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Guidelines for Transporting Multiple Items on an Oversize or Over-mass Vehicle

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Refer to Main Roads website for current version.

D17#306203
June 2026

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Amendments

| Revision Number | Revision Date | Description of Key Changes | Section |
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| 1 | 6/02/2018 | Additional item permitted to exceed statutory height limits. | cl. 2.4 |
| 2 | 6/11/2020 | Included definition for statutory dimension limits and formatted document. | All |
| 3 | 26/09/2023 | Updated document and images for clarity. | All |
| 4 | 08/08/2024 | Amended provisions to allow a low loader or platform trailer to carry items removed from the mining machine being carried. | cl. 2.2.3 and 3.1.1 |
| 5 | 19/03/2026 | Remove 19m length restriction. Added provision for carrying other items not mentioned. Clarified "mining machine" intent. | cl. 2.2, 3.3, wherever "mining machine" referenced. |
| 6 | 22/05/2026 | Clarified definition for large indivisible item. | Definitions |
| 8 | 5/06/2026 | Clarified grillage and loading beam requirements | cl. 2.1.3 |

REFERENCES AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

The following documents relate to these Guidelines and are available on the Main Roads website:

| Document Name | Location |
|---|---|
| Class 1 RAV 8 Tyre Per Axle Low Loader Overmass Period Permit Operating Conditions | https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/4912f8/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/permits-orders-schemes/osom/class-1-rav-8-tyre-per-axle-low-loader-overmass-period-permit-operating-conditions.pdf |
| Class 1 RAV - Low Loader Overmass Period Permit Operating Conditions | https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/491480/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/permits-orders-schemes/osom/class-1-rav-low-loader-overmass-period-permit-operating-conditions.pdf |
| Class 1 RAV Oversize Period Permit Operating Conditions | https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/491331/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/permits-orders-schemes/osom/class-1-rav-oversize-period-permit-operating-conditions.pdf |
| Class 1 RAV Restricted Area Low Loader Overmass Period Permit Operating Conditions | https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/491306/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/permits-orders-schemes/osom/class-1-rav-restricted-area-low-loader-overmass-period-permit-operating-conditions.pdf |
| Oversize Road Train & B-double Operating Conditions | https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/48e665/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/permits-orders-schemes/oversize-road-trains-and-b-doubles/oversize-road-train-and-b-double-period-permit-operating-conditions.pdf |
| Platform Trailer Relocation Period Permit Operating Conditions | https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/491285/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/permits-orders-schemes/osom/platform-trailer-relocation-period-permit-operating-conditions.pdf |
| Road Train with Long Trailers Period Permit Operating Conditions | https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/4ab22e/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/permits-orders-schemes/road-train-with-long-trailers/road-trains-with-long-trailers-period-permits-operating-conditions.pdf |
| Single Trip Oversize Vehicle Standard Operating Conditions | https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/4903c2/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/permits-orders-schemes/osom/single-trip-osom-vehicle-standard-operating-conditions.pdf |

DEFINITIONS

The following are definitions for terms used in these Guidelines. Refer to the definitions in the *Road Traffic (Administration) Act 2008* and the *Road Traffic (Vehicles) Act 2012* and any subsidiary legislation to these Acts for the meanings of any terms not defined in this section. If a definition in the relevant Acts or the subsidiary legislation conflicts with a definition in this section, the definition in this section prevails for the purpose of these Guidelines.

| Term | Definition |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Conventional Vehicle | A vehicle that is readily available on the market and meets all statutory dimension requirements, i.e. licensed as an 'A' class vehicle. |
| Large Indivisible Item | <p>An item that cannot be divided without extreme effort, expense or risk of damage to it; and cannot be carried on any vehicle without exceeding a mass or dimension limit.</p> <p>For the purpose of these guidelines a large indivisible item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Includes equipment that is essential for transporting the large indivisible load, such as customised framing necessary to support the large indivisible load. (b) Does not include a container or other receptacle exceeding a statutory dimension limit and carrying bulk or general freight. (c) Does not include grillage or transport / loading beams. |
| Main Roads Website | www.mainroads.wa.gov.au |
| Overmass | Resulting in the vehicle exceeding the statutory mass limits. |
| Oversize | Resulting in the vehicle exceeding the statutory dimension limits. |
| S-dimension | The distance measured from the semi-trailer's kingpin to the centre of its rear axle group. |
| Statutory Dimension Limits | The dimension limits prescribed in Part 8 of the <i>Road Traffic (Vehicles) Regulations 2014</i> . |
| Statutory Mass Limits | The mass limits prescribed in Part 8 of the <i>Road Traffic (Vehicles) Regulations 2014</i> . |

1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to provide a clear understanding of the requirements associated with transporting multiple items on an oversize and/or overmass vehicle.

