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Oversize Vehicle & Pilot Vehicle General Requirements

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Amendments

Revision Number	Revision Date	Description of Key Changes	Section
1	April 2018	Amendment to delineator measurement	3.5
2	May 2018	Removed restriction on strobe warning light	2.2 (d)
3	October 2018	Revised wording	2.2, 2.4 & 4.2
4	June 2019	Revised delineation requirements	Was 3.5, now 4.6
5	8 July 2021	Removed operational conditions covered in relevant permit operating conditions	1.6 & 1.8
6	13 May 2025	Clarified pilot sign obstruction. Reordered and retitled sections.	5.3, All
7	1/10/2025	Added alternative supplementary pilot warning sign.	5.4

References and Related Documents

Document Number	Description
D19#398498	Oversize Vehicle Pilot Video – Audit Regime

1 PILOT VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS

1.1 Requirements for a Pilot Vehicle

- 1.1.1** A pilot vehicle must have 4 or more wheels and a GVM of:
- (a) 6.5 t or less in the case of a rear pilot vehicle, if 2 pilot vehicles are required; or
 - (b) 4.5 t or less in any other case.

1.2 Communication Equipment

- 1.2.1** An oversize vehicle and any accompanying pilot vehicle must have an electronic device that allows the drivers to communicate effectively with each other.
- 1.2.2** An oversize vehicle and pilot vehicle must be fitted with a UHF radio to communicate with other road users.

2 WARNING LIGHT REQUIREMENTS

2.1 Warning Light Requirements

- 2.1.1** The flash of an operational amber warning light must be visible between 120 and 200 times a minute, in normal daylight, at a distance of not less than 500 metres in all directions.
- 2.1.2** Where it is not possible to see one warning light mounted on the pilot vehicle from any direction, additional amber warning light(s) must be mounted on the pilot vehicle, so that at least one amber warning light is visible in all directions.
- 2.1.3** Where it is not possible to see one warning light mounted on the oversize vehicle or load from any direction, additional amber warning light(s) must be mounted on the oversize vehicle or load, so that at least one amber warning light is visible in all directions.

2.2 Requirements for Pilot Vehicle Wig Wag Lights

Wig Wag Lights must:

- (a) be mounted in pairs, one on each side of the front of the vehicle; and
- (b) flash an alternating white light; and
- (c) not interfere with the amber warning lights or any other lights required under road law; and
- (d) not be headlights; and
- (e) have an illuminating surface area not less than 40cm²; and
- (f) be no less than 500mm above ground level and no more than 1000mm above ground level.

Wig Wag Lights may:

- (a) be spotlights with a maximum output of 55 watts, provided they are angle down 45 degrees toward the road surface; or
- (b) be LED day running lights (as per ADR 76), provided the light emitted from each lamp does not exceed 400cd.

3 GENERAL WARNING SIGN REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Face of a Warning Sign

- 3.1.1 The face of a warning sign must have a yellow surface, which complies with Class 100 or 400 of Australian Standard AS 1906.1 — 2017 *Retro reflective Materials and Devices for Road Traffic Control Purposes – Retroreflective Sheeting*.
- 3.1.2 The face of the warning sign must have a black border at least 20 mm wide. The border may be split if the sign is divided into two parts.
- 3.1.3 The outermost edge of the border must be set at least 10 mm in from the edge of the sign unless the sign has been made with a box edge.
- 3.1.4 The warning sign must display the manufacturer's name or logo, and the brand and class of retro reflective material used in block letters at least 3 mm, but not more than 10 mm, high.
- 3.1.5 The marking may appear in any visible location on the sign, except in a bottom corner of a sign used on a pilot vehicle.

3.2 Material for a Warning Sign

A warning sign must be made of either:

- (a) Stiff, flat, weatherproof material, or
- (b) Flexible material, provided the sign is held taut, and is clearly visible and unlikely to become dislocated, furl or otherwise become difficult to read by other road users.

