

ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1961

Pursuant to Sections 161A and 163AA of the Road Traffic Act 1961

APPROVAL FOR INCREASED GROSS COMBINATION MASS FOR TRUCK AND TRAILER COMBINATIONS

1. REVOCATION OF PREVIOUS NOTICE

I hereby revoke the Notice of Approval and Exemption titled '*Approval for Increased Gross Combination Mass for Truck and Trailer Combinations*' published in the South Australian Government Gazette, dated 21 December 2000.

2. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Notice:

- 2.1 A 'Rigid Truck and Dog Trailer' means a rigid motor vehicle towing a trailer (which includes a trailer consisting of a semi-trailer and a convertor dolly) where;
- 2.1.1 the rigid truck has a single steer axle or twin steer axle group at the front and a tandem drive axle group at the rear; and
- 2.1.2 the trailer has a single axle or a tandem axle group at the front that is steered by connection to the towing vehicle by means of a drawbar and a tandem axle group at the rear.
- 2.2 'Gross Combination Mass' (GCM) means the greatest possible sum of the maximum loaded mass of the motor vehicle and of any vehicles that may lawfully be towed by it at one time.
- 2.3 'National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme' (NHVAS) means the comprehensive accreditation package developed by the then National Road Transport Commission (now known as National Transport Commission (NTC)) and approved by the Australian Transport Council on 14 November 1997.
- 2.4 'Maintenance Management Accreditation Scheme' means a scheme that is recognised by DTEI as meeting the requirement of the maintenance management module (including audit requirements) of the National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme (NHVAS).

3. APPROVAL

- 3.1 Pursuant to Section 161A of the *Road Traffic Act 1961* I hereby approve rigid truck and dog trailer combinations to exceed a Gross Combination Mass of 42.5 tonnes in South Australia subject to the conditions and limitations specified in this Notice.

4. EXEMPTION

- 4.1 In accordance with the powers delegated to me by the Minister for Transport, under Section 163AA of the *Road Traffic Act 1961*, I hereby exempt rigid truck and dog trailer combinations from the following provision of the *Road Traffic (Mass and Loading Requirements) Regulations 1999*:
- (i) Schedule 1, Part 1(4) – Mass limits for combinations
- 4.2 Subject to the conditions and limitations specified in this Notice.

5. CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS APPLYING TO THIS NOTICE

5.1 Dimensions

- 5.1.1 The overall length of the vehicle combination shall not exceed 19 metres.
- 5.1.2 The overall width of the vehicle combination shall not exceed 2.5 metres.
- 5.1.3 The overall height of the vehicle combination shall not exceed 4.3 metres.

5.2 Vehicle Configuration and Mass Limits

- 5.2.1 All vehicles shall comply with the statutory axle and axle group mass limits as set out in Schedule 1, Part 1(3) of the *Road Traffic (Mass and Loading Requirements) Regulations 1999*.
- 5.2.2 The gross mass of a 3 axle dog trailer shall not exceed 22.5 tonnes.
- 5.2.3 The gross mass of a 4 axle dog trailer shall not exceed:
- 5.2.3.1 27 tonnes when towed by a three axle rigid truck.
- 5.2.3.2 27.5 tonnes when towed by a 4 axle rigid truck.

- 5.3 The gross combination mass shall not exceed the maximum GCM figure shown in Table 1 for that configuration.

5.4 Vehicle Configurations approved under this exemption are as follows:

Table 1	
Vehicle Configuration	Maximum GCM tonnes
3 axle rigid truck towing a 3 axle dog trailer	45.0
4 axle rigid truck towing a 3 axle dog trailer	45.0
3 axle rigid truck towing a 4 axle dog trailer	49.5
4 axle rigid truck towing a 4 axle dog trailer	50.0

5.5 Mass Ratio

5.5.1 The laden mass of a triaxle dog trailer shall not exceed the laden mass of the hauling unit.

5.5.2 The laden mass of a 4 axle dog trailer shall not exceed the laden mass of the hauling unit by more than 20 per cent.

5.6 Drawbar Length

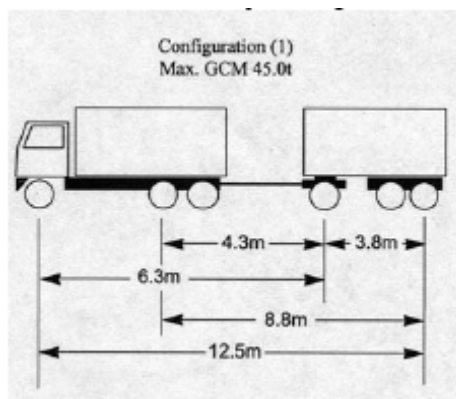
5.6.1 The length of the dog trailer drawbar when measured from the centreline of the towing pivot to the centreline of the leading axle or axle group of the trailer shall exceed 3.0 metres but not exceed 5.0 metres.

