



**ARTIO**

Australian Road Transport  
Industrial Organisation

**New South Wales Branch**

PO Box 277  
HURSTVILLE NSW 2220  
Mob: 0412 880861  
Fax: 02 9579 2333  
Email: hughmc@artionsw.com.au  
ABN: 93149961882

# *The Courier*

*Information and Advice for NSW Transport Operators*

**Newsletter Vol. 3 No. 8: 31 July 2017**

## **Contents**

1. Reasonable Travel and Overtime Meal Allowance Expense Amounts: ARTIO Seeks Urgent Meeting with the ATO
2. Tolls to Apply on Upgraded Section of Western Motorway from 15 August
3. Infrastructure Update
4. Third Edition of NSW Centre for Road Safety's Safety Technologies for Heavy Vehicles and Combinations Released
5. Changes to Identity Requirements for Applicants for a Maritime, Aviation Security Identity Card
6. Annual Inflation Rate Again Under 2 Percent
7. SafeWork NSW Releases New Video – Working Safely with Conveyors
8. SafeWork NSW WHS Roadmap for NSW 2022 Update
9. NHVR Releases Table of Common Heavy Truck Combinations
10. NSW Ports, Goodman Group, Announce Plans to Develop Enfield Intermodal Logistics Centre
11. ACT Heavy Vehicle Permit Processing Handed Back to the NHVR
12. TCA to Host International Weigh-in-Motion Forum in Brisbane in September
13. NHVR Releases Updated Heavy Vehicle Modification Standards
14. Truck Driver in Breach of Road Rules Fails to Win Job Back
15. ACCC Urges Business to Prepare for Ban on Excessive Payment Surcharges
16. NTC Seeks Input on Proposed Amendments to Road Rules
17. Self-Clearing Notices to Improve Efficiency and Reduce Compliance Burden
18. Approval Given for BAB and ABB Quads to Operate North from North Bourke
19. NHVR, RMS, Agree on Further Extension of Roller Brake Testing Transition
20. TWUSUPER Super News July 2017
21. Economic and Industry Indicators

---

## **Reasonable Travel and Overtime Meal Allowance Expense Amounts: ARTIO Seeks Urgent Meeting with the ATO**

---

ARTIO has written to the Australian Taxation Office seeking an urgent meeting to discuss the reasonable amount a truck driver, whether employed or an owner-driver, can claim for travel and overtime meal allowance expenses without substantiation. In response to ARTIO's meeting request, an ATO official has contacted the ARTIO secretariat with the intention of arranging a meeting to discuss this issue.

On 3 July, the ATO issued Taxation Determination, TD2017/19, which stated that the reasonable amount a truck driver may claim without substantiation has been reduced to \$55.30, compared to \$97.40 in 2016-17. ARTIO has advised the ATO that this Taxation Determination was made without consultation with ARTIO, nor it seems any other representative Industry Associations.

ARTIO has also expressed concern that employers covered by Enterprise Bargaining Agreements approved by the Fair Work Commission which specify amounts payable in these circumstances may be in breach of their legal obligations as a result of the ATO's view on what is a reasonable amount to allow a truck driver to claim for meal and incidental expenses.

Members will be kept informed of developments.

---

## **Tolls to Apply on Upgraded Section of Western Motorway from 15 August**

---

The first stages of WestConnex between Homebush Bay Dr, Homebush Bay and Church St, Parramatta on the Western Motorway are now open. An on ramp from Hill Rd, Lidcombe is also now open. A toll-free period is in place on this upgraded section of the Western Motorway.

WestConnex has announced that tolls will be reintroduced on this completed stage on 15 August.

Tolls will vary according to distance travelled on this section of the motorway. For heavy vehicles, the toll will vary from \$5.30 to \$13.67. For light vehicles, the toll will vary from \$1.77 to \$4.56.

Further information is available from the WestConnex website [here](#).

---

## **Infrastructure Update**

---

Aside from the opening of the first sections of WestConnex this month, a number of significant infrastructure milestones were also achieved during July, including:

- The opening of the 12.5km by-pass of Berry, although further work will be required to complete duplication.
  - Work has commenced on the construction of a new bridge and associated road works between Echuca and Moama.
  - A new westbound lane is now open at Marsh St, Arncliffe between the International Terminal at Sydney Airport and Flora St.
  - Completion of improvements to the Great Western Highway between the bottom of Victoria Pass and River Lett Hill.
- 

## **Third Edition of the NSW Centre for Road Safety's Safety Technologies for Heavy Vehicles and Combinations Released**

---

### ***Transport for NSW media release, 28 July 2017***

The third edition of the NSW Centre for Road Safety's Safety Technologies for Heavy Vehicles and Combinations has been released and is now available to the industry.

