



**ARTIO**

Australian Road Transport  
Industrial Organisation

## **New South Wales Branch**

PO Box 277

HURSTVILLE NSW 2220

Tel: 0412 880861

Fax: 02 9579 2333

Email: [hughmc@artionsw.com.au](mailto:hughmc@artionsw.com.au)

ABN: 93149961882

# *The Courier*

*Information and Advice for NSW Transport Operators*

**Newsletter Vol. 5 No. 4: 22 February 2019**

## **Contents**

1. Slow Uptick in Rate of Wages Growth Continues
2. New Fuel Tax Credit Rates
3. Changes to Alcohol Interlock Program in NSW
4. Rollover Stability Laws Now Apply to All Tank Trailers in NSW
5. TCA Releases Updated Telematics In-Vehicle Unit Specification
6. NHVR Releases B-Dpuble Operators Guides
7. New Regulation Made in NSW for the Transport of Dangerous Goods
8. NHVR Launches Investigation into Truck Fires
9. NorthConnex Update: Traffic Changes, Pennant Hills Rd
10. Reminder: Permanent Closure, Teven Rd Rest Area, West Ballia
11. Moss Vale Rd Night Rad Closures
12. Infrastructure Update
13. Road Works Update
14. ARTIO NSW Events
15. Economic and Industry Indicators

---

## **Slow Uptick in Rate of Wages Growth Continues**

Growth in private sector rates of pay excluding bonuses continued to drift with wages in both the private sector and the labour market as a whole grew by 2.3% on a trend basis in the year ending 31 December, 2018, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics. This compares to a growth rate in wages of 2.1 per cent for the year ending 31 December, 2017.

The annual increase for the year ending 31 December 2018 in the private sector is the highest in four years.

On a trend basis wages in the private sector grew by 0.5 per cent in the three months ending 31 December, 2018.

In the transport, postal and warehousing sector, wages grew by 2.4 per cent in the year ending 31 December 2018 and by 0.5 per cent in the December, 2018 quarter.

---

## **New Fuel Tax Credit Rates**

Fuel tax credit rates were increased for fuel purchased after 4 February in line with changes to the fuel excise duty rate. The new rates are available at [www.ato.gov.au/Business/Fuel-schemes/Fuel-tax-credits---business/Rates---business/From-1-July-2018](http://www.ato.gov.au/Business/Fuel-schemes/Fuel-tax-credits---business/Rates---business/From-1-July-2018).

The ATO also provides a simplified method to apportion fuel used in vehicles fitted with auxiliary equipment such as tipping equipment. This percentage covers fuel used for powering the auxiliary equipment as well as idling or propelling of the vehicle off a public road. For advice on calculations and related issues regarding auxiliary equipment and off-road use, visit [www.ato.gov.au/Business/Fuel-schemes/In-detail/Heavy-vehicles/?page=5#Fuel\\_used\\_to\\_power\\_auxiliary\\_equipment](http://www.ato.gov.au/Business/Fuel-schemes/In-detail/Heavy-vehicles/?page=5#Fuel_used_to_power_auxiliary_equipment).

---

## **Changes to Alcohol Interlock Program in NSW**

---

The NSW Police Force has advised that drink driving reforms have been introduced in NSW.

Under the amended legislation:

- First time mid-range drink-driving offenders will need to have an alcohol interlock device installed to show that they can separate their drinking from driving.
- Police will be able to apply vehicle sanctions, including confiscating number plates or impounding the vehicle of high-risk, repeat drink driving offenders.

Further information is available from [www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roads/safety-rules/demerits-offences/drug-alcohol/interlock-program.html](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roads/safety-rules/demerits-offences/drug-alcohol/interlock-program.html)

---

## **Rollover Stability Laws Now Apply to All Tank Trailers in NSW**

---

***Adapted from media release, NSW Environmental Protection Authority, 12 February, 2019***

The NSW Environment Protection Authority says that all tank trailers carrying dangerous goods need to be fitted with a roll stability system. Previously, this requirement applied to new tank trailers only.

Steve Beaman from the EPA said the requirement is the completion of a five-year implementation period for existing vehicles, while applying to new vehicles since 2014.

He said that this initiative will assist in making NSW roads safer, protect the environment from hazardous material spills and potentially save lives.

The safety initiative follows recommendations by the NSW Coroner after a fatal tanker accident in 2009 at East Lynne and a serious accident in 2013 at Mona Vale.

In both crashes the vehicles rolled and leaked fuel, and six people died.

Compliance checks will be carried out to ensure tank trailers carrying dangerous goods using NSW roads have fitted the roll-over control system. On-the-spot fines of up to \$4,000 may apply for non-compliance.

---

## **TCA Releases Updated Telematics In-Vehicle Unit Specification**

---

***Adapted from media release, Transport Certification Australia, 15 February, 2019***

Transport Certification Australia has released an update to the Telematics In-Vehicle Unit Functional and Technical Specification.

