

Safety, Productivity & Environment Construction Transport Scheme (SPECTS)

Business Rules

Roads and Maritime Services | June 2019

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1. About the Safety Productivity & Environment Construction Transport Scheme Business Rules

1.1 Purpose

The Safety, Productivity and Environment Construction Transport Scheme Business (**SPECTS or the Scheme**) Business Rules (**SPECTS Business Rules**) set out the administrative framework and additional obligations for participants in SPECTS.

1.2 SPECTS Overview

The purpose of the Scheme is to improve the safety, environmental performance and productivity of heavy vehicles used by the construction industry in NSW. Under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (NSW) (**HVNL**), the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (**NHVR**) has issued a notice to authorise specified eligible heavy vehicles (**nominated vehicles**) which meet the requirements of the Scheme to use approved roads and routes.

The *NSW Class 2 Safety, Productivity and Environment Construction Transport Scheme Authorisation Notice 2016* (**SPECTS Notice**) provides an operator's nominated vehicles with greater access to a prescribed network in return for greater compliance requirements. Roads and Maritime Services (**Roads and Maritime**) maintains and administers SPECTS.

Under SPECTS, an eligible vehicle that is participating in the Road Infrastructure Management (**RIM**) application, which is managed through the National Telematics Framework by Transport Certification Australia (**TCA**) and complies with the requirements of SPECTS Notice and Business Rules can travel on the SPECTS network.

1.3 How the SPECTS Business Rules will be amended

Roads and Maritime may amend the SPECTS Business Rules from time to time. Amendments may constitute part of or the whole of this document. The current version of the SPECTS Business Rules will be available on the Roads and Maritime website at www.rms.nsw.gov.au/business-industry/heavy-vehicles/safety-productivity-environment-construction-transport-scheme/index.html. Amendments to the SPECTS Business Rules will be published on the Roads and Maritime website identifying the amendments and the date the amendments come into effect.

1.4 Requirement to comply with amended SPECTS Business Rules

It is a condition of the SPECTS Notice that operators comply with the SPECTS Business Rules as amended from time to time.

Operators must use the latest version of the SPECTS Business Rules. They are not entitled to rely on any earlier version of the SPECTS Business Rules, as a reason for non-compliance with the latest version.

2. Application of the Scheme

2.1 Eligible vehicles

Eligible Vehicle means a PBS approved vehicle that passes the PBS Bridge Loading standard at Tier 1

that is participating in the SPECT Scheme and:

- a) is a 3 or 4 axle rigid truck towing a 3 or 4 axle dog trailer with a current PBS Vehicle Approval for operation at PBS Level 1 or Level 2 and has a maximum overall length no greater than 20.0 metres; or
- b) is a semi-trailer with a current PBS Vehicle Approval for operation at PBS Level 1 and has a maximum overall length no greater than 20.0 metres; or
- c) is a concrete agitator semi-trailer with a current PBS Vehicle Approval for operation at PBS Level 1 and has a maximum overall length no greater than 20.0 metres; and
- d) is engaged in a “construction activity”.

2.2 Stated areas or routes

The participating vehicles are permitted to travel on all State Roads and approved local roads in the NSW Urban Zone excluding bridges signposted with load limits. The SPECTS Network can be accessed at the Roads and Maritime website at: <https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/business-industry/heavy-vehicles/schemes-programs/spects.html>.

The SPECTS Network will be published and amended in the manner provided for in the SPECTS Notice in force from time to time.

2.3 Construction activity

For the purposes of paragraph 2.1(d):

- i) A person engages in **Construction Activity** where the person is involved in the transport of one or more of the **construction materials** listed in paragraph 2.4 of the SPECTS Business Rules.
- ii) A person also engages in **Construction Activity** where the person is involved in travel in an unladen **Eligible Vehicle** to a place from which one or more construction materials (as listed in the SPECT Scheme Business Rules) are to be picked up or from a place after one or more construction materials have been delivered.

2.4 Construction materials

For the purposes of paragraph 2.3 construction materials means any of the following:

- Bitumen
- Bricks and masonry
- Cement and concrete
- Fly ash and slag
- Plasterboard
- Quarry products (aggregates and sand)
- Spoil
- Steel
- Timber
- Glass

A load being carried in or on a nominated vehicle of an operator may comprise more than one type of construction material.

Loads consisting of one or more construction materials together with other types of goods are not permitted.

Note: to obtain the benefit of operating under the Scheme the entire load being carried must consist of construction materials as set out in paragraph 2.4 of these Business Rules.

3. Participation in SPECTS

3.1 Obligations of operators

An operator of a nominated vehicle is required to comply with all of its obligations set out in the SPECTS Business Rules as amended from time to time.

(a) Nominated vehicles

An operator of a participating vehicle is responsible for its nominated vehicles and must ensure that they comply with the SPECTS Business Rules, the SPECTS Notice and the HVNL.