An oversize and overmass vehicle must comply with these guidelines, unless the contrary intention appears in the permit operating conditions.

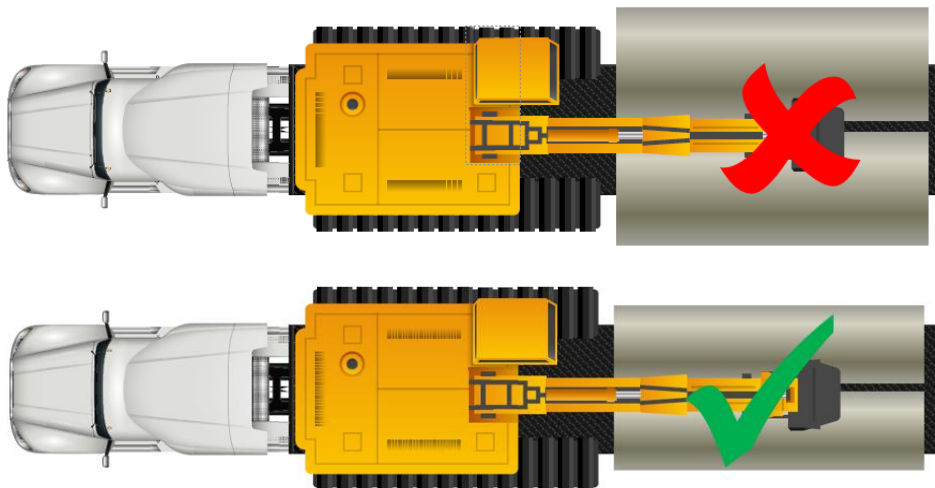
2 EXCEEDING DIMENSION LIMITS

Exemptions for exceeding dimension limits are only given when the large indivisible item cannot be carried on a conventional vehicle without exceeding statutory dimension limits. Allowing dimension limits to be exceeded unnecessarily due to an operator using an inappropriate vehicle, or as a result of carrying multiple items, will have an adverse effect on road safety and commercial equity.

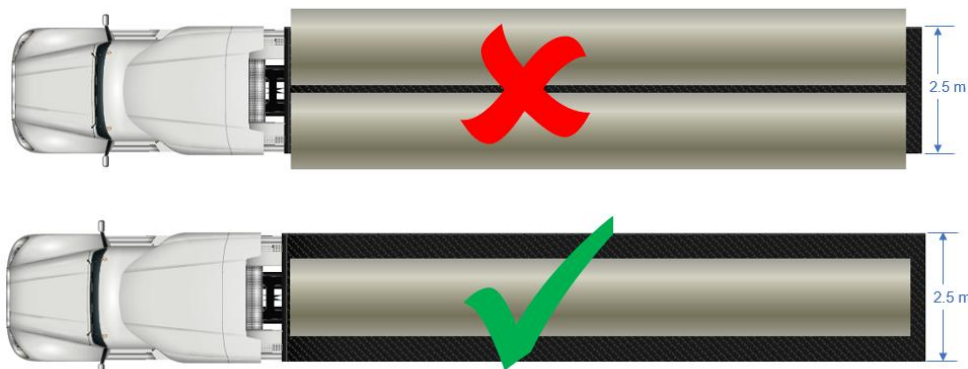
However, under certain circumstances, Main Roads will allow multiple items to be carried when a dimension limit is being exceeded. The circumstances are as follows.

