

NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR THE  
CONSTRUCTION AND MODIFICATION  
OF  
STREET RODS IN AUSTRALIA

SECOND EDITION  
NOVEMBER 2013

\*\*\* \*\*

## NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND MODIFICATION OF STREET RODS IN AUSTRALIA

### Important Information for Users

This document needs to be used in conjunction with the appropriate administrative requirements of the jurisdiction in which the Street Rod is to be registered. Administrative requirements include, amongst other things, processes for Street Rod registration, types of street rod registration, policies relating to left-hand drive street rods, obtaining exemptions, obtaining modification approvals, Street Rod inspections, preparation and submission of reports and the payment of appropriate fees and charges.

If unsure of any of these requirements, or if more information is needed for any other issue or processes, users should contact the relevant Registration Authority **prior** to commencing any work.

Many of the sections in these Guidelines refer to Sections within Vehicle Standards Bulletin 14, the *National Code of Practice for Light Vehicle Construction and Modification* (VSB 14) for further information or additional requirements. Users must read and apply all relevant Sections.

While these Guidelines present a great deal of information with respect to the construction of Street Rods, builders and modifiers should make themselves familiar with the content of the referenced sections of VSB 14.

Users of these Guidelines and VSB 14 need to ensure that they use the most recent version of the relevant section/s when working on a project. The version is identified by the version number and date on the face page of each section. The version and date is also located in the footer of each page in each section. On the website the version number is specified in the section file name for easy identification.

If a project is taking a long time to complete, check the currency of the version you are using.

Users must be familiar with the provisions stated in the Preface and Introduction. These sections provide the necessary background information to assist users in understanding how these Guidelines are administered by Registration Authorities across Australia. Understanding these requirements is important to ensure that the correct processes are followed thereby reducing the likelihood of having work rejected by Registration Authorities.

If in doubt about any issue concerning or contained in these Guidelines or VSB 14, users should seek clarification from the appropriate State or Territory Registration Authority.

**NB: Do not contact Vehicle Safety Standards (VSS) of the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development in Canberra about These Guidelines or VSB 14. VSS provides the website as a service only.**

### Revision History

Revision	Comments
First Published	This document was approved at the AMVCB Working Party meeting held on 1/12/2003
Second Edition	This document was approved by the AMVCB on 18/11/2013

## PREFACE

This document was first published as the *National Guidelines for the Construction and Modification of Street Rods in Australia* on 1 December 2003. The first edition was prepared in consultation with, and endorsed by, the Australian Street Rod Federation (ASRF). The Guidelines were subsequently endorsed by all Australian State and Territory Registration Authorities responsible for Street Rod standards and the registration of Street Rods for road use in December 2003. However, they were not adopted in a number of jurisdictions. The first edition of the *National Guidelines for the Construction And Modification of Street Rods in Australia* (the Guidelines) was published before the publication of Vehicle Standards Bulletin 14 *National Code of Practice for Light Vehicle Construction and Modification* (VSB 14). This revision aligns the Guidelines with Version 2.0 of VSB 14. It is intended that this revision will be approved for use in all jurisdictions, making it a truly national document. Principal changes from the first edition are:

- a) It uses more appropriately and consistent terminology to reflect its status as a 'Code'.
- b) A new section 'Introduction & Scope' included that gives more detailed advice on status of this document in federal and state legislation, and includes more definitions.
- c) It incorporates some of the requirements in the *Registration Requirements and Construction Guidelines for Street Rods in NSW*.
- d) It is formatted to align with Vehicles Standards Bulletin 14 *National Code of Practice for Light Vehicle Construction and Modification* in anticipation of it being incorporated into that Code.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO SECOND EDITION

This document has been endorsed by the Australian Motor Vehicle Certification Board Single Issue Working Group (AMVCB SIWG) as the second edition of the *Guidelines for the construction and modification of Street Rods in Australia*. It was approved in November 2013 and replaces the first edition released in December 2003.