The new edition includes details on nine new technologies - autonomous reverse braking; anti jack-knife braking; wheel nuts; emergency stop lights; seat belts in buses; rollover side curtain airbags; tipper safety systems; fresnel lens and mirrors.

Centre for Road Safety Executive Director Bernard Carlon said the adoption of new technologies and more modern vehicles will mean improved safety for drivers and a safer and more productive road environment for all.

“New higher productivity vehicles such as A-doubles often already use many of these safety technologies,” Mr Carlon said.

“Although the size of these vehicles mean less trips are needed to move the same amount of freight, heavy vehicle safety remains a serious issue in NSW.”

“Heavy vehicles are involved in around 18% of all road fatalities despite only making up 2.4% of registered vehicles on the roads.”

“From 2008 to 2016 while the overall road toll in NSW has been trending downwards, the number of heavy vehicle involved in fatalities has remained unchanged.

“Despite these figures, it’s important to remember that this does not mean heavy vehicles are always the vehicle at fault, however their size and mass make any crash a serious one.”

“The new technologies featured in this latest edition have the potential to save lives - for example, research suggests that Autonomous Emergency Braking can prevent around 25% of fatal heavy vehicle crashes.

“More than half of those featured can be retrofitted, and while some come at a cost, most are very inexpensive and practical to install.”

“Many also have the additional bonus of improving driver and passenger comfort.”

“Operators also benefit from these enhanced technologies – vehicles that are safer, easier to operate and more comfortable, help attract and keep drivers.”

“These technologies can help to reduce road trauma – so when you’re purchasing your next heavy vehicle or making after-market improvements, consider your safety and that of other road users – new technologies may save a life,” Mr Carlon said.

Printed copies of the publication have been distributed to key heavy vehicle industry bodies.

Free copies can also be ordered through the Centre for Road Safety’s online product catalogue at <http://roadsafetytransport.nsw.gov.au/aboutthecentre/resources/index.html>.

---

## **Changes to Identity Requirements for Applicants for a Maritime, Aviation Security Identification Card**

---

The Commonwealth Department of Transport and Infrastructure has announced changes to the verification of identity requirements when applying for a Maritime Security Identification Card or an Aviation Security Identification Card after 1 August 2017.

Members who undertake work in secure precincts of ports and airports who require further information can do so on the Department of Transport and Infrastructure’s website [here](#).

---

## **Annual Inflation Rate Again Under 2 Percent**

---

Australia’s annual inflation rate as measured by the Consumer Price Index for the year ending 30 June 2017 has fallen to 1.9 percent, compared to 2.1 per cent for the year ending 31 March 2017.

The CPI for the June 2107 quarter rose by only 0.2 percent, which again dragged inflation below the Reserve Bank of Australia's target range of between 2 and 3 percent.

The transport cost index fell 0.6 percent in June, although it rose by 2.1 percent in the 12 months to 30 June.

The lower rate of inflation in the year ending 30 June 2017 compared to the year ending 31 March 2017 means the chances of an increase in official interest rates are probably lower.

---

## **SafeWork NSW Releases New Video – Working Safely with Conveyors**

---

SafeWork NSW has released a new video safety alert [Working safely with conveyors](#). This follows a number of incidents involving moving conveyors.

This short video is aimed at reducing injuries in the workplace by demonstrating basic measures that any workplace can take.

---

## **SafeWork NSW WHS Roadmap for NSW 2022 Update**

---

SafeWork NSW has provided ARTIO NSW with an update on progress with the implementation of the Workplace Health and Safety Roadmap for NSW 2022. Issues which may be of interest to Members include:

- SafeWork's very first smart phone app 'SAFE App' is now available to download for Android or Apple devices. Users can utilise the free app to create a safety team, raise safety issues, discuss problems and resolve issues along with attaching photos. The app can be downloaded [here](#)
- SafeWork NSW's [Get Healthy@Work](#) team are continuing to promote the free confidential "Brief Health Checks" at business breakfasts. The checks aim to help improve the health of working adults by providing workplaces with tools, resources and support to develop simple yet effective workplace health programs.
- The development by SafeWork NSW of customer service standards for *Enforceable Undertakings*, *Raising a WHS Concern*, *Notifying a WHS Incident*, as well as an *Investigation Factsheet*, which will provide clarity to employees and customers about service level expectations.
- SafeWork NSW has developed a digitised small business rebate form. This led to a 31% increase in customer uptake as a result. Next steps include building an online tracker for customers to self-monitor their application. This work will be reusable across any rebate initiative.