2.1 Carrying Multiple Items and Exceeding Width Limits

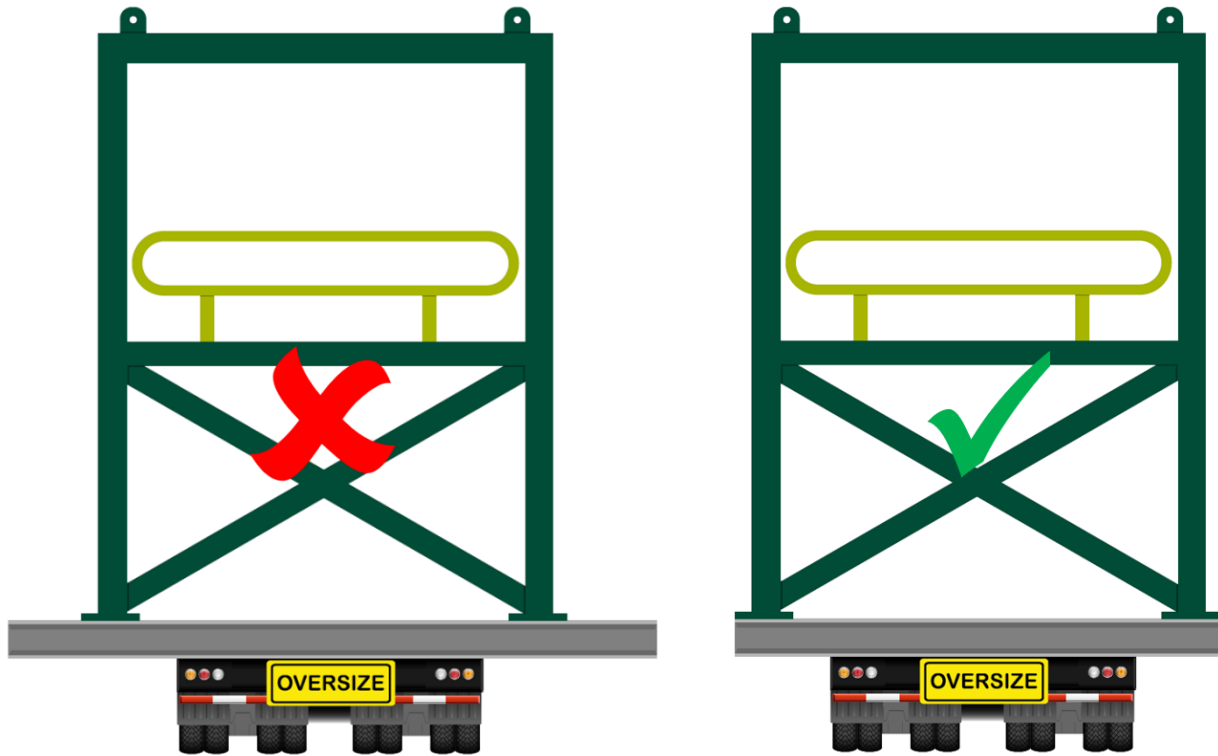
2.1.1 A vehicle carrying an overwidth large indivisible item may carry other items, provided they do not result in the vehicle exceeding the width of the large indivisible item.



2.1.2 Where a vehicle is not carrying an overwidth large indivisible item, multiple items must not be loaded side by side if it results in the overall width exceeding 2.5 metres.



2.1.3 Where a vehicle is carrying a large indivisible item supported by grillage or transport / loading beams, the grillage or beams must not exceed the width of the large indivisible item or the trailer, whichever is wider.



2.2 Carrying Multiple Items and Exceeding Length Limits

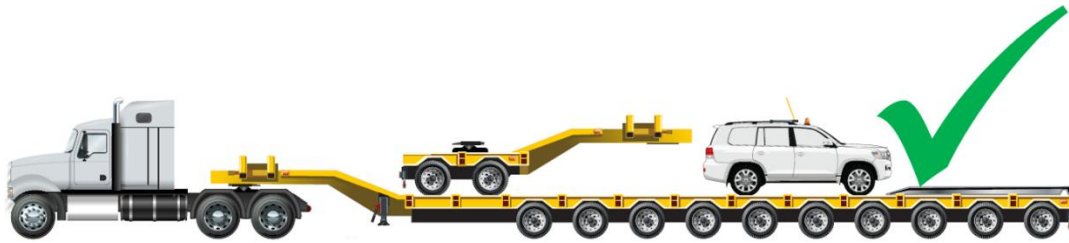
2.2.1 Unless otherwise specified under this clause, multiple items may be loaded front to back on a prime mover and semi-trailer combination, including a low loader, provided the trailer's length is reduced to the smallest possible dimension and all items remain within the confines of the trailer length.



