



On the Road

Issue 4 | 26 September 2013

Revised start date for new law to be confirmed soon

The NHVR Board recently advised Australia's Transport Ministers that the start date for the Heavy Vehicle National Law needs to move from 1 September 2013, due to the need for more testing of the NHVR's critical IT system for access permits.



The NHVR Board wanted more preparatory work done in areas such as user acceptance, training and support for local government. A start date for the national law will be confirmed shortly.

Once the new NHVR systems are ready to roll, the new rule book will apply in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia. The NHVR will deal with an expected 100,000 access permit applications each year, as well taking on responsibility for laws relating to vehicle standards, fatigue management and chain of responsibility.

Until the new start date, though, it's business as usual for the current services provided by the NHVR and other jurisdictional agencies. The NHVR will continue to manage NHVAS accreditation and PBS design and vehicle approvals. State and territory road transport authorities will continue to administer all other road transport business with government.

For the latest updates on the state date for the new law, visit www.nhvr.gov.au, or to stay up to date with the latest, visit the 'service counter' on our website and subscribe to this newsletter at www.nhvr.gov.au/subscribe.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact our national Contact Centre on 1300 MYNHVR (1300 696 487) or email info@nhvr.gov.au.

Richard Hancock
Chief Executive Officer

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Join us online at our local government webinar

Join us online for the next NHVR webinar devoted solely to local government and their new statutory role as road managers under the Heavy Vehicle National Law. Hear local government representatives put the key issues to NHVR staff and have your questions answered live online on **Friday, 27 September from 10:00 – 11:00am**.

'Webinar' is short for web-based seminar, a presentation that is transmitted over the web. Webinars are interactive – you can view and listen, share the link with others or participate by sending in questions or making comments.

To view and listen live, visit www.nhvr.gov.au on 27 September from 10:00 – 11:00am and click through from the front page. You can submit questions before and during the webinar to webinar@nhvr.gov.au and we'll do our best to answer them live.

Responses to questions not answered on the day will be posted later on the NHVR website.

If you can't view the live stream on the day, we will also upload the webinar sessions to www.nhvr.gov.au, so you can watch at your leisure.

New national driver work diary to be introduced with Heavy Vehicle National Law

An updated and improved national driver work diary will be available when the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL) commences. Until that time, heavy vehicle operators and drivers should continue to use the current national driver work diary.

When the start date for the new national law and regulations is confirmed, the new work diaries will be used in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. Tasmania will commence the national laws, but provisions dealing with fatigue and work diaries will not commence until six months later.

The new work diary is easier to fill out, and includes more detailed advice on fatigue laws and guidance on how to count time. This helps to ensure that a driver's focus can be on managing their fatigue.

It will be available for sale for \$20 at the same places where you currently buy your work diary.

Once the national law commences, all drivers of fatigue-regulated heavy vehicles must complete a work diary if they:

- › drive 100km or more from the driver's base or
- › operate under Basic Fatigue Management or Advanced Fatigue Management (even when driving less than 100km).

Some drivers or some states and territories may have special exemptions from completing a work diary.

Under the new work diary:

- › drivers only have to record their vehicle registration once a day or if their vehicle changes, rather than at every break.
- › drivers only have to record the location and odometer reading at the start of a rest break, unless the location or odometer reading has changed during the break.
- › drivers only have to record 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 no longer have 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 following information clarifies how work diaries will operate in each state and territory, and across borders.



Queensland

- › Under the national law, the Queensland limit for local area work under standard hours has been lowered from 200km to 100km, bringing it into line with other participating jurisdictions.
- › When the national law commences, if you drive more than 100km from your home base using standard hours, you must use a work diary.

Tasmania

- › When the Heavy Vehicle National Law commences in Tasmania, provisions dealing with fatigue and work diaries will not commence until six months later. Current Tasmanian rules will remain in place until that time.
- › Drivers in Tasmania who purchase the new national work diary when the national law commences must complete the work diary according to the current Tasmanian legislation and not the new national law, unless travelling interstate.
- › If you travel to mainland states that have commenced the national law, you must use a work diary to record work and rest hours at all times if you are driving 100km or more.
- › Unless you have a record-keeping exemption permit, you will also need to complete a work diary if you are working under Basic Fatigue Management or Advanced Fatigue Management Accreditation.

Australian Capital Territory

- › The ACT has not previously legislated model fatigue laws. When the national law commences in the ACT, the new fatigue management and work diary requirements will not take effect immediately. A start date is currently under review.
- › As drivers of heavy vehicles located in the ACT regularly drive interstate, work diaries may be kept in accordance with the requirements of those other jurisdictions and as part of a fatigue risk management system.
- › Work diaries will continue to be available for purchase from the ACT's Road Transport Authority.