Irrespective of whether Telematics IVUs are built into a vehicle or fitted aftermarket, they are increasingly used as a technical and communications hub within vehicles by connecting multiple systems and devices, while supporting numerous applications.

Version 3 of the Telematics IVU Functional and Technical Specification reflects current and emerging developments, and anticipates disruptive influences which continue to shape the open technology market. It also draws upon TCA's operational experience in managing applications administered through the National Telematics Framework.

TCA has identified areas of the Specification where requirements can be made less stringent, without compromising performance-based outcomes which relate to robustness, accuracy, reliability, tamper evidence, data storage and security.

Version 3 of the Specification enables all applications, features and levels of assurance available through the National Telematics Framework to co-exist, including new applications and features approved by Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers comprising the Transport and Infrastructure Council last November.

The Telematics IVU Functional and Technical Specification helps providers and users of telematics services, including road transport operators.

Providers have benefitted from having a nationally-agreed set of performance requirements to guide the development of devices to meet the demands of producers and consumers using the Framework.

Users have used the Specification to benchmark existing technologies fitted to their vehicles and to make better-informed decisions when procuring new telematics devices.

There are now over 45,000 heavy vehicles fitted with TCA-recognised Telematics IVUs.

A copy of Version 3 of the Specification can be obtained by visiting TCA's website, [www.tca.gov.au/ntf/specifications/telematics-ivu-spec](http://www.tca.gov.au/ntf/specifications/telematics-ivu-spec).

---

## NHVR Releases B-Double Operators Guides

---

The NHVR has released updated operational guides to support the recent transition of heavy vehicle notices.

**The New South Wales Class 1 Load Carrying Vehicle Operator's Guide** supports New South Wales Class 1 Load Carrying Vehicle Exemption Notice 2019 (No.1). This Guide complements the New South Wales Class 1 Load Carrying Vehicle Notice 2019.

The NHVR advises that an eligible vehicle must comply with the requirements of the Notice, including Schedule 8 of the Heavy Vehicle (Mass, Dimension and Loading) National Regulation, and the Operator's Guide. A copy of this Guide is available at [www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201902-0993-nsw-class-1-load-carrying-vehicle-operators-guide.pdf](http://www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201902-0993-nsw-class-1-load-carrying-vehicle-operators-guide.pdf).

**The New South Wales Class 1 Special Purpose Vehicle and Combination Operator's Guide** supports New South Wales Class 1 Special Purpose Vehicle and Combination Exemption Notice 2019 (No.1) C2019G00079. This Guide complements the New South Wales Class 1 Special Purpose Vehicle and Combination Notice 2019 and provides details of the following for eligible vehicles operating under the Notice:

- Travel requirements.
- Pilot and escort requirements.
- Key contacts.

A copy of this Guide is available at [www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201902-0994-nsw-class-1-spv-and-combination-operators-guide.pdf](http://www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201902-0994-nsw-class-1-spv-and-combination-operators-guide.pdf).

Please note these requirements were previously contained in Appendix 1 and 2 of the former New South Wales Class 1 Special Purpose Vehicle Notice 2014.

---

## New Regulation Made in NSW for the Transport of Dangerous Goods

---

The NSW Government made the *Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Amendment (Model Law) Regulation 2019* to reflect amendments to the national *Model Subordinate Instrument of the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road or Rail*.

The NSW amendments: include changes arising from the switch from edition 7.5 to edition 7.6 of the Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail; and exempt the transport of dangerous goods by a mobile processing unit for the purpose of manufacturing explosives from the *Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Regulation 2014*.

The Regulation also extends provisions on transporting self-reactive substances, organic peroxides and certain other substances to the transport of relevant empty dangerous goods packaging.

Duty holders currently complying with the pre-amended regulations have until 30 June 2019 to adopt the changes.

A copy of the Regulation is available from [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/regulations/2019-73.pdf](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/regulations/2019-73.pdf).

---

## **NHVR Launches Investigation into Truck Fires**

---

The NHVR has launched an investigation into recent truck fires.

NHVR's Safety Standard and Assurance Executive Director Geoff Casey said concerns had been raised with the NHVR regarding several fires emanating in the engine bay of prime movers over the past year.

He said there have been a number of incidents, including a semi-trailer fire on the Princes Highway, near Wollongong.

Mr Casey said that as part of the investigation and research, the NHVR has held initial discussions with operators, vehicle and component manufacturers about the current causes of truck fires.

He said the NHVR was also working with police and state road agencies to continue to identify common causes of the fires.

This will enable the NHVR to provide guidance and information to industry.