2.2.2 A platform trailer may carry the following multiple items:

- (a) a dolly, provided there is no dolly in the vehicle combination; and/or
- (b) a pilot vehicle; and/or
- (c) loading equipment.



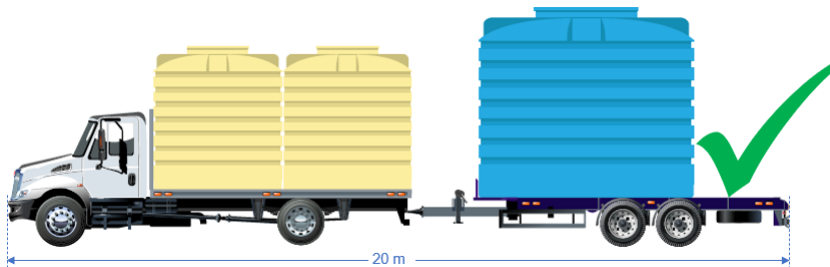
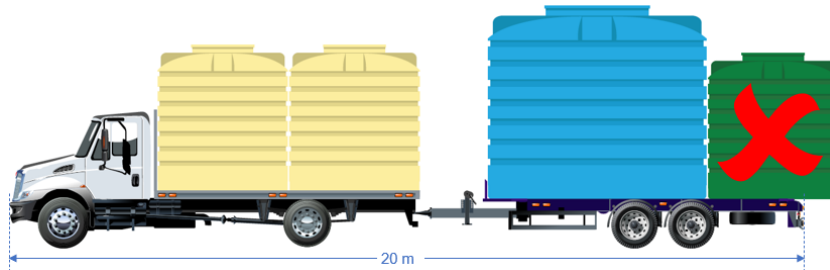


2.2.3 A platform trailer loaded with a mobile mining or construction machine, such as a dump truck, may carry additional items, provided:

- (a) The additional items have been removed from the mobile mining or construction machine, such as the tray or wheels from the dump truck chassis; and
- (b) The overall vehicle combination length does not exceed 50 metres, or
- (c) The additional items are necessary for the loading / unloading of the mobile mining or construction machine.



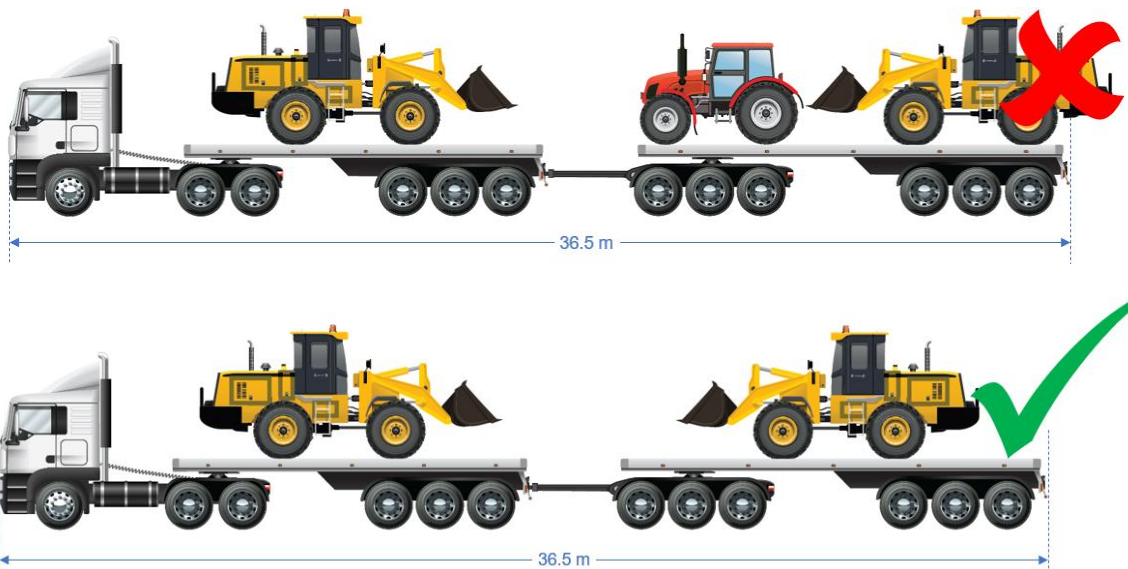
2.2.4 Multiple items must not be loaded front to back on a rigid truck and pig trailer (or tag trailer) combination if it results in the length, measured from the front of the vehicle combination to the rear of the load, exceeding 20 metres in overall length or an allowable vehicle dimension limit, such as 12.5 metres for the rigid vehicle, or 3.7 metres rear overhang.