New national driver work diary to be introduced with Heavy Vehicle National Law cont.

New South Wales

- › In New South Wales only, drivers operating under BFM or AFM do not have to carry and complete a work diary if driving less than 100km.

Northern Territory and Western Australia

- › The Northern Territory has not previously legislated model fatigue laws and has yet to confirm when the new national laws will commence.
- › If you are a driver in the Northern Territory or Western Australia, you don't have to use a work diary or similar unless you leave the state or territory. You may still use a work diary as part of your fatigue risk management system.
- › If you enter and stay within the Northern Territory or Western Australia for less than seven days, you should fill out the work diary for the entire period.
- › When leaving the Northern Territory or Western Australia after a stay of more than seven days, you must use the work diary from at least the last major rest break before crossing the border.

For more information, including details of where you can buy the new work diary, visit www.nhvr.gov.au/workdiary.



Planning trips online with the NHVR Journey Planner

Under the new national law, the NHVR will be responsible for issuing access permits, coordinating applications from start to finish and liaising with state and local government road managers for access decisions. Please note that the ACT and NT will implement the national law later than other participating states. In these territories, continue to liaise with your state and local government road authorities until the national law takes effect.

To help applicants and road managers alike, the NHVR will launch a new interactive online map service known as the NHVR Journey Planner. The Journey Planner will help applicants plan their journey and identify where a permit may be required, while road managers can use the Journey Planner to assess applications and suggest alternative routes.

Similar to Google maps, the NHVR Journey Planner will provide information on key national heavy vehicle routes, initially including:

- › B-double
- › Higher Mass Limits (HML)
- › Performance-Based Standards (PBS)
- › road trains
- › some commodity routes.

You will be able to enter your origin, waypoints, and destination and easily zoom in and out of the map. Your journey can then be compared and altered to suit the available routes, and saved and retrieved later.

In consultation with industry, we will continue to improve the available data so the Journey Planner becomes the single point of reference for gazetted heavy vehicle routes and conditions. While we're starting with key national routes, eventually we plan to include bridge restrictions, height restrictions and other details.

Industry webinar wrap-up

We would like to thank the 500-odd viewers (including one in Costa Rica!) who tuned in to our recent industry webinar on 16 August.

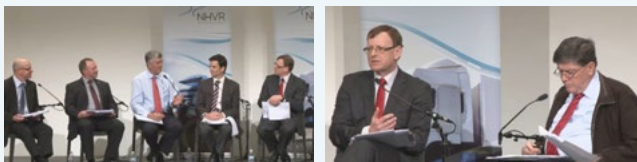
NHVR Board member and Queensland Trucking Association (QTA) CEO, Peter Garske, chaired the webinar panel, which comprised Queensland Bus Industry Council (QBIC) Executive Director, David Tape; Queensland Trucking Association Director, Tim Knowles; NHVR CEO, Richard Hancock; NHVR General Manager (Operations), Angus Draheim; and NHVR Manager (Applications Processing), Peter Caprioli.

More than 100 questions were received up to and during the webinar. We responded to a number of questions on the day, for the rest we're responding directly to those who emailed us and posting information on the NHVR website when settled.

If you missed the live-streamed event, you can access a recorded version by clicking on 'HVTV' on our home page or by visiting:

www.nhvr.gov.au/news-events/webcast-hv-tv.

We'll be hosting more webinars over the coming months. Keep an eye out for upcoming dates and topics or let us know what you would like covered in a webinar by emailing webinar@nhvr.gov.au.



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For more information and to subscribe to our RSS feeds visit www.nhvr.gov.au/rss.

NHVR on the road

8-11 October

Cairns

- › 2013 IPWEAQ State Conference, Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia, Queensland Division

27-30 October

Adelaide

- › Bus Industry Confederation Conference, Bus Industry Confederation

28-30 October

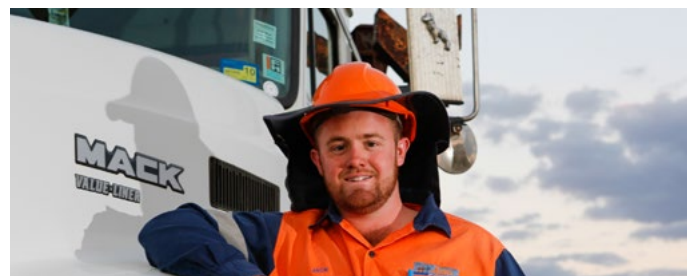
Melbourne

- › Technical and Maintenance Conference, Australian Trucking Association

12-14 November

Alice Springs

- › National Local Roads and Transport Congress, Australian Local Government Association



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