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# Operating Conditions

## Road Train with Long Trailers Period Permit

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D12#230806  
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## Document Control

<b>Owner</b>	Main Roads Heavy Vehicle Services
<b>Custodian</b>	Manager Heavy Vehicle Road Network Access
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## Amendments

Revision Number	Revision Date	Description of Key Changes	Section / Page No.
1	23/04/2020	Updated document format, amended access, pilot requirements and warning devices at night.	All
2	03/08/2020	Changed name from RAV Network to Tandem Drive Network	Pg. 4, Sections 5.1.3, 5.1.4 and 6.1.1
3	08/09/2020	Updated Compulsory Heavy Vehicle Incident Reporting.	Section 3
4	1/03/2022	Added Clause 4.3 Height Requirements	Section 4

## REFERENCES AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

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

Document Number	Description
D15#453366	Oversize Vehicle & Pilot Vehicle General Requirements
D17#306203	Guidelines for Transporting Multiple Items on an Oversize or Over-mass Vehicle

## DEFINITIONS

The following are definitions for terms used in these Operating Conditions. 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 Operating Conditions.

Term	Definition
<b>Licensing Authority</b>	A Government Authority responsible for the administration of the vehicle licensing provision of the law of the relevant State, Territory or the Commonwealth.
<b>Main Roads Website</b>	<a href="http://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au">www.mainroads.wa.gov.au</a> – documents referenced within these operating conditions are published on the Oversize Over-mass Permits page.
<b>Permit</b>	A permit issued under Part 4 of the Road Traffic (Vehicles) Act 2012, which these Operating Conditions form part of.
<b>Permit Holder</b>	The Operator to whom the permit is issued.
<b>Posted Speed Limit</b>	The speed limit indicated by the numerals on the speed limit sign or 50 kilometres per hour in the absence of a speed limit sign in a built-up area.
<b>RAV</b>	An approved vehicle to which the “ <i>Road Train with Long Trailers Period Permit</i> ” applies.
<b>Tandem Drive Network 5</b>	The Tandem Drive Network 5 approved roads are published in the form of Road Tables or are available on the RAV Mapping Tool on the Main Roads website.
<b>Road Train with Long Trailers Network</b>	The Road Train with Long Trailers Network approved roads are published on the Road Train with Long Trailers page of the Main Roads website.

## 1 APPLICATION

### 1.1 Approved Vehicles

1.1.1 The *Road Train with Long Trailers Period Permit* applies to a RAV consisting of:

- (a) A tandem drive prime mover towing a semi-trailer; and
- (b) Towing a dog trailer or a converter dolly only.

1.1.2 At least one (1) of the semi-trailers in the RAV must be an over-length semi-trailer or an extendable semi-trailer.

### 1.2 Approved Loads

1.2.1 The *Road Train with Long Trailers Period Permit* applies to a RAV carrying over-length indivisible items.

1.2.2 The *Road Train with Long Trailers Period Permit* applies to a RAV travelling empty, provided the trailers are reduced to the smallest possible dimension.

### 1.3 Carrying Multiple Items

A RAV may carry multiple items, provided the items are carried in accordance with the *Guidelines for Transporting Multiple Items on an Oversize or Over-mass Vehicle*, available on the Oversize Over-mass Permits page on the Main Roads website.

## 2 COMPLYING WITH LICENCING CONDITIONS

Drivers and operators are reminded that in addition to these Operating Conditions, the RAV must be driven in accordance with any conditions of the vehicle's licence, as imposed by the relevant Licensing Authority.

## 3 COMPULSORY HEAVY VEHICLE INCIDENT REPORTING

All on-road incidents involving a RAV must be reported to Main Roads Heavy Vehicle Services by the permit holder. The Heavy Vehicle Incident Reporting form is available on the Incident Reporting page on the Main Roads website and it must be submitted within 48 hours of the incident occurring.

## 4 DIMENSION REQUIREMENTS

A RAV is required to comply with statutory dimension limits unless a modified dimension limit is specified in this section.

### 4.1 Maximum Combination Length

4.1.1 A RAV consisting of a semi-trailer and a dog trailer must not exceed an overall length of 53.5 metres.

4.1.2 A RAV consisting of a semi-trailer and converter dolly only:

- (a) Must not exceed an overall length of 30 metres; and
- (b) Must not exceed 25 metres in length, inclusive of the load, when excluding the dolly.

## 4.2 Maximum Trailer Length

A semi-trailer (whether or not forming part of a dog trailer) used in a RAV must not exceed an overall length 22 metres, when fully extended.

## 4.3 Height Requirements

**4.3.1** A RAV must not exceed a height of 4.3 metres, unless otherwise specified in sub-clause 4.3.2.

**4.3.2** A RAV may operate with a height up to 4.6 metres, provided the RAV is carrying over-length sections of polyethylene pipe only and does not exceed the mass limits specified in the following table:

Axle Group	Mass Limit
Tandem Drive Axle Group	14 t
Lead Semi Trailer Tri Axle Group	14 t
Tandem Dolly Axle Group	14.5 t
Tri Dolly Axle Group	16 t
Rear Semi-Trailer Tri Axle Group when connected to a Tandem Dolly	14.5 t
Rear Semi-Trailer Tri Axle Group when connected to a Tri Dolly	16 t

# 5 ACCESS REQUIREMENTS

## 5.1 Approved Roads and Conditions

**5.1.1** A RAV consisting of a semi-trailer and a dog trailer must not operate on any road that is not in the Road Train with Long Trailers Network.