4 OVERSIZE VEHICLE WARNING SIGNS & DELINEATORS

4.1 Size of an Oversize Vehicle Warning Sign

- 4.1.1 A warning sign on an oversize vehicle must be at least 1020 mm long and at least 250 mm high.
- 4.1.2 The sign may be split into 2 parts, in which case the combined length of its parts must be at least 1020 mm.

4.2 Face of an Oversize Vehicle Warning Sign

- 4.2.1 A warning sign on an oversize vehicle must show the word "OVERSIZE", in black upper case lettering, conforming with Australian Standard AS 1744:2015 *Standard Alphabets for Road Signs*, in typeface Series C, or similar.
- 4.2.2 The lettering must be at least 180 mm high.



- 4.2.3 If the sign is split into 2 parts, the part mounted on the left must show the letters "OVER" and the part mounted on the right must show the letters "SIZE".

4.3 Mounting an Oversize Warning Sign

- 4.3.1** A warning sign on an oversize vehicle must be mounted horizontally.
- 4.3.2** The lower edge of the sign must be:
- (a) Above the bottom of the bumper bar; or
 - (b) If there is no bumper bar, at least 500 mm from the ground level.
- 4.3.3** If the sign is split into 2 parts, each part must be fitted at the same height as the other.

4.4 Delineating Side Projection

- 4.4.1** A delineator must be retro-reflective rigid panel or sheeting that is:
- (a) At least 300 mm long and at least 300 mm wide; and
 - (b) Yellow in colour; and
 - (c) Compliant with Class 100 or 400 of Australian Standard AS 1906.1 — 2017 *Retro reflective Materials and Devices for Road Traffic Control Purposes – Retroreflective Sheeting*; and
 - (d) If at the front of the projection, attached so that it's reflective surface is facing forward of the vehicle; and
 - (e) If at the rear of the projection, attached so that it's reflective surface is facing rearward of the vehicle.
- 4.4.2** Alternatively, the entire section of the side projection may
- (a) be marked with high visibility fluorescent pink paint; or
 - (b) be covered with high visibility retro-reflective tape; or
 - (c) have a warning flag attached to the extremity of the side projection in such a manner that the warning flag will remain taut and visible to vehicles approaching from the front and rear respectively.

5 PILOT VEHICLE WARNING SIGNS

5.1 Size of a Pilot Vehicle Warning Sign

- 5.1.1** A warning sign on a pilot vehicle must be at least 1200 mm long and at least 600 mm high.
- 5.1.2** The sign may have bottom corner cut outs not more than 150 mm wide and not more than 100 mm high, if they are needed for mounting the warning lights.

5.2 Face of a Pilot Vehicle Warning Sign

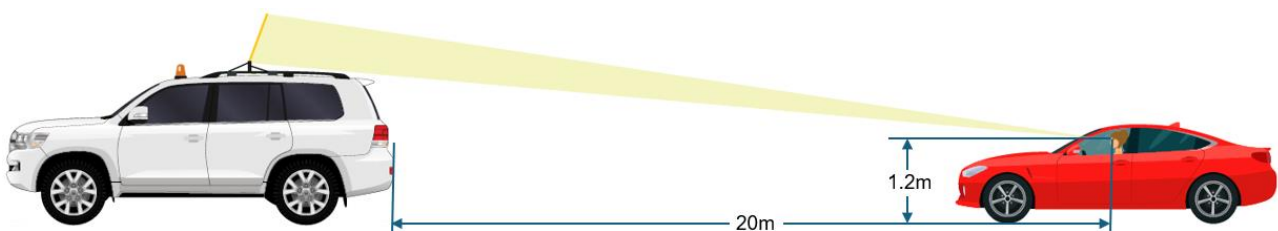
- 5.2.1** Both faces of a warning sign on a pilot vehicle must show:
- (a) The word "OVERSIZE", in black upper-case lettering at least 200 mm high, conforming with Australian Standard AS 1744 — 2015 *Forms of Letters and Numerals for Road Signs*, in typeface Series C(N); and
 - (b) The words "LOAD AHEAD", in black upper-case lettering at least 100 mm high, conforming with Australian Standard AS 1744:2015 *Standard Alphabets for Road Signs*, in typeface Series D, or similar.
- 5.2.2** The bottom of the lettering of the word "OVERSIZE" must be at least 300 mm from the bottom of the sign.