---

## **NHVR Releases Table of Common Heavy Truck Combinations**

---

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator has developed a table of 39 common heavy freight vehicle combinations used throughout Australia ranging from a two-axle rigid to an 18 axle ABB quad.

NHVR Harmonisation Manager, Matthew Bereni, said the table was created to provide a visual summary for industry, road managers and other road users, to contribute to a better understanding of the industry and a better understanding of compliance obligations in relation to access.

Vehicles are categorised into six groups based on access – general access rigid trucks, general access semi-trailer combinations, class 3 rigid truck and trailer combinations, class 2 B-Double combinations, class 2 type 1 road trains and class 2 type 1 road trains.

To download the chart or for more information please click [here](#).

---

## **NSW Ports, Goodman Group, Announce Plans to Develop Enfield Intermodal Logistics Centre**

---

*Adapted from joint NSW Ports and Goodman Group media release, 17 July 2017*

NSW Ports, custodian of the ports of Port Botany and Port Kembla, and industrial property company Goodman Group have jointly announced plans to develop NSW Ports' industrial estate at the Enfield Intermodal Logistics Centre.

The Enfield ILC is set on 60 hectares of industrial zoned land and encompasses the Enfield Intermodal Terminal empty container storage areas and 30 hectares of serviced industrial land which is ready for development.

NSW Ports CEO, Marika Calfas, said the 30-year Master Plan for their Enfield site is 'focussed on increasing the number of containers moved by rail to and from Port Botany'. Ms Calfas said that NSW Ports needed to ensure the Enfield ILC includes 'high quality warehouse and logistics facilities'.

Goodman Group General Manager Australia, Jason Little, said the 'key differentiator of this site to other warehouse and logistics facilities in Sydney is its proximity to the on-site intermodal facility and the dedicated freight rail line' which provides access to Port Botany as well as regional and interstate locations.

The Enfield ILC is also located close to the M4 and M5 motorways.

The joint venture partners said that the Enfield ILC will have 24/7 access and would be suitable for businesses with interests in logistics, freight forwarding, pack-unpack, import-export, transport and warehousing.

Pre-lease development sites ranging from 2,000 square metres to 70,000 square metres are available for delivery in 2018.

More information is available from Angela Diamond at NSW Ports, [angela.diamond@nswports.com.au](mailto:angela.diamond@nswports.com.au), Michelle Chaperon at Goodman Group, [michelle.chaperon@goodman.com](mailto:michelle.chaperon@goodman.com), or on the Goodman Group [website](#).

---

## **ACT Heavy Vehicle Permit Processing Handed Back to the NHVR**

---

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator has announced that Roads ACT has handed back to the NHVR responsibility for the processing of Class 3 permit applications for the ACT.

This means transport operators requiring a permit application in the ACT will need to lodge applications through the NHVR portal [here](#).

Further information is available from NHVR Project Director, Annette Finch via email, [Annette.finch@nhvr.gov.au](mailto:Annette.finch@nhvr.gov.au), or tel: 1300 696 487.

---

## **TCA to Host International Weigh-in-Motion Forum in Brisbane in September**

---

Transport Certification Australia has announced it is hosting the International Weigh-in-Motion forum in Brisbane on 11 and 12 September.

TCA says that the purpose of the forum is to progress the discussion and advancement of weigh-in-motion when applied in on-road and in-vehicle environments.

TCA CEO and President of the International Society for Weigh-in-Motion, Chris Konidistiotis, said “(w)e are very pleased with the number of speakers who have joined the program. We have road managers from across Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, plus end users of mass information all coming together to discuss these issues.’

TCA’s aim is to lead a collaborative effort to advance the use an application of weigh-in-motion.

Further information, including how to register for the forum is available [here](#).

---

## **NHVR Releases Updated Heavy Vehicle Modification Standards**

---

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator has released a new *Vehicle Standards Bulletin:6 National Code of Practice for Heavy Vehicle Modifications* (VSB6) which updates standards required of manufacturers and other parties responsible for undertaking modifications to heavy vehicles.

According to NHVR Manager Vehicle Safety and Performance, Peter Austin, VSB6 will be a user-friendly guide which will allow the NHVR to keep pace with the growth in technology while delivering a modern, national standard to heavy vehicle technology in all states and territories.

According to the NHVR, VSB6 will apply from 1 September 2017.

For more information please click [here](#).