2.2.5 Multiple items must not be loaded front to back on a rigid truck and dog trailer combination, if it results in the length exceeding 25 metres in overall length or an allowable vehicle dimension limit, such as 12.5 metres for the rigid vehicle, or 3.7 metres rear overhang.

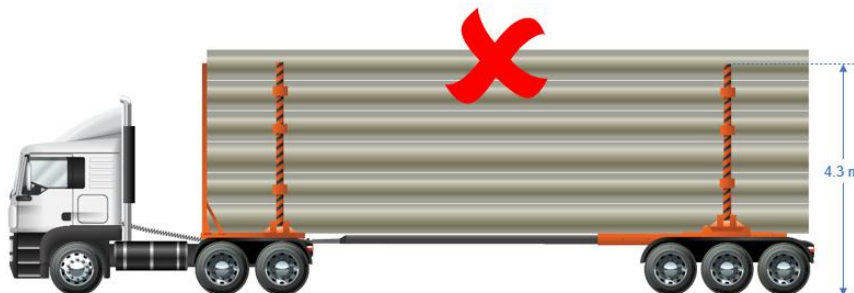


2.2.6 Multiple items must not be loaded front to back on a road train or B-double, if it results in the length exceeding the allowable road train or B-double overall length or an allowable trailer dimension, such as 3.7 metres rear overhang.



2.3 Carrying Multiple Items and Exceeding Height Limits

2.3.1 Multiple items must not be stacked if it results in the overall height exceeding 4.3 metres;

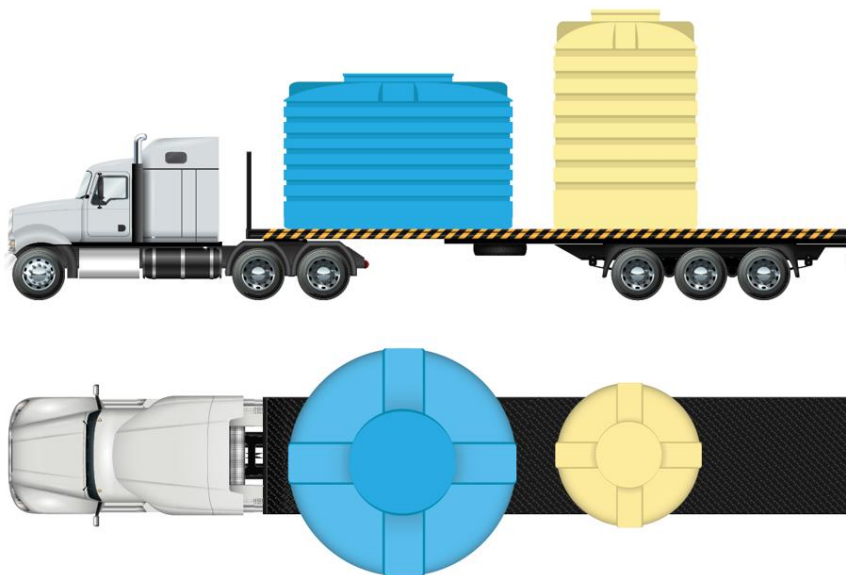




2.3.2 Despite sub-clause 2.3.1, swimming pools packaged and consigned for export may be stacked to a maximum loaded height not exceeding 5.3 metres.

2.4 Carrying Multiple Items and Exceeding Width and Height Limits

2.4.1 Multiple items may be loaded together, each exceeding a different height and width limit, provided the allowable height and width limits under the relevant permit are not exceeded.