(b) Other obligations

Other obligations of the operator of a participating vehicle include giving access to nominated vehicles on request by Roads and Maritime and co-operating with any inspections concerning compliance of the operator and nominated vehicles with the SPECTS Business Rules.

4. Eligible vehicle requirements

An operator of a nominated vehicles must comply at all times with the Scheme requirements and conditions.

4.1 PBS Approval

A nominated vehicle must be operated in accordance with the conditions contained in a relevant PBS Vehicle Approval.

Note: section 153 of the HVNL requires a driver of a PBS vehicle to keep a copy of the PBS vehicle approval in their possession.

4.2 Road Infrastructure Management (RIM) application

A nominated vehicle must be participating and monitored in the Road Infrastructure Management (RIM) application which is managed through the National Telematics Framework by TCA.

An application for participation in RIM must be in a form that is approved by TCA.

The operator of a nominated vehicle may at any time voluntarily surrender participation in RIM by giving notice to TCA in writing.

The collection, de-identification and aggregation process will ensure that the movements of any nominated vehicle will not be detectable within, or disclosed by either the de-identified, aggregated data or the reports to be received by RMS from TCA.

Roads and Maritime will receive from TCA reports that will show only de-identified and aggregated journey information covering all nominated vehicles, including aggregated vehicle travel patterns and aggregated numbers of vehicles travelling over bridges.

Roads and Maritime will, in the course of considering the reports that it will receive from TCA, discuss and share those reports with the local councils whose Local Government Areas include the roads featuring in the reports.

Note: Enquiries on the RIM application can be sent to TCA at tca@tca.gov.au.

4.3 Mass assurance

The driver of a nominated vehicle that is laden must keep in the driver's possession for each trip a printed or electric copy of a record that displays:

- a. The total gross mass of the vehicle and its load; and
- b. The mass of the vehicle and its load on each individual axle or axle group.

4.4 Stability control

Heavy motor vehicles and trailers manufactured on or after 1 January 2017 must be fitted with a vehicle stability function which meets the performance requirements of Regulation 13*.

For the purposes of the SPECT Scheme "vehicle stability function" means an electronic control function for a vehicle which improves the dynamic stability of the vehicle and includes both of the following:

- (a) directional control; and
- (b) roll-over control.

Where:

"directional control" means a function within a vehicle stability function that assists the driver, in the event of under steer and over steer conditions, within the physical limits of the vehicle in maintaining the direction intended by the driver in the case of a power-driven vehicle, and assists in maintaining the direction of the trailer with that of the towing vehicle in the case of a trailer; and

"roll-over control" means a function within a vehicle stability function that reacts to an impending roll-over in order to stabilise the power-driven vehicle or towing vehicle and trailer combination or the trailer during dynamic manoeuvres within the physical limits of the vehicle.

The vehicle stability function must include in the towing vehicle a warning light that complies with the relevant requirements of ADR35/04 and: is visible to the driver in a normal driving position; and indicates that the vehicle stability function is operating correctly.

In respect of a combination comprising a towing vehicle and a trailer the vehicle stability function must include a connector that complies with the relevant Part (Part 1 for 24V nominal supply voltage or Part 2 for 12V nominal supply voltage) of International Standard ISO 7638 of 2003.

*[Regulation 13 is Addendum 12 to the *1958 Agreement Concerning the Adoption of Uniform Technical Prescriptions for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be Fitted and/or be Used on Wheeled Vehicles and the Conditions for Reciprocal Recognition of Approvals Granted on the Basis of these Prescriptions – Revision 8* published on 3 March 2014, reference E/ECE/324/Rev.1/Add.12/Rev.8–E/ECE/TRANS/505/Rev.1/Add.12/Rev.8]

4.5 Contour marking

Each nominated vehicle unit shall have full contour marking which uses conspicuity marking that complies with UN ECE Regulation 104*.

For the purposes of this Notice:

contour marking means conspicuity marking intended to indicate the horizontal and vertical dimensions (length, width and height) of a vehicle;

full contour marking means contour marking that indicates the outline of the vehicle by a continuous line; and

conspicuity marking means a device intended to increase the conspicuity of a vehicle, when viewed from the side or rear (or in the case of trailers, additionally from the front), by the reflection of light

emanating from a light source not connected to the vehicle, the observer being situated near the source.

[*Regulation 104 is Addendum 103 to the *1958 Agreement Concerning the Adoption of Uniform Technical Prescriptions for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be Fitted and/or be Used on Wheeled Vehicles and the Conditions for Reciprocal Recognition of Approvals Granted on the Basis of these Prescriptions – Revision 2* published on 25 March 2010, reference

E/ECE/324/Rev.2/Add.103/Rev.1–E/ECE/TRANS/505/Rev.2/Add.103/Rev.1]

(Note: the Australian Trucking Association has published an Industry Technical Council Advisory Procedure **Australian Heavy Vehicle Visibility Code of Practice** dated October 2003 which identifies styles of contour marking. The full contour marking displayed at pages 8, 9 and 11 of the Code of Practice provide a guide to the conspicuity marking required under this Notice. Vehicles are not required to have retro-reflective graphics.)

