

## Vehicle Standards Instruction (Heavy Vehicle 26.1)

### Use of flexible Road Train and Long Vehicle Warning Signs that attach by clips

Released November 2012

Updated December 2012



Currently, in Queensland vehicle warning signs must meet a number of requirements, including either being made from sheet steel at least 0.8mm thick or material of at least the same stiffness, or being attached by an adhesive. Signs that are flexible are not permitted.

Vehicle warning signs have important road safety benefits as they ensure that other road users are aware that a vehicle combination is longer than they would normally expect and that they may need to give special consideration to the combination when performing normal driving tasks, such as overtaking.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads has recently received a number of enquiries from vehicle operators and the transport industry about the use of flexible material when vehicle warning signs ('long vehicle' and 'road train') are required to be fitted to certain vehicle combinations.

As a result of these enquiries, the Department of Transport and Main Roads has determined that clip-on flexible warning signs may be used on long vehicles combinations in Queensland from 1 December 2012, provided that the following requirements are met:

- The sign must be secured to the vehicle by clip type attachments. The attachment of flexible signs by ropes is not acceptable.
- The sign must be attached to a vertical surface and in a way that ensures the wording and borders of the sign are clearly visible.
- The sign must be securely attached in a way that does not allow the sign to flutter, flap or otherwise warp under all operating conditions.
- The sign must meet all other requirements of Schedule 1 Section 52 of the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management—Vehicle Standards and Safety) Regulation 2010*, other than the requirement that it is made from sheet steel at least 0.8mm thick, another material of at least the same stiffness, or be designed to be fitted using an adhesive material. For the full requirements for vehicle warning signs under the regulation, please see Attachment A.
- Clip-on signs may only be used on vehicle combinations that operate under the Guideline for Multi-combination Vehicles, Form 1. Vehicles that operate under a permit or other guideline must comply with the signage requirement in the respective permit or guideline.

## Examples of acceptable clip type attachments



*Snap button type attachments*



*Tonneau type attachments*



*Eyelet and T-Clip type attachments*

**Note:** The use of these signs has been allowed only in Queensland and may not be recognised in other states or territories. Vehicle operators who travel between states and territories must ensure that vehicle warning signs fitted to their vehicles comply with the requirements in each state or territory.

## Further Information

For further information about the vehicle standards, please contact Vehicle Standards and Modification Advice on 3114 5844.

## Related Documents

### Guideline for Multi-combination Vehicles in Queensland, Form 1

[http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/~media/busind/Heavy%20vehicles/guidepermits/Pdf\\_form1\\_guideline\\_mcv.pdf](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/~media/busind/Heavy%20vehicles/guidepermits/Pdf_form1_guideline_mcv.pdf)

### Transport Operations (Road Use Management—Vehicle Standards and Safety) Regulation 2010

<http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/LEGISLTN/CURRENT/T/TrantOpRUVSSR10.pdf>

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## Attachment A – Warning Sign Specifications

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- A road train or long vehicle warning sign must be manufactured in 1 or 2 parts from sheet steel 0.8mm thick or another material of at least the same stiffness, unless it is designed to be fitted to a vehicle using an adhesive.
- The warning sign must be at least 1.02m wide and at least 250mm high.
- A road train warning sign must display the words 'road train', and a long vehicle warning sign must display the words 'long vehicle', in black capital letters at least 180mm high in typeface Series B (N) that complies with Australian Standard AS 1744 Forms of Letters and Numerals for Road Signs.
- If the warning sign is in 2 parts, 1 word of the expression 'road train' or 'long vehicle' must be on 1 part and the other word of the expression must be on the other part.
- The warning sign must display the sign manufacturer's name or logo, and the brand and class of retro-reflective material used, in block letters not over 10mm high.
- The warning sign must have a black border.
- The warning sign must be coated with yellow retro-reflective material of class 1 or 2 that meets Australian Standard AS 1906 Retro-reflective Materials and Devices for Road Traffic Control Purposes.
- The warning sign must be fitted so—
  - no part of the sign is—
    - over 1.8m above ground level; or
    - under 500mm above ground level; and
  - if the sign is in 2 parts, the parts are fitted at the same height above ground level.