3 EXCEEDING MASS LIMITS

Similar to dimension limit exemptions, exemptions for exceeding mass limits are only given when the load cannot be carried on a conventional vehicle without exceeding statutory mass limits, or cannot be dismantled to reduce the mass of the load. Allowing mass limits to be exceeded unnecessarily due to an operator using an inappropriate vehicle, or as a result of carrying multiple items or a divisible item, will have an adverse effect on road infrastructure sustainability, road safety and commercial equity.

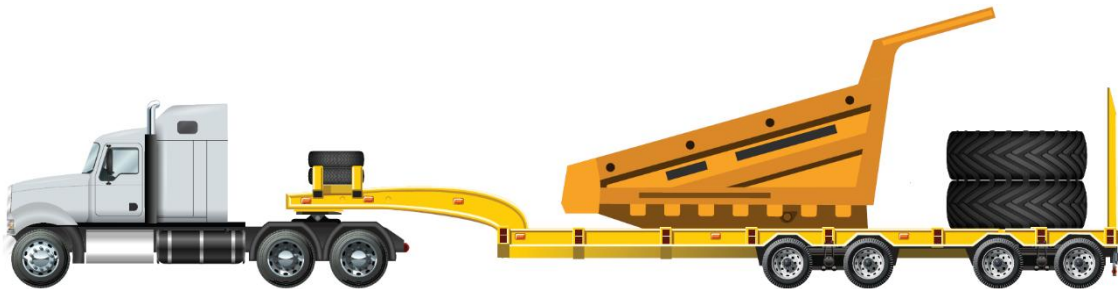
However, under certain circumstances, Main Roads will allow multiple items or divisible items to be carried when mass limits are being exceeded. The circumstances are as follows.

3.1 Carrying Items Removed from a Large Indivisible Item

3.1.1 A low loader or platform trailer, with at least 8 tyres per axle and loaded with a large indivisible mobile mining or construction machine, such as a dump truck, may carry additional items, provided the additional items have been removed from the mobile mining or construction machine to reduce the dimensions, such as the tray or wheels from the dump truck chassis.



- 3.1.2** A vehicle may carry multiple items removed from a large indivisible mobile mining or construction machine that is being transported on a separate vehicle, provided:
- (a) The items have been removed from the large indivisible mobile mining or construction machine for the purpose of reducing its mass or dimensions; and
 - (b) The items have the same journey start and end points; and
 - (c) The permit applications for the vehicle carrying the main larger indivisible mobile mining or construction machine and the vehicle carrying the removed items have been lodged together and the permits reference each other; and
 - (d) The vehicle used to transport the removed items is not a platform trailer; and
 - (e) The total mass of the vehicle combination does not require Bridge Supervision.



3.2 Carrying Other Items with an Over-mass Large Indivisible Item

A vehicle carrying an over-mass large indivisible item may carry other items, provided:

- (a) The over-mass large indivisible item is an agricultural implement, road construction implement or mining implement and the additional item is a tractor needed to provide motive power to the implement; or
- (b) The additional items are an integral part of an over-mass large indivisible mobile mining, construction, agricultural or earthmoving machine, such as equipment, tools, substances or detached parts necessary for the operation of the indivisible item; or
- (c) The items are necessary for the loading/unloading of the over-mass large indivisible item; or
- (d) The item is a low loader dolly and there is no low loader dolly forming part of the vehicle combination.



3.3 Carrying Other Items Not Mentioned

3.3.1 A low loader may carry multiple items not already mentioned in this section, provided:

- (a) The low loader is reduced to the smallest possible dimension; and
- (b) The vehicle combination does not consist of a low loader dolly; and
- (c) The vehicle combination does not exceed the mass limits in the following table.

| Axle Group | Mass Limit |
|--|------------|
| Single Steer Axle with tyres <375 mm | 6.5 t |
| Single Steer Axle with tyres ≥375 mm | 7.1 t |
| Twin Steer Axle Group with non-load sharing suspension | 10 t |
| Twin Steer Axle Group with load sharing suspension and tyres <375 mm | 11 t |
| Twin Steer Axle Group with load sharing suspension and tyres ≥375 mm | 12 t |
| Tandem Axle Group | 17.5 t |
| Tri Axle Group | 23.5 t |
| Quad Axle Group | 28.5 t |

3.3.2 If the vehicle combination exceeds statutory mass limits on the drive axle group and/or trailer axle group, the operator must be accredited under the WA Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme for Mass Management.