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Policy & Process for Self-Propelled Modular Transporter (SPMT) Access

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Amendments

Revision Number	Revision Date	Description of Key Changes	Section / Page No.
1	06/02/2023	Full review and reformat of original version (D20#46384).	All
2	05/10/2023	Updated requirements to clarify permit, OSOM-TMP and "rolling roadblock" requirements.	All
3	10/06/2024	Removed "rolling roadblock" requirements and clarified legal requirements for a permit and operators' responsibilities.	All
4	20/10/2025	Clarified policy, based on an SPMT not being a vehicle covered by Road Law and not permitted by HVS.	All

1 OVERVIEW

A Self-Propelled Modular Transporter (SPMT) is a self-propelled transporter designed to carry loads with extraordinary mass and dimensions. The SPMT can be made up from modules of different sizes and configurations, coupled together depending on what is required to transport the load and distribute the mass.

The SPMT travels at very slow speeds with the operator walking along side, controlling the SPMT with a remote-control device, and can be steered in any direction.

SPMTs often have solid tyres, which have significant impact on the road infrastructure. SPMTs are only used when absolutely necessary and must be moved in such a manner that ensures road safety and adequate consideration is given to road infrastructure impacts.

2 POLICY

- 2.1 Main Roads Heavy Vehicle Services (HVS) will not issue a permit allowing an SPMT (including multiple SPMTs used collaboratively under a single load) to travel on a road while it is open to the public.
- 2.2 The section of road being used by the SPMT will need to be closed to the public, with relevant authorisations, before the SPMT movement can occur.
- 2.3 An SPMT movement must not occur without support from the relevant road manager.
- 2.4 An SPMT movement must not occur over a structure, unless approved by Main Roads Structures Engineering Branch (SEB).

3 SPMT OPERATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 The SPMT operator should consult with the road manager to discuss potential impacts on the road asset and agree to any bond and/or road use agreement.
- 3.2 The SPMT operator should consult with WA Police to determine any requirements for a Road Closure Order.
- 3.3 The SPMT operator must obtain approval from SEB before crossing any bridge via sepermitsassessments@mainroads.wa.gov.au.
- 3.4 The SPMT operator should liaise with relevant service providers to ensure there are no services under the road that could be damaged by the weight of the SPMT.
- 3.5 The SPMT operator should prepare a Traffic Management Plan detailing how and when the road closures will occur, including how advanced notification will be provided to other road users and anticipated traffic delays.
- 3.6 The SPMT operator should undertake a route assessment to ensure the SPMT can travel safely along the proposed route without damaging roadside furniture, etc.
- 3.7 The SPMT operator should obtain Western Power / Horizon Power over-height approval.