



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities



## Road Vehicle Standards



# Road Vehicle Standards Rules 2019

## *Overview of changes since Exposure Draft 2017*

Type Approvals Consultation Group

27 March 2019

# Why we've made changes

- To promote **consistency** across the Rules
- To **clarify** our policy intention
- To take account of **stakeholder feedback**, in particular the varied needs across industry
- To achieve our objectives for the Rules to provide:
  - Clear legislation for **safe, sound and environmentally friendly vehicles**
  - **More choice** of road vehicles for Australians
  - **Flexibility** for the future of road vehicles
  - **Improved compliance and enforcement powers**

# Period of type approvals

- No longer a condition of a type approval that the holder of the approval notify us when they no longer intend to provide vehicles or components under that approval
- Now road vehicle type approvals and road vehicle component type approvals will expire
- Period of type approvals:
  - Under the Exposure Draft – 5 years
  - Now under the Rules – 7 years for type approvals generally. 5 years for opt-in type approvals.

# Compliance with national road vehicle standards – matters to be taken into account

- When deciding whether certain vehicles or components comply with national road vehicle standards, we may now also take into account:
  - Existing road vehicle type approvals relating to the type of vehicle in the application.
  - Any matter or thing specified in an applicable national road vehicle standard to be acceptable as evidence of compliance with that standard, or an element of that standard, as in force at the time the application is decided
  - Information relevant to assessing the accuracy of other matters already listed in section 19(2)

# Changed or new standards

- Exposure Draft – obligation to provide evidence of compliance with changed national road vehicle standards 60 days before they applied to the approval.
- Rules now – can provide vehicles or components under the type approval up to the day the changed national road vehicle standards come into force. After that date, the approval will be automatically suspended unless it is varied to reflect updated standards or a variation is considered unnecessary.

# Changed or new standards – Model Reports

- Holders of type approvals for heavy trailers who rely on Model Reports will be supported to know when they need to comply with changed or new standards, and how:
  - The holder of a Model Report approval must keep Model Report up to date including re changed standards
  - The holder of a Model Report approval must notify persons whom they have authorised to use a Model Report, of changes to the Model Report.

# Record keeping for supporting information

- New standard condition of all type approvals that holders of these approvals must keep up-to-date records of supporting information that evidences the compliance of vehicles or components covered by the approval with national road vehicle standards, including to
  - keep a record of the original and any subsequent versions of supporting information for the approval for a period of seven years after the approval expires or is revoked
  - ensure that the supporting information for the approval is kept up-to-date while the approval is in force
- This condition reflects existing eligibility criteria for type approvals



# Modification of vehicles in line with VSB-6

- Rules now allow modification of vehicles in line with VSB-6, the 'National Code of Practice for Heavy Vehicle Modifications'
- Further feedback regarding other allowable modifications will be considered in future amendments to the Rules.



## For further information

- Check out the our 'Rules 2019 released' page linked at the top of our website [infrastructure.gov.au/vehicles](https://infrastructure.gov.au/vehicles) for links to the Rules and our overview of changes document.
- The overview of changes document:
  - outlines the key changes between the Exposure Draft and the latest version of the Rules
  - gives a more comprehensive look at the way that provisions of the Rules have changed from the Exposure Draft to now
- Email [RVSAimplementation@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:RVSAimplementation@infrastructure.gov.au)