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Australian Road Transport
Industrial Organisation

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The Courier

Information and Advice for NSW Transport Operators

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Heavy Vehicle Safety – What do We Know and What Are Industry Leaders Calling For?

Heavy vehicle safety has featured prominently in the Sydney media this month with *The Sydney Morning Herald* running a series of articles and opinion pieces from industry leaders and academics. Interest was driven by two issues:

- A sharp increase in the number of fatalities in crashes involving articulated combinations in NSW in the year ending 31 December 2017 compared to the corresponding previous year.
- Three fatal crashes in the space of 24 hours on 15-16 January on NSW highways, all of which involved articulated combinations which left five dead, including three truck drivers.

What do we Know?

This is what we know.

Analysis of Fatalities Involving Heavy Vehicles – Latest Available Information

Source	Cohort	Jurisdiction	Year Ending	2016	2017	Variation %
BITRE ¹	All fatalities		31 December	1225	1293	-5.3

¹ Bureau of Industry, Transport and Regional Economics

	Articulated Trucks	National	30 September	109	121	11.0
		NSW		29	54	86.2
		Other Jurisdictions		80	67	-16.3
	Rigid Trucks	National	30 September	93	81	-12.9
		NSW		32	34	6.3
		Other Jurisdictions		61	47	23.0
	All Trucks	National	30 September	202	202	0.0
		NSW		61	88	44.26
		Other Jurisdictions		141	114	-23.7
NSW CRS ²	All fatalities		31 December	380	392	3.2

Conclusions and observations:

- Every road fatality is a personal tragedy for someone and a significant cost to our society and economy.
- The proportion of people killed on Australian roads in crashes involving articulated and heavy rigid trucks increased slightly. This is because the road toll has fallen.
- As the table above shows, the number of fatalities in crashes involving trucks is unchanged.
- The only jurisdiction to record an increase in fatalities in crashes involving trucks in the past 12 months was NSW.
- Since 2010 in Australia:
 - There was a significant fall in the number of fatal crashes involving articulated trucks from 2011 to 2013. Since then, there has been little change, however volatility is evident from one year to year another.
 - There was a very small increase in the number of fatal crashes involving rigid trucks to 2012. Since then, there has been little change, however, once again, volatility is evident from one year to year another.

What are Industry Leaders Calling For?

In an opinion article in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 12 January, ATA President, Geoff Crouch:

- Acknowledged industry and government need to do more in relation to road safety.
- Disputed claims by University of NSW academic, Ann Williamson that fatigue and driver remuneration are to blame on the basis they are not supported by the evidence. He said fatigue laws are the same in NSW as in most other states where the road toll involving heavy vehicles has fallen.
- Said:
 - Most fatal crashes involving trucks are multi-vehicle. In most instances, the truck driver is found not to be at fault.
 - We need better roads and better speed enforcement.
 - More effort is required to educate other drivers about sharing roads with trucks.
 - The industry supports new chain of responsibility legislation.
 - We need a better system for investigating fatal road crashes through the Australian Transport Safety Bureau

In an opinion article in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 18 January, Toll Group Managing Director, Michael Byrne:

- Said the sanctity of life comes before all else.
- Said the way we approach road safety and regulate trucks requires revolutionary change.
- Proposed:
 - The right rules including uniform laws relating to alcohol limits and driving hours in all States and Territories.
 - A greater role for technology including mandatory installation of black boxes in all new trucks.
 - To make it easier and cheaper to replace old trucks.
 - That 'cowboys' be kicked out of the industry.
 - The creation of a national licensing system to hold managers and drivers accountable.
 - Improved public education of other road users about the limitations of trucks in relation to turning, braking and the need to give trucks space and to be patient.

Premier Announces Increased Penalties for Drug Driving and More Roadside Drug Testing

Adapted from joint media release, Premier Gladys Berejiklian, and Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, Melinda Pavey, 15 January, 2018

² NSW Centre for Road Safety

The Premier, Gladys Berejiklian has announced that the NSW Government will crack down on drug drivers by strengthening laws and boosting roadside drug testing. She said more action was needed to boost road safety after 392 people lost their lives on NSW roads in 2017.