**5.1.2** A RAV must operate in accordance with any conditions specified for a particular road in the Road Train with Long Trailers Network.

**5.1.3** A RAV consisting of a semi-trailer and converter dolly only, may operate on a road in Tandem Drive Network 5.

**5.1.4** A RAV must operate in accordance with any conditions specified for a particular road in Tandem Drive Network 5, other than a condition requiring the operator to obtain road manager support.

## 5.2 Route Survey

Prior to departure, the operator or driver of the RAV must assess the route of travel to ensure that it is suitable for use and that it can be driven along without contravening these Operating Conditions.

# 6 SPEED & SAFE TRAVEL CONDITIONS

## 6.1 Speed Restrictions

**6.1.1** A RAV must not travel at a speed that exceeds:

- (a) the maximum speed (if any) specified as a condition on a road in the Road Train with Long Trailers Network or Tandem Drive Network 5; or
- (b) 10 km/h lower than the posted speed limit, where the posted speed limit is greater than 60 km/h.

## 6.2 Minimum Following Distance

The driver of a RAV must maintain a distance of at least 200 metres from any other heavy vehicle travelling in front of it, unless:

- (a) It is overtaking the vehicle in front or the vehicle in front is stopping;
- (b) There is a separate lane available for the use of overtaking traffic;
- (c) It is in an urban area and it is not reasonably practicable to maintain such a distance;  
or
- (d) It is stopped, or coming to a stop for the purpose of complying with a provision of any law or avoiding conflict with other traffic.

## 6.3 Poor Visibility

**6.3.1** The driver of a RAV must not begin to travel if, due to circumstances such as fog, heavy rain, smoke, dust or insect plague:

- (a) The visibility is less than 250 metres during the day; or
- (b) The headlights of a vehicle approaching within 250 metres could not be seen at night.

**6.3.2** Where a RAV is already travelling when visibility is reduced to the level described above, the driver must drive into the nearest safe parking area, and wait until visibility improves beyond that level before continuing to travel.

# 7 WARNING DEVICES

## 7.1 Warning Lights

**7.1.1** A RAV must operate with headlights switched on at all times.

**7.1.2** A RAV in excess of 25 metres in length must display at least one amber flashing warning light, which must be visible at a distance of 500 metres in all directions, or must be supplemented by additional warning lights so at least one warning light is visible in all directions.

**7.1.3** A warning light must comply with the requirements in the *Oversize Vehicle & Pilot Vehicle General Requirements*.

**7.1.4** A RAV must not display an amber flashing warning light if not required under this clause.

## 7.2 Additional Warning Devices at Night

A RAV travelling at night must also display:

- (a) Lights showing yellow to the front and red to the rear (known as “side markers”), no more than 2 metres apart along both sides of the vehicle or load; and
- (b) An amber flashing warning light mounted on the extremity of any overhanging load.

# 8 PILOT REQUIREMENTS

## 8.1 Standard Pilot Requirements

**8.1.1** The driver of the pilot vehicle and RAV must comply with the *Oversize Vehicle & Pilot Vehicle General Requirements*.

**8.1.2** The Pilot Vehicle must comply with the requirements stipulated in the *Oversize Vehicle & Pilot Vehicle General Requirements*.

**8.1.3** The driver of a pilot vehicle must use UHF Channel 40 at regular intervals to warn oncoming traffic of the approaching oversize load.

**Note:** *If a RAV is required to be accompanied by a pilot vehicle, the driver of the pilot vehicle must ensure that they comply with each provision of the permit that applies to the pilot vehicle.*

## **8.2 Number of Pilot Vehicles**

A RAV must be accompanied by a pilot vehicle when travelling through the intersection of Exploration Drive and Dampier Highway in Gap Ridge within the City of Karratha.

# **9 PERMIT STATUS**

## **9.1 Permit Suspension & Revocation**

**9.1.1** Approval to operate a RAV under a permit may be suspended when road and/or traffic conditions are considered unsuitable. Main Roads personnel, WA Police or Traffic Escort Wardens, may make verbal notification of such suspension.

**9.1.2** Approval to operate a RAV under a permit may be suspended or revoked if the operator or vehicle combination fails to comply with any of the requirements specified in the permit or these Operating Conditions.

## **9.2 Permit Amendments & Notifications**

**9.2.1** These Operating Conditions are subject to occasional amendments. If amendments are made that impact transport operators, they will be published as an "HVS Update" on the Main Roads website on the first working day of the month. Operators and drivers are required to ensure that they are operating vehicles on the public road network in accordance with the current and up to date Operating Conditions.

**9.2.2** The RAV Networks are subject to periodic amendments, which include additional roads being included in the lists, roads being removed from the lists, or amendments being made to a condition relating to a particular road in the lists. RAV Networks updates will be effective from the Wednesday following the amendment and the RAV Networks are maintained on the Main Road website. Operators and drivers are required to ensure they are operating vehicles on the public road network in accordance with the current and up to date RAV Networks

**9.2.3** Heavy Vehicle Travel Impacts are published when road conditions may impede the movement of Restricted Access Vehicles. Operators and drivers are required to check the Heavy Vehicle Travel Impacts on the Main Roads website prior to operating the vehicle on the public road network to ensure that there is no relevant information that will impede their vehicle operating on the WA road network.

**9.2.4** All conditions stipulated in HVS Updates or Heavy Vehicle Travel Impacts must be adhered to.