

AIS/AE Information Sheet – April 2016

Implementation of Version 2.1 of the National Heavy Vehicle Inspection Manual

Purpose

The purpose of this Information Sheet is to advise Approved Inspection Stations (AIS) approval holders and approved examiners (AE) of the adoption of the National Heavy Vehicle Inspection Manual (NHVIM) Version 2.1 into the Queensland heavy vehicle inspection scheme from **1 July 2016**.

The NHVIM Version 2.1 is the foundation for a consistent national approach to heavy vehicle inspections and the improvement of safety across the Australian heavy vehicle industry through the National Heavy Vehicle Roadworthiness Program.

Introduction

In February 2014, the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) introduced a national consolidated inspection manual, the NHVIM Version 1. This was adopted into the Queensland heavy vehicle inspection scheme in October 2014.

As part of the National Heavy Vehicle Roadworthiness Program, the NHVR completed a review of the NHVIM Version 1. The review of the manual focused on ensuring:

1. the technical content reflected the *Heavy Vehicle (Vehicle Standards) National Regulation* and relevant ADRs
2. the manual was user-friendly, with updated tables, graphics and images.

The NHVR published the updated NHVIM Version 2.1 on 15 December 2015.

All participating state and territory transport authorities have agreed to adopt the NHVIM Version 2.1 into their inspection regimes by 1 July 2016.

Implementation

In partnership with the NHVR, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) will adopt the NHVIM Version 2.1 as the inspection standard for heavy vehicle inspections from 1 July 2016.

From this date, AIS approval holders and AEs will be required to use the NHVIM Version 2.1 when conducting heavy vehicle inspections, replacing the former NHVIM Version 1.

The NHVIM Version 2.1 is available on the NHVR's website at www.nhvr.gov.au/nhvim and can be downloaded as a complete document or as individual sections, including separate inspection checklists for both heavy vehicles and trailers.

Where later versions of the manual are published, AISs and AEs will be advised of the updates and when they are required to commence using the revised version.

Differences between NHVIM Version 2.1 and Version 1

The NHVIM Version 2.1 uses a similar layout and structure to the previous version and will be very familiar to AEs.

The main differences between the manuals are minor technical changes that ensure the reasons for rejection are clear and reflect advances in vehicle design and construction. In addition, most of the appendices have been incorporated directly into the relevant sections and all graphics have been redrawn to ensure ease-of-use.

In particular, AISs and AEs should note that they will now be required to inspect motorhomes, caravans and campervans as outlined in Section 15 of the manual. The criteria in Section 15 of the manual have not been previously assessed by AEs in Queensland. It's important that AISs and AEs become familiar with the reasons for rejection detailed in this section. It should also be noted that the inspection requirements in Section 15 require a visual inspection only and the number of vehicles requiring these checks during a COI are an extremely small percentage of the total heavy vehicles/trailers currently inspected by AIS.

NHVIM Version 2.1 also includes Vehicle Dimensions (Section 16). In Queensland, approved examiners are not required to undertake a dimension inspection. These inspections will continue to be performed by Heavy Vehicle Registration Assessment Scheme accredited persons and at TMR Customer Service Centres during pre-registration inspections.

The NHVR and TMR encourage all AISs and AEs to review the NHVIM Version 2.1 to ensure they have a strong working knowledge of the manual and use it correctly as part of their inspection process.

Feedback

The NHVR seeks to continually update and improve the NHVIM. Contributions and feedback may be made by completing the [NHVIM Feedback Form](#) and sending it to vehiclestandards@nhvr.gov.au

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