Ms Berejiklian said preliminary data shows that drug affected drivers were a major contributing factor in 36 fatal accidents in the first half of 2017, resulting in 42 deaths. The measures announced today include:

- Doubling the number of roadside drug tests from 100,000 a year to 200,000 a year by 2020.
- Adding cocaine to the list of drugs subject to roadside testing.
- Increasing maximum penalties for drug drivers to two years imprisonment, fines of \$5,500 and/or licence disqualification for up to five years, equivalent to high range drink driving.
- Providing for appropriate restrictions on people who drive after using other drugs, in consultation with health experts.

Ms Berejiklian said the NSW Government will be seeking advice from police and road safety and medical experts on appropriate restrictions to ensure that drivers are not impaired and a risk to others on the road.

Minister for Roads Melinda Pavey said that driving under the influence of drugs has emerged as a significant factor in our road toll, along with speeding and fatigue.

She said that drug affected drivers were a major contributing factor in 231 fatal crashes from 2012 to 2016, resulting in 250 deaths.

“We know that speeding, drink driving, driver distraction, and fatigue also play a major role in deaths on our roads. We will be making further announcements in coming weeks to address these issues while continuing our investment in road infrastructure,” Ms Pavey said.

NHVR to Fast Track Provision of Practical Tools for Road Transport Operators

Adapted from media release National Heavy Vehicle Regulator, 17 January 2018

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator has announced that it will fast-track safety tools and an education campaign to assist heavy vehicle operators implement Safety Management Systems in response to a spate of serious heavy vehicle crashes.

NHVR CEO, Sal Petrocitto said the NHVR will release a range of guidance and support tools in the coming months to assist heavy vehicle operators to improve safety and also help them meet new Chain of Responsibility laws, which he said will be introduced in the middle of 2018.

“These new laws will require the entire heavy vehicle supply chain to take responsibility for heavy vehicle safety,” Mr Petrocitto said.

He said operators are also responsible for ensuring their vehicles are roadworthy and therefore safe to travel.

The latest heavy vehicle safety resources are available at the NHVR website, www.nhvr.gov.au/resources/publications.

Icare, Employers Mutual, Announce Changes to Workers' Compensation Claims Management

icare has announced that from 1 January 2018 all new workers' compensation claims will be managed on icare's behalf by a single claims service provider, Employers Mutual Limited (EML). icare says it is committed to making the workers' compensation scheme fairer, more sustainable and more customer focussed.

Changes include the development of a new online injury notification form available from either the icare or EML websites. icare says that under these new arrangements, any supporting documents for lodgement with any claim can be uploaded with the claim.

Further information on claims lodgement is available from:

- icare: <https://www.icare.nsw.gov.au/employers/make-a-claim/report-an-incident-or-injury>.
- EML: https://www.eml.com.au/media/1155/winsw_workers-injury-claim-form-mar2017_edited.pdf.

According to icare, claims can still be managed by telephone, email to newclaims@eml.com.au, or by post.

SafeWork NSW Launches Consultation@Work Toolkit

Adapted from media release, SafeWork NSW, 12 January 2018

SafeWork NSW has launched a one stop shop online toolkit designed to help improve work health and safety consultation practices in NSW workplaces.

SafeWork NSW Executive Director Peter Dunphy said the Consultation@Work toolkit provides a wealth of practical information which will assist NSW businesses to comply with work health and safety laws and through effective consultation ensure their businesses are healthy, safe and more productive.

Mr Dunphy said the toolkit includes videos, fact sheets and other material on consultation arrangements, work groups, case studies and dispute resolution, as well as targeted information for health and safety representatives.

He said the toolkit is a 'one stop shop' for workplace consultation information which will make it easier for NSW workplaces to improve consultation within their workplaces by providing clarity on what good consultation looks like.

Mr Dunphy said the toolkit is full of useful tips on issues such as how to begin conversations to help identify possible work health and safety hazards and risks; coming up with practical solutions; and then communicating them efficiently across an organisation.

He said all NSW workplaces have a legal obligation to consult with workers and this toolkit centrally locates material designed to help them develop better consultation practices.

Mr Dunphy said it provides advice on the benefits of establishing a health and safety committee and representative, or other agreed workplace arrangements.

The toolkit is available at www.safework.nsw.gov.au/health-and-safety/consultation-@-work.

He said content suggestions can be sent to Safe Work via email to consultation@safework.nsw.gov.au.

Transport Certification Australia Releases Updated In-Vehicle Unit Specification

Adapted from media release, Transport Certification Australia, 24 January 2018

Transport Certification Australia has released an update to the *Telematics In-Vehicle Unit (IVU) Functional and Technical Specification* according to TCA Chief Executive Officer, Chris Konidistiotis.