Anyone who has information about a truck fire can call the NHVR's Confidential Reporting Line on 1800 931 785 or email [vehiclestandards@nhvr.gov.au](mailto:vehiclestandards@nhvr.gov.au)<<mailto:vehiclestandards@nhvr.gov.au>>

---

## **NorthConnex Update: Traffic Changes, Pennant Hills Rd**

---

Transurban has advised that a part of ongoing work to build the NorthConnex Pennant Hills Rd off ramp, it is preparing to realign the Pennant Hills Rd southbound lanes between Murray Farm Rd and Hannah St. In the coming weeks, traffic travelling southbound on Pennant Hills Rd will be moved onto the new lanes. Road users will be advised of these changes using variable message signs.

---

## **Reminder, Permanent Closure, Teven Rd Rest Area, West Ballina**

---

A reminder that RMS has advised that from 18 February the Teven Rd rest area at West Ballina near the junction of the Pacific and Bruxner highways will be permanently closed to enable construction of a service centre which is scheduled to open in April 2020.

---

## **Moss Vale Rd +Night Closures**

---

*Adapted from media release, Gareth Ward, Member for Kiama, 18 February, 2019*

Road closures are planned on Moss Vale Rd at Barrengarry Mountain and Kangaroo Valley.

Member for Kiama, Gareth Ward, said maintenance work will be carried out at Barrengarry Mountain on 5 and 6 March, between 8pm and 4am leading to the road being closed to all traffic from Bunkers Hill Rd to Myra Vale Rd.

Work will also take place to repair Hampden Bridge will be carried out for three nights from 11 to 13 March, weather permitting between 8pm and 4am.

Detours will be in place via the Illawarra Highway, Macquarie Pass and the Princes Highway.

---

## Infrastructure Update

---

Operation of extended clearways in both directions on the following:

- **From Cleveland St, Moore Park, to General Holmes Dr, Mascot**, on a 24/7 basis except for indented parking bays on South Dowling St which will remain unchanged.

---

## Road Works Update

---

The following new road work alerts may impact your operations. Please refer to earlier editions of *The Courier* for other current road works.

Suburb/Town	Road	Date/s	Work Times
Bringelly	Operation of temporary access road and roundabout on The Northern Rd from Belmore Rd to Robinson Rd	21/2/19	
Bringelly	Cnr The Northern Rd and Greendale Rd	25-26/2/19, 28/2/19, 4/3/19	7am-6pm
Colo Heights	Putty Rd for 7.4km north of Caloul Sawmill	17/2-5/4/19	7am-5pm Mon-Fri 8am-1pm Sat
McGrath's Hill	Cnr Pitt Town Rd and Charles St	20/2-13/8/19	7am-6pm Mon-Fri 8am-1pm Sat 8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Parklea	Sunnyholt Rd from Sorrento Dr to Clarendon Dr	10/3-3/5/19	8pm-5am Sun-Fri

---

## ARTIO NSW Events

---

The ARTIO NSW secretariat continues to develop its 2019 events program.

Please pencil in the following:

- 13 March, Dinner, Marika Calfas, NSW Ports, Pullman Hotel, Sydney Olympic Park.
- 27 March, Inaugural ARTIO NSW Women in Transport Breakfast Briefing, Leanne Peterson, General Manager, Americold, Rooty Hill RSL Club. Further details of this event will be provided shortly.

---

## Economic and Industry Indicators

Indicator/Source <sup>1</sup>	As at	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Annual % Variation
GDP latest quarter (ABS)	Sep Qtr 2018	\$m	461,647	3.0
CPI (ABS)	Dec Qtr 2018	Per cent		1.8
Cash rate (RBA)	Current	Per cent	1.5	
Estimated residential population (ABS)	22 Feb 2019	Million	25,266	1.9
Retail turnover (ABS)	Dec 2018	\$m	27,068	3.2
Actual new capital expenditure (ABS)	Sep Qtr 2018	\$m	29,434	0.1

---

<sup>1</sup> ABS – Australian Bureau of Statistics; RBA – Reserve Bank of Australia; AIP – Australian Institute of Petroleum; FCAI – Federated Chamber of Automotive Industries, TIC- Truck Industry Council.

Inventories held by private business (ABS)	Sep 2018	\$m	161,858	1.7
Dwelling unit approvals (ABS)	Dec 2018	Number	14,875	-24.7
Manufacturers Income (ABS)	Sep 2018	\$m	83,802	0.5
TEUs Port Botany (NSW Ports)	6 months to Dec 2018	Number	1,378,482	2.6
Employed persons (ABS)	Jan 2019	Million	12.748	2.4
Unemployment rate(ABS)	Jan 2019	Per cent	5.1	-0.4
Wage price Index (ABS)	Dec Qtr 2018	Per cent		
All employees				2.3
Transport, postal and warehousing				2.4
New motor vehicle sales (FCAI)	Jan 2019	Number	81,994	-7.1
Cab Chassis/Prime Mover Sales (TIC)	12 months ending Dec 2018	Number	35,683	15.3
Vans (TIC)	12 months ending Dec 2018	Number	5,945	1.0
AIP Terminal Gate Price-Diesel-Sydney	22 Feb 2019	Cents/litre incl. GST	134.3	10.6

---

*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.*

---