---

## **Truck Driver in Breach of Road Rules Fails to Win Job Back**

---

***Adapted from article, ‘Workplace Express’ 12 July 2017***

A truck driver who drove a B-Triple at excessive speed on an unauthorised route has failed to win his job back after a hearing before the Fair Work Commission, despite evidence of more than 20 years’ unblemished service with his employer and an expression of genuine remorse.

Commissioner Platt said the driver created ‘significant risk’ to transport infrastructure and road users. He also said the driver endangered the employer’s compliance with the National Heavy Vehicle Law.

Commissioner Platt found that the driver, who had 1.5 hours of his maximum driving time left, decided against reconfiguring the combination and proceeded with the B-triple for the last 94km of the journey. This led the driver to exceed the 90km/h speed limit and drive on roads unsuited to a B-Triple and without the authority to do so.

*Greg McIntyre v Qube Logistics (SA) Pty Ltd (2017) FWC 3667*

---

## **ACCC Urges Business to Prepare for Ban on Excessive Payment Surcharges**

---

***Adapted from ACCC media release, 3 July 2017***

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has urged small business owners to prepare for the impending ban on excessive payment surcharges which takes effect on 1 September.

The ban applies to debit and prepaid EFTPOS transactions, credit, debit and prepaid transactions using Visa or MasterCard and transactions using American Express cards. The ban took effect for large businesses last year.

'Businesses can only pass on to customers what it costs them to process a payment such as bank fees and terminal costs, ACCC Deputy Chair, Dr Michael Schaper, said.

Dr Schaper said that if a credit card costs 1 per cent, then a business can only impose a 1 per cent surcharge.

'Banks are required to send business merchant credit card statements which clearly set out the business' costs of acceptance of each payment method. The ACCC urges business to follow up with their bank if they have not received these statements,' Dr Schaper said.

Further information is available through the ACCC website [here](#).

---

## **NTC Seeks Input on Proposed Amendments to Road Rules**

---

The National Transport Commission is seeking comment on the latest package of proposed amendments to road rules which it recently released for public consultation.

Changes proposed include:

- New load restraint requirements designed to improve clarity about legal obligations.
- Updating technology-based terminology for drivers' aids such as navigation and speed monitoring as well as working aids that relate to work functions such as communication and fatigue management.
- New rules that impose restrictions on the use of bus only lanes.

The draft amendments and a document explaining the proposed changes are available on the NTC website. Submissions are due by 11 August.

The draft amendments are NTC says the proposed changes aim to harmonise road rules across states and territories and improve road safety.

---

## **Self-Clearing Defect Notices to Improve Efficiency and Reduce Compliance Burden**

---

*Adapted from NTC media release, 30 June 2017*

The National Transport Commission has announced that a new type of defect notice is operative from 1 July.

Under the change operators may be issued with a self-clearing defect notice in circumstances where the number plate is illegible or the vehicle's road use does not pose a safety risk.

NTC CEO, Paul Retter, said the improved compliance measure will allow operators to fix certain defects without the need for the notice to be cleared by an inspection.

'These notices will introduce more efficiency into the system and allow authorised officers to regulate roadworthiness more effectively,' Mr Retter said.

The NTC says operators must take action to fix the defect notice within 28 days of receipt of the notice.

The NTC says that enforcement offices will have the discretion to issue a minor or major defect notice if the defect escalates into one which poses a safety risk.

---

## **Approval Given to BAB and ABB Quads to Operate North from North Bourke**

---

Roads and Maritime Services has announced that approval has been given to prescriptive BAB Quad and ABB Quad combinations to operate on the Mitchell Highway from North Bourke to the Queensland border at Barrington.

Access conditions on this route are the same as those which apply to legacy A-Triple Type 2 road trains. Operation for these two quad trailer combinations is also available up to 4.6m high on this route.

RMS advises that previous policy required such combinations to be first approved through the national Performance Based Standards Scheme.

RMS has also advised that access requests for AAB Quads will be assessed on a case by case basis and subject to demonstrated performance being no worse than the current A-triple's performance. Due to the additional axles and thus increased total mass of this combination, additional bridge assessments may be required.

RMS says that due to the unknown comparative performance of the BAA Quad road trains, this access decision does not apply to BAA Quad road trains. This combination will continue to require a vehicle approval through the PBS scheme before access is considered by RMS.

Details of access conditions are available from the RMS website [here](#).

---

## **NHVR, RMS, Agree to Further Extension of Roller Brake Testing Transition**

---

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator and Roads and Maritime Services have agreed to extend roller brake testing transition arrangements until 29 September based on advice from the NHVR Technical Working Group. The working group has agreed on the need to develop a detailed procedure for conducting a roller brake test which, according to the NHVR, will be developed in the coming months.