Mr Konidistiotis said the updated Specification reflects changes in national and international standards, industry feedback and the growing number of apps supported by Telematics IVUs."

He said that telematics IVUs are increasingly being used as a technical and communications 'hub' within a vehicle, which connect and support multiple systems and driver devices.

Mr Konidistiotis said the Specification can be used across transport modes, supports multiple uses (consistent ISO 15638/TARV) enables interoperability which means end-users don't need to install separate, stand-alone devices to perform individual functions, thus significantly reducing costs.

He said that the Specification meets the requirements of regulatory telematics apps which can improve productivity and safety.

Mr Konidistiotis said that TCA is happy to assist purchasers and end-users with any queries related to the Specification, or in comparing different IVU types.

A copy of the Specification can be obtained from www.tca.gov.au.

Linfox Seeks Road-User Charge Exemption for Toll Road Use

Media reports indicate that Linfox has taken the Australian Taxation Office to the Federal Court in relation to claims its trucks are being overcharged when travelling on toll roads. The Road-User Charge is offset against fuel tax credits and is collected to pay for the construction and maintenance of public roads.

Linfox contends that toll roads are private and that the Road-User Charge should not be payable

A Linfox spokesman said '(c)urrently, a Linfox truck travelling on a toll road pays the road-user charge for this journey even though the toll-road repairs are not funded by the government'.

'The Commissioner of Taxation takes the view that a toll road is a 'public road' for the purposes of applying the road-user charge. Linfox is contending that the M2 toll road in NSW does not meet the description 'public road' and therefore we have been incorrectly reducing the amount of fuel tax credits we have been entitled to.'

Deloitte tax partner, Jon Graham, who is representing Linfox in this matter said attempts were made to resolve this matter out of court but 'in the end it was considered a significant point requiring a test case'.

The Linfox spokesman said that '(w)e have worked with the Commissioner of Taxation on this issue. In these discussions it was agreed that a court judgement was the best way to clarify this issue'.

Mr Graham said this case can also be expected to provide clarity on other roads, including rest areas, some roads at airports and shopping centres.

NHVR Streamlines PBS Applications

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator has announced reforms to its pre-design approval process for Performance Based Standards pre-advised design approval applications. NHVR Chief Engineer, Les Brusza, said these reforms, which cover PBS applications for A-Doubles, B-Doubles and semi-trailer combinations, will be added to the PBS pre-advised design approval process and will substantially reduce process application times.

NHVR Webinars

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator has announced that it will conduct a webinar on 13 February which will cover:

- How to manage your NHVR Portal account.
- Setting up your account.
- Managing Users and User Roles.
- Updating account information.
- Managing account approval settings.

To register, please visit: <http://bit.ly/2DEOWEv>.

An earlier webinar dealing with the process of following an application from start to finish is available from <https://help.nhvr.gov.au/cmp4/help-centre-customer>.

Infrastructure Update

Significant infrastructure milestones achieved since 1 January include the introduction of extended clearways, weather permitting, are proposed on:

- Cleveland St from City Rd, Camperdown to South Dowling St, Moore Park, from 6am to 7pm every day from Monday 12 February.
- Cleveland St from South Dowling St, Moore Park to Anzac Pde, Moore Park, clearways will operate at all times from Monday 12 February.

Gold Coast Commonwealth Games: Queen's Baton Relay – Planned Road Closures

The following roads are scheduled for closure due to the Queen's Baton Relay in early February:

Suburb/Town	Road	Date	Closing/Opening Times
Armidale	Barney St	1/2/18	9.20am-10.20am
Bellingen	Waterfall Way	1/2/18	1.45pm-2.45pm
Coffs Harbour	Harbour Dr, Jordan Esp, Marine Dr	1/2/18	4.15pm-5.30pm
Macksville	Wallace St, Cooper St (Old Pacific Hwy)	2/2/18	8.45am-10.30am
Kempsey	Smith St	2/2/18	11.45am-1.15pm
Forster-Tuncurry	Manning St, Wallis St, head St, Oyster Pde	2/2/18	4.25pm-5.30pm
Newcastle	Honeysuckle Dr, Workshop Way, Shortland Esp, Nobby's Hill, Reserve Rd, High St, Memorial Dr	3/2/18	7.45am-9.15am
Gosford	Central Coast Hwy from Mann's St to Dane Dr	3/2/18	Midday-12.20pm
Wollongong	Cliff Rd, Endeavour Dr, Flagstaff Hill, Marine Dr, Crown St east of Church St	5/2/18	10.45am-11.45am
Kiama	Terralong St from Havilah Pl to Manning St	5/2/18	1pm-2pm
Nowra	Fairway Dr, Ben's Walk, Kinghorne St, Wooridgee St, Berry St, Graham St	5/2/18	4.30pm-5.30pm

In addition to the routes nominated above, adjacent streets may also be closed.

