

What can I expect during a Heavy Vehicle Inspection?

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September 2017

Why are heavy vehicle inspections important?

Heavy vehicle inspections are undertaken to;

- Improve Road Safety;
- Minimise adverse impacts of heavy vehicles on road infrastructure, the environment and community.

Did you know?

Chain of Responsibility legislation was introduced into West Australian Road Law in April 2015 and extends the legal liability for breaches of transport law to all parties throughout the transport chain.



- Consignor
- Packer
- Loader
- Operator
- Driver
- Consignee

This means anyone who has control in the transport chain (including the operator and manager) can be held legally accountable if, by their actions, inactions or demands, they cause or contribute to a mass, dimension or loading requirement breach.



What will be inspected?



DOCUMENTS

Drivers may also be asked to supply one or more of the following documents:

- Driver's and vehicle licence;
- Weigh report manifests and/or other consignment documentation;
- Main Roads' mass or dimension permits (with endorsements) or Gazettal Order (previously known as a notice);
- Other documentation pertaining to the vehicle or load.



VEHICLE

The Transport Inspector may undertake one or more of the following inspections:

- Gross and axle mass assessment involving the use of portable scales;
- Vehicle and load dimension checks;
- Oversize and over mass permit compliance;
- Mechanical condition and general roadworthiness;
- Load restraint;
- Dangerous goods transport compliance and driver safety requirements.

HEAVY VEHICLE INSPECTION

Transport Inspectors have an important role in educating and working with the transport industry, other agencies and stakeholders to improve compliance standards, road safety and road asset protection.

1 A Transport Inspector will direct you to stop or proceed to a safe stopping area. These directions may be given using a flashing magenta roof light, (possibly with a siren), or by hand signal, stop sign or by radio transmission (UHF CB).

2 Drivers must stop when directed by a Transport Inspector. Failing to obey a signal or direction given by a Transport Inspector is an offence. Once stopped, drivers should stay in the cab until approached by the Transport Inspector.

3 Drivers are required by law to provide their name and address upon request, as well as produce any relevant permit(s). Drivers will be asked to provide details of the goods being carried, and the origin and destination of the journey.

4 The Transport Inspector will determine if the vehicle and its load are compliant or non-compliant. If the vehicle and its load are compliant you can then continue your journey. You will be advised when you can proceed by the Transport Inspector on completion of the inspection.

5 For non-compliant vehicles, the Transport Inspector will explain to the driver what action will be taken. Depending on the severity of the offence, the matter may be treated by infringement, summons for a court hearing or by caution.

Transport Inspectors are authorised under the law to intercept and inspect vehicles



What may I receive following the inspection?

INTERCEPT REPORT

An Intercept Report is completed by the Transport Inspector if an offence is detected. The driver will receive a copy of the Intercept Report that includes all information taken at the time.



WEIGH REPORT

A Weigh Report will be completed and a copy given to the driver if the vehicle is weighed.



VL41 NOTICE

Vehicles found to be unroadworthy are issued with a VL41 Notice (sometimes referred to as a yellow sticker, defect notice or work order) and must be examined at a Vehicle Examination Centre or an Approved Inspection Station to have the VL41 Notice removed.



INFRINGEMENT

An Infringement may be issued at the roadside or mailed if an offence is detected. Infringements must be paid in full within 28 days of the issue date.



MDLR BREACH NOTICE

A Direction to Rectify MDLR Breach Notice is issued if a substantial or severe breach is detected. The notice is issued to instruct the driver that the vehicle is to remain at its current location until the breach has been rectified. In some cases the Transport Inspector may direct the driver to move the vehicle to a safer location for rectification action.