The NHVR says that during the transition period, NSW heavy vehicles that achieved a brake test result greater than 3kN/t but less than 4.4kN/t will be given an official warning on first time detection.

---

## **TWUSUPER Super News July 2017**

---

### **Annual statements available to TWUSUPER members by the end of September 2017**

Annual statements are due to be mailed and made available on Member Access to members by the end of September 2017. To login to Member Access, go to [twusuper.com.au/ma](http://twusuper.com.au/ma)

---

### **Workplace education sessions available**

Whether you have employees approaching retirement age or younger employees, TWUSUPER's workplace education sessions are tailored specifically to the needs of your employees. The sessions are conducted at no cost to you or your employees and we arrange them at a time and location that suits you.

For further details, please contact your Business Relationship Manager or call the Employer Service

team on **1800 241 877** 8am-8pm (AEST/AEDT) weekdays.

This information is of a general nature only and does not take into account your objectives, financial situation or needs. Before acting on this information, you should consider its appropriateness having regard to your objectives, financial situation and needs. A copy of TWUSUPER's current Product Disclosure Statement should be obtained from us (by calling 1800 222 071 or visiting [twusuper.com.au](http://twusuper.com.au)) and considered carefully before you make a decision in connection with 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.

### SG contributions due 28 July

Employers must pay Super Guarantee payments for eligible employees at least four times a year, and the ATO can apply the Super Guarantee Charge if payments are late. SG contributions for the 1 April-30 June quarter are due no later than 28 July 2017.

If you are paying via TWUSUPER's free clearing house – SCH Online – please allow 10 business days for contribution data and payments to reach other funds.\*

\* SCH Online is a financial product operated by The Superannuation Clearing House Pty Limited (Authorised Representative Number 290290), an authorised representative of Pacific Custodians Pty Limited (Australian Financial Services Licence Number 295142). TWU Nominees Pty Ltd (ABN 67 002 835 412) is not responsible for and does not accept liability for the products and services of SCH Online. You should use your own judgment before deciding to use SCH Online.

This information is of a general nature only and does not take into account your objectives, financial situation or needs. Before acting on this information, you should consider its appropriateness having regard to your objectives, financial situation and needs. A copy of TWUSUPER's current Product Disclosure Statement should be obtained from us (by calling 1800 222 071 or visiting [twusuper.com.au](http://twusuper.com.au)) and considered carefully before you make a decision in connection with 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.

## Economic and Industry Indicators

Indicator/Source <sup>1</sup>	As at	Unit of Measure	Quantity	% Variation
GDP latest quarter (ABS)	Mar Qtr 2017	\$m	423,737	1.7
CPI (ABS)	Jun Qtr 2017	Per cent		1.9
Cash rate (RBA)	Current	Per cent	1.5	
Estimated Residential Population (ABS)	31 July 2017	Million	24.605	1.9
Retail Turnover (ABS)	May 2017	\$m	25,957	3.2
Actual New Capital Expenditure (ABS)	Mar Qtr 2017	\$m	27,752	-9.8
Inventories held by private business (ABS)	Mar 2017	\$m	156,559	2.1
Dwelling unit approvals (ABS)	May 2017	Number	16,878	-18.1
Manufacturers Income (ABS)	Mar 2017	\$m	80,653	-3.7
TEUs Port Botany year to date	May 2017	Number	2,236,725	4.4
Employed persons (ABS)	Jun 2017	Million	12.160	1.9
Unemployment rate(ABS)	Jun 2017	Percentage	5.6	-0.1
Wage Price Index (ABS)	Mar Qtr 2017	Per cent		
All employees				1.9
Transport, postal and warehousing				1.8

<sup>1</sup> ABS – Australian Bureau of Statistics; RBA – Reserve Bank of Australia; AIP – Australian Institute of Petroleum; TIC – Truck Industry Council/'Prime Mover' latest issue.

New motor vehicle sales (ABS)	Jun 2017	Number	100,845	3.2
Cab Chassis/Prime Mover Sales (TIC)	5 months ending May 2017	Number	10,677	7.7
Vans (TIC)	5 months ending May 2017	Number	2,235	1.0
AIP Terminal Gate Price-Diesel-Sydney	31 July 2017	Cents/litre incl. GST	109.3	

---

*DISCLAIMER: This document is an information source only. Despite our best efforts, ARTIO NSW makes no statements, representations or warranties about the accuracy or completeness of the information and disclaims responsibility for all liability for all loss or damage you might incur as a result of the information being inaccurate or incomplete in any way, and for any reason. The information contained in this document is not intended to be nor should it be relied upon as a substitute for legal or other professional advice.*

---