Road Works Update

The following road works may impact your operations:

Suburb/Town	Road	Date/s	Work Times
Alexandria	Changed traffic conditions on Euston Rd between Sydney Park Rd and Maddox St. Lanes closed in and road closure at Maddox St. Detour via Huntley St and Bourke Rd. No parking northbound.	Till mid-2018	
Auburn	Parramatta Rd from Duck St to Harbord St	14/12-22/12/17 7/1-29/3/18	9pm-5am Sun-Fri
Banksmeadow	Botany Rd from Stephen Rd to Foreshore Rd	26/11/17-2/3/18	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Caringbah	Intersection Captain Cook Dr, Taren Point Rd and The Boulevarde	14/12-22/12/17 7/1-4/3/18	9pm-5am Sun-Fri
Carlingford-Epping	Carlingford Rd from Pennant Hills Rd to Beecroft Rd	22/1/18-4/2/18	8pm-5am Mon-Sun
Fairfield	Woodville Rd from Fairfield St to Minmai Rd	7/1/18-13/4/18	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Foxground-Berry	Princes Hay from Toolijooa Rd to Hitchcock la	Till 1/6/18	7am-6pm Mon-Fri 8am-1pm Sat
Homebush-Haberfield	Various locations on Parramatta Rd. Includes lane closures and road closures at some intersections.	Till early 2019	
Maroubra	Anzac Pde	5/2/18-19/2/18	8pm-5am Sun-Fri 7am-5pm Mon-Fri

Mascot	Gardeners Rd from Kent Rd to O’Riordan St. Gardeners Rd, eastbound traffic reduced to one lane between Kent Rd and O’Riordan St. One left hand turning lane from Gardeners Rd onto Bourke Rd eastbound will remain open. Right hand turn from Gardeners Rd westbound onto Bourke Rd removed. Drivers can turn right at O’Riordan St to access Bourke Rd. Access to all nearby businesses will be maintained during the works.	Till early 2020	
Mascot/Botany – Airport East project	Botany Rd, Mill Pond Dr, Wentworth Ave, Hardie St, Beresford St, General Holmes Dr and Joyce Dr	Ongoing	7am-6pm Mon-Fri 8am-1pm Sat 9am-5pm 5 nights/week 1pm-6pm Sat – new rail bridge site near Botany Rd only
Matraville	Intersection Bunnerong Rd, Franklin St and Perry St	18/1/18-20/2/18	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Mooney Mooney	M1 Pacific Motorway northbound from Calga Interchange to Somersby Interchange – detour via Peats Ridge Rd. 20km/h speed limit in place for heavy vehicles descending to Mooney Mooney Creek Bridge.	5-6/2/18	overnight
Newtown	King St from Enmore Rd to Sydney Park Rd.	15/1/18-27/6/18	9pm-5am Sun-Fri Generally Mon and Tue.
Revesby Heights	Henry Lawson Dr, over Little Salt Pan Creek	30/1/18-31/7/18	7am-6pm Mon-Fri 8am-1pm Sat
Roseville	Boundary St Babbage Rd and Warringah Rd between Pacific Hwy and Roseville Bridge,	22/1/18-4/2/18	8pm-5am Mon-Sun
Rozelle-Drummoyne	Victoria Rd from Cary St to The Crescent	26/11/17-2/3/18	9pm-5am Sun-Fri
Tuggerah-Doyalson	M1 Pacific Motorway northbound from Tuggerah to Doyalson at Wyong River. Heavy vehicles should follow road signs and remain in the left lane. Both lanes will provide easy access to the northbound Service Centre. Speed limit 80 km/h.	30/1/18-28/3/18	
Warrimoo	Great Western Hwy from Greens Rd to Wilson Way	21/2/18-2/5/28	9pm-5am Sun-Fri
Wentworthville	Jersey Rd (Cumberland Hwy) M4 overpass.	31/1/18-14/3/18	9pm-5am Sun-Fri
Woolooware	Kingsway from Gannons Rd to Trickett Rd	7/1/18-2/2/18	9pm-5am

Roadworks Update: Access Advice for Oversize/Overmass Operators

M1 Pacific Motorway – Tuggerah to Doyalson

Roads and Maritime have advised that OSOM vehicles wishing to use the M1 Pacific Motorway northbound between Tuggerah and Doyalson need to notify the construction project team at least 10 days before the proposed travel by telephoning 1800 841778 and following the prompts.