In finalising this edition, the AMVCB SIWG wishes to acknowledge the key role played by:

- The Australian Street Rod Federation (ASRF) and its many individual state and territory enthusiasts who assisted in the development and subsequent endorsement of the guidelines,
- Mr Mark Saunders, who acted as national coordinator for the ASRF, drawing together and consolidating the views of members to enable the original documentation to be adopted as national guidelines.

Also acknowledged is Mr Larry O’Toole of Graffiti Publications for allowing material from Engineering Street Rods to be reproduced in these Guidelines.

The project was managed by Mr Dan Leavy, Transport for NSW on behalf of the AMVCB SIWG, who signed-off the second edition of the Guidelines on its behalf.

Members of the AMVCB SIWG at the time of Publication were:

Chris Jones	VicRoads
David Black	Transport for NSW
Peter Hunter	Office of Regulatory Services ACT
Rickman Smith	Dept of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure SA
Anant Bellary	Dept Transport & Main Roads QLD
Bill Muirhead	Dept Transport NT
Jeremy Gleeson	DIER TAS
John Marcolina	Dept Transport WA

Mr Barry Hendry, former VicRoads AMVCB SIWG member, was also involved in the process.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO FIRST EDITION

This document has been adopted by the Australian Motor Vehicle Certification Board Working Party (AMVCB WP) as the nationally accepted Guidelines for the construction and modification of Street Rods in Australia. These Guidelines form an integral part of the *National Code of Practice for the Modification of Light Vehicles*. The national code of practice is a major project currently being undertaken by the AMVCB WP.

The AMVCB WP wishes to acknowledge the key role played by:

- The ASRF and its many individual state and territory enthusiasts who assisted in the development and subsequent endorsement of the guidelines,
- Mr Paul Walsh, who acted as national coordinator for the ASRF, drawing together and consolidating the views of members to enable the original documentation to be adopted as national guidelines.

Also acknowledged are:

- Mr Larry O'Toole of Graffiti Publications for allowing material from Engineering Vehicles to be reproduced in these Guidelines.
- Mr Rex Middleton and Mr Reno Marchesi in preparing the documentation for final publication.

The project was managed by Mr John Dombrose on behalf of the AMVCB WP as an integral part of the *National Code of Practice for the Modification of Light Vehicles* project.

Members of the AMVCB WP at the time of endorsement:

Barry Hendry	National Road Transport Commission
Dr Gray Scott	VicRoads, Victoria
Jorge Montano	Roads and Traffic Authority, NSW
Rod Paule	Road Transport, ACT
Roland Earl	Transport SA, SA
Angus Draheim	Queensland Transport, Qld
John Hollins	Department of Transport and Works, NT
Tony Beard	Department of Infrastructure Energy and Resources, Tas
John Dombrose	Department for Planning and Infrastructure, WA

Previous Board members involved in the process included Mr Rickman Smith (SA) and Mr James Hurnall (QLD).

## CONTENTS

Preface	
Section 1	Introduction and Scope
Section 2	Engines
Section 3	Chassis
Section 4	Brakes
Section 5	Steering
Section 6	Suspension
Section 7	Rims and Tyres
Section 8	Lighting & Electrical
Section 9	Body Hardware
Section 10	Miscellaneous
Section 11	Checklist
Appendix 1	Principles Involved in Fitting Rack and Pinion Steering
Appendix 2	Tyre and Rim Guidelines
Appendix 3	Mounting Jaguar Independent Rear Suspension

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE

- 1.1 Introduction
- 1.2 Scope and application
- 1.3 Definitions and Interpretations
- 1.4 Relationship with the Laws of Australian Jurisdictions
- 1.5 Administration and Registration
- 1.6 Future Developments
- 1.7 Future Revisions
- 1.8 Document Format
- 1.9 Road Safety
- 1.10 Records
- 1.11 Date at Which the Document Takes Effect