



Road Vehicle Standards

Component type approvals – overview

This overview summarises how to seek a component type approval under the RVS legislation.

Component type approvals relate to components that are intended to be used in the manufacture or modification of certain road vehicles.

Regulating component type approvals is key to the Australian Government’s ability to ensure Australians are provided with safe, secure and environmentally-friendly vehicles. Component type approvals may be used as one option to demonstrate compliance with applicable national road vehicle standards when applying for a vehicle type approval or approval of a Model Report.

Previously, Component Registration Numbers (CRNs) and Sub-Assembly Registration Numbers (SARNs) registered in the Road Vehicle Certification System (RVCS) were used to demonstrate compliance with applicable national road vehicle standards.

What has changed and why?

On 1 July 2021, the *Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018* (RVSA) replaced the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* (MVSA). It is being administered by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (the department).

The detail of how the new regulatory framework operates is contained in subsidiary legislation, the Road Vehicle Standards Rules 2019 (the Rules). The RVSA, the Rules and other related legislation are collectively referred to as the Road Vehicle Standards legislation (RVS legislation).

Applicants for a [vehicle type approval](#) or approval of a [Model Report](#) can choose to use a road vehicle

component, including an assembly covered by a component type approval to demonstrate compliance. Manufacturers or suppliers can choose to apply for a component type approval. This will streamline other RVS application processes.

Who can apply?

An individual or company may apply for a component type approval. An authorised representative of the applicant, agent or employee of the company, can also apply on behalf of the applicant. If a representative applies on behalf of the applicant, they must have access to, and be able to provide, the relevant documents and supporting information.

What do RVCS CRN and SARN holders have to do differently?

Holders of CRNs and SARNs registered in RVCS wanting to continue providing department issued numbers for components to be used as evidence under RVS legislation may apply for a component type approval. Under RVS legislation, component type approvals are restricted to a component:

- that can be assessed for compliance with a national road vehicle standard or an equivalent standard
- combined with other components (assembly), the assembly can be assessed for compliance with the applicable national road vehicle standards or equivalent standards

Under RVS legislation component type approval holders have greater responsibilities to ensure compliance.

How do I apply?

The department uses [ROVER](#), an online IT service that manages all RVS legislation activities and approvals. To apply for a component type approval under the RVS legislation, you must [create an account in ROVER](#) and complete an online application form and provide all the required information and documents so your application can be assessed.

Eligibility requirements/declarations

The Secretary or delegated decision maker (authorised under the RVS legislation to, amongst other things, grant or refuse to grant a component type approval) needs to be satisfied that the applicant:

- has the required information to demonstrate that the component complies, or substantially complies with the applicable standards (any non-compliance is in only minor and inconsequential respects), AND
- has control or has access to information about the design, componentry and manufacturing process of the component, including changes that may impact compliance with standards, AND
- can ensure the design, componentry and manufacturing process will consistently produce the component, AND
- can arrange for the Secretary or an inspector to inspect the premises or components, AND
- can access and provide original and subsequent versions of supporting information, AND
- ensure the supporting information for the approval is kept up to date, AND
- will comply with each of the standard and specified conditions to which the component type approval will be subject.

Applicants must have supporting documentation to satisfy eligibility criteria, e.g. an appropriate [Quality Management System](#) to demonstrate full control of the design, componentry and manufacturing process.

Disclaimer: Please note this information is a brief summary of the Guide to Component Type Approvals. We make no guarantees about the completeness of the information above as it is intended as easy-to-read background material/'quick guide' only.

Complying with your responsibilities

The department monitors and enforces compliance with the RVS legislation under both the RVSA (applying penalties) and the Rules (obligations of an approval holder). The department encourages voluntary compliance, and undertakes informed risk-based compliance activities to confirm compliance with the RVS legislation. These compliance activities may involve:

- asking you to provide information in writing to assess whether you are complying with the RVS legislation
- appointed inspectors physically entering premises to confirm compliance with the RVS legislation (monitoring powers)

What if I don't comply?

Under the RVS legislation, offences and civil penalty provisions apply that cover when a person (individual or company):

- breaches a condition of their approval
- breaches an obligation to provide records after an approval ceases to be in force
- provides a false or misleading declaration
- provides false or misleading information.

If the department identifies non-compliance, our response will be proportionate to the risk being managed. Our response may include issuing infringement notices, applying for civil penalty orders or injunctions, or entering into enforceable undertakings.

More information

See the Guide to [component type approvals](#).

Visit our website: [Road Vehicle Standards laws](#).

Please contact us:

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