4.6 Visibility/detection of vulnerable road users

A heavy motor vehicle must be equipped with a system whether comprising mirrors, cameras, refracting lenses, sensors, additional windows, any combination of these or any other means that provides a field of view to the front and on the left hand side of the vehicle or, if using cameras, sensors or other means of detection, provides coverage equivalent to that field of view as set out in Regulation 46* for a close proximity exterior mirror (Class V) and a front mirror (Class VI).

[*Regulation 46 is Addendum 45 to the *1958 Agreement Concerning the Adoption of Uniform Technical Prescriptions for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be Fitted and/or be Used on Wheeled Vehicles and the Conditions for Reciprocal Recognition of Approvals Granted on the Basis of these Prescriptions – Revision 8* published on 19 August 2013, reference

E/ECE/324/Rev.1/Add.45/Rev.5–E/ECE/TRANS/505/Rev.1/Add.45/Rev.5]

4.7 Reversing lamps

Trailers must be fitted with reversing lamps that comply with the requirements of ADR 13/00* as if compliance with ADR 13/00 was mandatory for trailers.

[*ADR 13/00 is *Vehicle Standard (Australian Design Rule 13/00 – Installation of Lighting and Light Signalling Devices on other than L-Group Vehicles) 2005*, Compilation 5 with a compilation date of 30 June 2015]

4.8 Self-adjusting reversing alarm

Heavy motor vehicles and trailers must be fitted with a self-adjusting repeater reversing alarm which automatically adjusts its output to the surrounding noise level and is capable of emitting a sound that is audible to a person behind the vehicle and within 20 metres of it.

4.9 Engine emissions standard

Heavy motor vehicles must be equipped with an engine that complies with or exceeds the emissions standards set out in *Vehicle Standard (Australian Design Rule 80/03 – Emission Controls for Heavy Vehicles) 2006 as amended*.

Note: the purpose of paragraph 4.9 is to require that heavy motor vehicles participating in the Scheme meet, at a minimum, the Euro 5 emission standards.

5. Other requirements

5.1 Documents to be carried

An operator must ensure that the driver of a participating vehicle carries in the driving compartment of the vehicle and has available for immediate production on request by an Authorised Officer or Police Officer:

- i) a document that identifies which construction material or construction materials as set out in paragraph 2.4 of these Business Rules is/are being carried and which accurately identifies the place at which the driver's current journey commenced and the intended destination; and
- ii) a copy of the PBS Vehicle Approval in respect of the vehicle.

A document may be produced in either printed or electronic format.

5.2 Logo and Trade Mark Licence

Logo

Roads and Maritime has registered the following three trade marks below:



Trade Mark Licence Terms

Roads and Maritime grants the operator a non-exclusive licence to use the SPECTS trade marks on its corporate stationery and website in accordance with such directions as Roads and Maritime may from time to time issue.

The operator must report any suspected infringement or other unauthorised use of the SPECTS trade marks to Roads and Maritime.

The operator must not grant any sublicense to any other person to use the SPECTS trade marks.

At the end of the trade mark licence the operator must cease using the trade marks.

This trade mark licence will remain in force so long as the operator is a member of the SPECTS scheme but Roads and Maritime may terminate this trade mark licence if the operator fails to comply with the licence terms.

References to the SPECTS Scheme

If the operator refers to the SPECTS scheme or uses the SPECTS trade marks on its website or stationery then it must include one of the following acknowledgment:

[insert name] is a member of the Safety, Productivity and Environment Construction Transport Scheme (SPECTS) scheme. SPECTS is a voluntary scheme designed to improve the safety, environmental performance and productivity of heavy vehicles used by the construction industry in NSW. SPECTS is administered and maintained by Roads and Maritime Services; or

[*insert name*] is a member of the Safety, Productivity and Environment Construction Transport Scheme (SPECTS) scheme. For more information visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au/business-industry/heavy-vehicles/safety-productivity-environment-construction-transport-scheme/index.html.

5.3 Roadworthiness/vehicle maintenance

The operator of a participating vehicle must have in place arrangements that are reasonably capable of ensuring that each participating vehicle meets all of the heavy vehicle standards applicable to the vehicle and that no vehicle is operated on a road when it is unsafe.

5.4 Audit and inspection

The operator of a participating vehicle may be subject to audit or inspection conducted by Roads and Maritime.

The operator of a participating vehicle must comply with all requests made by Roads and Maritime for the purposes of conducting an audit of the operator's compliance with all of the requirements of the SPECT Scheme and/or inspecting a nominated vehicle for the purposes of determining compliance with the SPECT Scheme. Roads and Maritime may seek verification from TCA on nominated vehicles participating in RIM.

6. Contacts

Safety Productivity & Environment Construction Transport Scheme
Roads and Maritime Services
Freight Branch
PO Box 973
Parramatta
NSW 2124

Telephone: 13 22 13

Email: roadfreight@rms.nsw.gov.au