

# Recognised Loading Control Method #4

## On Board Mass Management

September 2017

The following is a recognised loading control method under the Accredited Mass Management Scheme.

On board mass management systems provide a good indication to the driver that they are complying with allowable mass limits, and it provides flexibility as it can be used for multiple transport tasks from almost any location.

The two types of on board mass management systems include chassis mounted and suspension mounted, with related technology continually improving.



Some of the common ways in which axle mass information is provided include:

- In-cab displays providing the driver with real-time information about mass on axle groups.
- Wireless technologies that transmit real time axle mass information via Bluetooth to most mobile devices or to back office via mobile data networks.
- Chassis mounted LED readouts displaying axle group weights.



Whatever the on board mass management system used, you must be able to record the axle weights to meet record keeping requirements and include this process in your loading plan.

For on board mass management systems that have the capability to simply display the axle weight information but not record it, you will need to have a documented process to ensure the driver records this information for each load.

This could be in the form of a simple spreadsheet / trip sheet or schematic of the particular vehicle combination to record axle group weights, which is signed and dated by the driver or date / time stamped photographs of the readouts. Any of these can then simply be included in the trip records.

If the on board mass management system has the capability to both display and record axle weights, i.e. showing the driver the axle weights on readouts and sending the data to a back office for storage, then this will meet the record keeping requirements. You just need to ensure that however the information is recorded, it is readily available for your auditor or Main Roads to view as part of your audit.

Because using an on board mass management system as the loading control method does not include physically weighing the vehicle's axle groups each time it is loaded, your loading plan must be verified at least every 3 months.

**'Some on board mass management systems will require calibration or verification more frequently than every 3 months; in this instance you need to follow the manufacturer recommendations to ensure your devices are operating correctly.'**

To demonstrate the verification process, you must have weigh documentation showing the vehicle has been weighed using a weighbridge or portable scales and that it complies with allowable mass limits.

If you use an AMMS Approved Weighbridge to verify your loading plan, you will just need to identify the particular AMMS Approved Weighbridge you are using. If it is not an AMMS Approved Weighbridge or you use portable scales, you will need to have the calibration or certification documentation for the weighing device as part of your records.