Transport inspectors and heavy vehicle checks

Helping freight move quickly and efficiently throughout Queensland is important for our communities and our economy. Limiting damage to the state’s road network through mass, load and dimension compliance is essential to allow for freight movements now and in the future. It will also assist the safety of all road users.

Working with the heavy vehicle industry, transport inspectors play an important part in educating heavy vehicle drivers and transport operators on road safety and ensuring compliance with transport legislation.

Your safety is important to us

Transport inspectors will direct you to a safe stopping place by either a flashing magenta light on the roof of the vehicle, hand signal, stop sign, radio transmission or intercept signs placed at the side of the road.

How often do heavy vehicle checks occur?

On-road heavy vehicle inspections can occur anywhere and at anytime throughout Queensland.

Where do heavy vehicle checks occur?

Transport Inspectors will randomly intercept vehicles on public roads or at roadside sites. Checks may also involve other enforcement agencies such Queensland Police or Australian Customs at the checkpoints.

Be prepared

In addition to providing your details and relevant permit(s), you will be required to provide the details of the owner of the vehicle, trailers attached, the nature of the goods being carried and the origin and destination of the journey.

When driving, you should carry:

- your driver licence
- mass or dimension permits (with endorsements) or gazettal notice
- your work diary and/or daily running sheet
- other documentation pertaining to the vehicle or load.
Frequently asked questions about transport inspectors and heavy vehicle checks

What will be checked?
Transport inspectors may undertake one or more of the following checks:

• driving records (fatigue)
• mechanical condition and general roadworthiness
• load security
• vehicle registration
• drivers licence currency and class
• vehicle and load dimension
• dangerous goods transport compliance and driver safety requirements
• oversize and over mass permit compliance
• gross and axle mass assessment involving the use of weighing equipment scales.

What happens if my vehicle and/or load is non-compliant?
Transport Inspectors will explain the non-compliant issue, any imposed conditions and they will ask you questions.

Actions may include:

• In the case of a breach of legislation, you could be issued an infringement notice, a defect notice, a prohibition notice or written caution.
• In the case of a mechanical defect, you could be issued a defect notice and possibly, a penalty infringement notice.

The defect notice will:

• outline a time frame for the defect to be repaired
• may direct that the vehicle is not to be driven or only driven in accordance with specific conditions, including a particular route, time of travel and location.

You will be advised when to proceed on completion of the inspection.

Do I need to stop?
Yes. Failing to obey a signal or direction given by a transport inspector is an offence. You are legally required to assist transport inspectors in performing their duties. You may be required to provide your name, address, identification such as a driver’s licence, work diary and/or permit(s).

How long does a check take?
Allow approximately 20 minutes if the vehicle and load is compliant with transport legislation.