ARTIO NSW Events

ARTIO NSW will hold the following events in February:

- Tuesday, 13 February – Breakfast Briefing, Breakfast Point Country Club, 72 Village Dr, Breakfast Point – *Rollovers – Some Facts, Myths and Risk Management Strategies*, Guest Speaker, Mike Robertson, Managing Director, Engistics. 7.30am-9am.
- Tuesday, 27 February – Echelon Room, Pullman Hotel, Olympic Blvd, Olympic Park, *The Future of Transportation Work*, Dr. Jim Stanford, The Australia Institute. Networking drinks and canapés

from 5.00pm, followed by the seminar at 6.00 - 7.30pm.

Further information is available from the ARTIO NSW secretariat, contact Hugh McMaster, tel: 0412 880861, email; hughmc@artionsw.com.au

TWUSuper Employer News, January 2018

Less than 6 months to go: Single Touch Payroll

Single Touch Payroll is a new Government reporting requirement that comes into effect from 1 July 2018 for employers with 20 or more employees. It will affect:

- salaries and wages
- PAYG withholding
- superannuation

These payments will need to be reported to the ATO from an employer's payroll solution at the same time that employees are paid. TWUSUPER is on hand to walk you through the changes as more information becomes available - see twusuper.com.au/payroll

You can also stay up to date by following us on LinkedIn for updates at [linkedin.com/company/twusuper](https://www.linkedin.com/company/twusuper)

TWU Nominees Pty Ltd ABN 67 002 835 412, AFSL 239163, is the trustee of TWUSUPER ABN 77 343 563 307 and the issuer of interests in it.

2018 deadlines for Super Guarantee

The Super Guarantee (at least 9.5% for most employees) should be paid at least quarterly. If payments are not made by the legislated deadline, an additional charge could be applied by the ATO.

Super Guarantee due dates:

- 28 January (for quarter ending 31 December)
- 28 April (for quarter ending 31 March)
- 28 July (for quarter ending 30 June)
- 28 October (for quarter ending 30 September)

If you have any queries about super payments please call us on **1800 241 877** from 8am to 8pm (AEST/AEDT) weekdays.

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Economic and Industry Indicators

Indicator/Source ³	As at	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Annual % Variation
GDP latest quarter (ABS)	Sep Qtr 2017	\$m	430,571	2.4
CPI (ABS)	Sept Qtr 2017	Per cent		1.8
Cash rate (RBA)	Current	Per cent	1.5	

³ ABS – Australian Bureau of Statistics; RBA – Reserve Bank of Australia; AIP – Australian Institute of Petroleum; TIC – Truck Industry Council/'Prime Mover' latest issue.

Estimated Residential Population (ABS)	31 Jan 2018	Million	24,815	1.9
Retail Turnover (ABS)	Nov 2017	\$m	26,042	1.7
Actual New Capital Expenditure (ABS)	Sep Qtr 2017	\$m	29,363	2.1
Inventories held by private business (ABS)	Sep 2017	\$m	156,946	1.5
Dwelling unit approvals (ABS)	Nov 2017	Number	19,359	8.1
Manufacturers Income (ABS)	Sep 2017	\$m	81,854	0.1
TEUs Port Botany (NSW Ports)	6 months ending Dec 2017	Number	1,344,388	8.7
Employed persons (ABS)	Dec 2017	Million	12.419	3.3
Unemployment rate(ABS)	Dec 2017	Percentage	5.4	-0.3
Wage Price Index (ABS)	Sept Qtr 2017	Per cent		
All employees				2.0
Transport, postal and warehousing				1.8
New motor vehicle sales (ABS)	Dec 2017	Number	99,756	2.8
Cab Chassis/Prime Mover Sales (TIC)	10 months ending Oct 2017	Number	24,831	10.7
Vans (TIC)	10 months ending Oct 2017	Number	4,873	8.1
AIP Terminal Gate Price-Diesel-Sydney	31 Jan 2018	Cents/litre incl. GST	126.2	

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