- 5.2.3** The bottom of the lettering of the words “LOAD AHEAD” must be at least 100 mm from the bottom of the sign.



5.3 Mounting a Pilot Vehicle Warning Sign

- 5.3.1** A warning sign on a pilot vehicle must be mounted on the roof so the face of the warning sign is unobstructed to approaching traffic, from a distance of 20 metres to 100 metres at an eye height of 1.2 metres from the ground.



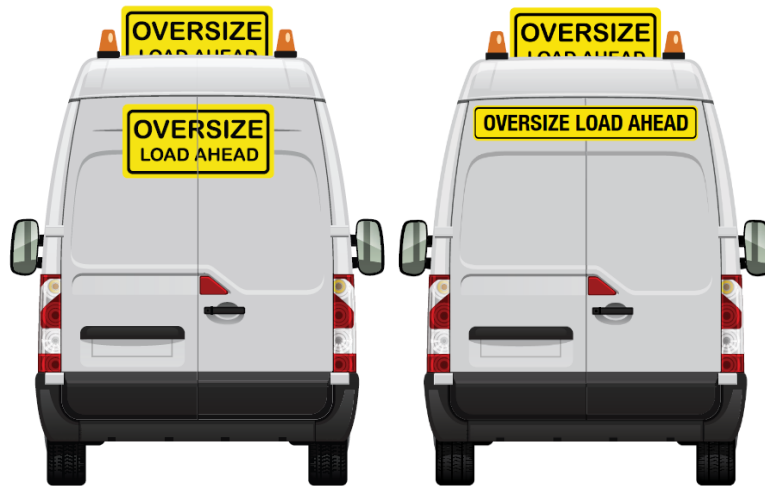
- 5.3.2** A warning sign on a pilot vehicle must not lean back so there is more than 200 mm measured horizontally from the top of the sign to a vertical line running through the bottom of the sign.



5.4 Supplementary Pilot Warning Sign

- 5.4.1** Where it is not practicable to mount the sign without it being obstructed from the rear due to a fixture on the pilot vehicle, a supplementary sign may be mounted on the roof or rear of the pilot vehicle.
- 5.4.2** A supplementary sign may be either the same as the primary pilot vehicle warning sign, or a sign meeting the following specifications:
- (a) A warning signs at least 1400 mm long and 220 mm high; and
 - (b) Showing the words “OVERSIZE LOAD AHEAD”, in black upper-case lettering at least 140 mm high, conforming with Australian Standard AS 1744:2015 *Standard Alphabets for Road Signs*, in typeface Series D, or similar.

OVERSIZE LOAD AHEAD



5.4.3 For the purpose of this clause, a fixture does not include any item that can easily be removed, such as a spare tyre.

5.4.4 Supplementary signage cannot be used on the front of a pilot vehicle to overcome an obstructed warning sign. The front face of the roof mounted warning sign must be unobstructed to oncoming traffic.

6 MAINTAINING A WARNING SIGN

6.1.1 The face of the warning sign on a pilot vehicle or oversize vehicle must be appropriately maintained to ensure it is clearly visible and legible to other road users.

6.1.2 A warning sign on a pilot vehicle or oversize vehicle that is not clearly visible and legible to other road users due to being worn, obstructed, not taut or soiled is deemed to be a non-compliant warning sign.

7 NOT TO DISPLAY A WARNING SIGN IF NOT REQUIRED

A pilot vehicle or oversize vehicle must not display a warning sign unless it is required to be displayed as a requirement of a permit, order or licensing condition.

8 WARNING FLAGS FOR OVERSIZE VEHICLES

A warning flag must be brightly coloured red, yellow, or red and yellow, at least 450mm long and 450mm wide.