements, will make forms easier to complete and result in improved turn-around times for your applications.

### NHVAS improvements from 1 July 2013

- Form headings and fields updated to make them more consistent.
- Forms have additional comments to make it clearer what information you need in a field.
- Forms include an "operator's declaration" section.
- Third-parties are able to complete applications on behalf of an operator (except in NSW).
- A step-by-step guide to submitting an NHVAS application is available on the website. You choose the application type you want to undertake and the website will provide you a link to download all the necessary forms for completion.
- A new fact sheet outlining the inspection requirements to enter the Maintenance scheme for each jurisdiction.
- SA operators can now pay their application fees online (already available from 17 June 2013).

### New PBS blueprint and support tools

A new blueprint for PBS, together with a support tool and user guide is also available now from our website at [www.nhvr.gov.au/pbs-blueprints](http://www.nhvr.gov.au/pbs-blueprints). The 20m semi-trailer blueprint has been developed with extensive consultation with industry, to operate as a PBS Level 1 vehicle.

## NHVAS fee changes

From 1 July 2013, there will be a slight increase in NHVAS accreditation fees for New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria as part of an annual review of state fees and charges. The NHVR currently manages NHVAS services on behalf of states and territories, but does not set the fee schedule. The new accreditation fees can be viewed at [www.nhvr.gov.au/fees](http://www.nhvr.gov.au/fees).

From 1 July 2013, you must use the new forms available from our website to ensure your fees are calculated correctly and your application is processed without delay.

Once the Heavy Vehicle National Law commences from 1 September 2013, the NHVR will operate NHVAS under a single fee structure that will apply to accreditation fees for all jurisdictions. These fees have been agreed to by Australia's transport ministers and are set out in [Schedule 1 of the Heavy Vehicle \(General\) National Regulation 2013](#) which will also commence from 1 September 2013.

## New national driver's work diary

In partnership with the NHVR, the National Transport Commission (NTC) has updated the National Driver Work Diary to reflect the requirements contained within the new Heavy Vehicle (Fatigue Management) National Regulation 2013. This has been done in consultation with industry and government, including recent NHVR forums at the Brisbane Truck Show on 17 May 2013.

The new diary will have simplified daily sheets and advice on the fatigue laws. Under the new national work diary, drivers will record:

- their vehicle registration once a day or if their vehicle changes, rather than at every break
- the location and odometer reading at the start of a rest break, and not when finishing their rest break too
- their operator's Basic Fatigue Management (BFM) or Advanced Fatigue Management (AFM) accreditation number once in the diary (or again if it changes), rather than on every daily sheet.

Solo drivers are no longer required to record the state of territory where their licence was issued. A new optional comments section is also included to record information such as delays and notes made by authorised officers.

The NHVR will work with the states and territories to make sure the new work diary is available for sale nationwide from 1 September 2013, from the same places that you currently buy your work diary (subject to agreements being finalised with state and territory governments).

You will still be able to use your current work diary for up to six months after the national law and regulations commence from 1 September 2013.

After that period, you must use the new work diary.



Image supplied by VicRoads

## More flexibility for Advanced Fatigue Management

The NHVR has partnered with industry fatigue experts to develop a new approach to Advanced Fatigue Management (AFM) known as the Risk Classification System (RCS). Currently, applicants to AFM develop their application based on worst-case scenarios using pre-determined outer limits.

Under the RCS, operators assess their proposed work schedule for fatigue risk against seven fatigue management principles. Operators can submit work schedules with higher risk potential (such as longer or more frequent shifts) that are mitigated by lower risk countermeasures (for example, increased work breaks).

The NHVR will create templates and an online tool to help operators and drivers complete their AFM application. This should mean less time and money spent on developing and gaining approval for a proposed work schedule.

Current AFM participants won't have to re-apply for AFM when the new system is introduced. We will contact existing AFM operators directly to agree individual transitional plans with them.



Image supplied by Tim Giles

## States moving to enact new national law

In May and June, there was significant progress in passing national heavy vehicle legislation in several states.

The Queensland Parliament has already passed the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL) Amendment Bill 2012 (Qld) on 14 February 2013. The [Heavy Vehicle National Law Act 2012 \(Qld\)](#) can be viewed on the Office of the Queensland Parliamentary Counsel website.

- On 2 May 2013, the Heavy Vehicle National Law (South Australia) Bill 2013 and the Statutes Amendment (Heavy Vehicle National Law) Bill 2013 were introduced in the House of Assembly in South Australia.
- On 28 May 2013, the *Heavy Vehicle National Law Application Act 2013* (Vic) passed through the Legislative Council in Victoria and was assented to by the Governor on 4 June 2013.
- The *Heavy Vehicle (Adoption of National Law) Act 2013* (NSW) was passed by the NSW Legislative Council on 18 June 2013 and by the Legislative Assembly on 19 June 2013. The Act was assented to by the NSW Governor on 25 June 2013.
- On 25 June 2013, the Heavy Vehicle National Law (Tasmania) Bill 2013 was introduced to the Tasmanian House of Assembly. The Bill was passed by the House on 27 June 2013 and introduced to the Legislative Council on the same day.

This means that every participating state has now enacted or introduced laws that will establish the Regulator's ongoing national role and legal powers. In addition to passing the HVNL, states and territories agreed to four regulations made under the new national law.

The regulations were made by the Queensland Governor following unanimous approval by state and territory transport ministers and will commence at the same time as the HVNL. The regulations were first published on the NSW Legislation website on 31 May 2013, and are also available on the Office of the Queensland Parliamentary Counsel website.

- [Heavy Vehicle \(Vehicle Standards\) National Regulation 2013](#)
- [Heavy Vehicle \(Mass, Dimension and Loading\) National Regulation 2013](#)
- [Heavy Vehicle \(Fatigue Management\) National Regulation 2013](#)
- [Heavy Vehicle \(General\) National Regulation 2013](#)

Once all participating states and territories have passed their enabling legislation, Australia's transport ministers have agreed that the Heavy Vehicle National Law will commence from 1 September 2013.

The NHVR will continue to work with state and territory governments to prepare for the commencement of the new national law, including an industry information and education campaign to ensure industry operators understand any changes to their day-to-day business practice.

## NHVR on the road

### 5 July

- **Big Rigs Online Forum**

### 10 August

#### Victoria

- **2013 Annual Conference**  
Livestock Transporters Association of Victoria incorporating Rural Carriers, Victoria

### 15-16 August

#### Sydney

- **Steel Transport Safety Network Conference**  
Steel Transport Safety Network

### 29-30 August

#### Brisbane

- **Queensland Supply Chain and Logistics Conference**  
Supply Chain and Logistics Association Australia

### 29-31 August

#### Darwin

- **Annual Conference**  
NatRoad

## Did you like this newsletter?

Feel free to pass it on to friends and colleagues in the industry. Encourage them to sign-up too!

Visit [www.nhvr.gov.au/ontheroad](http://www.nhvr.gov.au/ontheroad)

## For more information

- tel** 1300 MYNHVR (1300 696 487)  
7.00am – 7.00pm  
Standard 1300 call charges apply.  
Please check with your phone provider.
- fax** 07 3309 8777
- post** National Heavy Vehicle Regulator  
PO Box 492  
Fortitude Valley QLD 4006
- visit** Level 9 Green Square North Tower  
515 St Pauls Terrace  
Fortitude Valley QLD 4006
- email** [info@nhvr.gov.au](mailto:info@nhvr.gov.au)
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