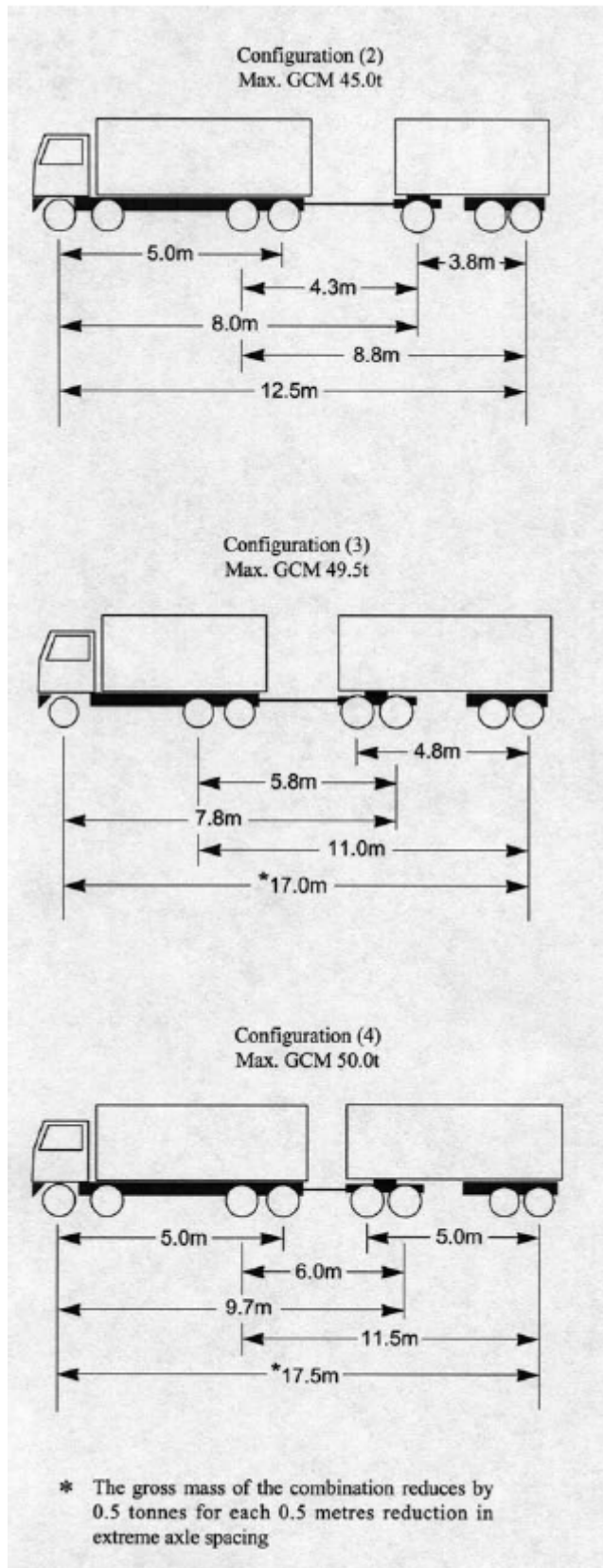
5.7 Axle Spacing Requirements

5.7.1 All combinations shall comply with the axle spacing requirements shown in the configurations (1-4) for the respective combination.

Note: Except where stated otherwise, all dimension limits shall be equal to or greater than those specified.

5.8 Vehicle Configuration and Mass Limits





5.9 Suspension System

- 5.9.1 The drive axle group on the hauling unit and all axles and axle groups on the trailers shall be fitted with air suspension and effective dampers.

5.10 Vehicle Specifications

- 5.10.1 The vehicle shall not be driven or loaded in excess of the manufacturer's rating for axle, tyre, and coupling capacity, or in excess of the manufacturer's gross vehicle mass (GVM) and/or gross combination mass (GCM) ratings.
- 5.10.2 South Australian registered vehicles shall not exceed the GVM and/or GCM as shown on the certificate of registration for that vehicle.
- 5.10.3 Vehicles registered in other states and territories shall either comply with the requirements of clause 5.10.1 of this notice or shall not exceed the gross vehicle mass, gross trailer mass or gross combination mass as shown on the certificate of registration for that vehicle.

5.11 Vehicle Speed

- 5.11.1 The vehicle combination shall not exceed a speed of 100 kilometres per hour or any posted speed limit whichever is the lesser.

5.12 Inspection and Compliance

- 5.12.1 The vehicle combination shall be accredited under a recognised Maintenance Management Accreditation Scheme and display a label that identifies scheme membership.

5.13 Power to Mass Ratio

- 5.13.1 The engine power to gross mass ratio shall not be less than 6.4 brake horse power per tonne or 4.8 kilowatts per tonne (e.g. a engine with a 320 brake horsepower rating is required for a combination operating at 50 tonne).

5.14 Route Details

- 5.14.1 Travel is permitted on roads in South Australia except for the bridge structures listed in 5.14.2.
- 5.14.2 For combinations which have a total of six axles, travel is not permitted on the following bridge structures:
 - a. **Gumeracha Bridge** – Over River Torrens at Gumeracha.
 - b. **Chain of Ponds Creek Bridge** – Near Chain of Ponds on the Tea Tree Gully to Gumeracha Road.
 - c. **Murray Bridge** – Over the River Murray at Murray Bridge (Old Bridge).
 - d. **Spring Creek Bridge** – 8.7 km South of Wilmington on Main North Road.
 - e. **Birkenhead Bridge** – Over Port River at Port Adelaide (the lifting bridge).
 - f. **Onkaparinga River Bridge** - Saltfleet St, Port Noarlunga.
 - g. **Railway Bridge at Gawler** – On Overway Bridge Road, Gawler
 - h. **Bakewell Bridge** – Over Railway on Henley Beach Road, Mile End.

For combinations which have more than six axles travel is not permitted on the bridge structures listed in **a** to **h** above and in addition the **Paringa Bridge** – over the River Murray on National Route 20 at Paringa.

5.15 General Conditions

- 5.15.1 The conditions set out in this Notice apply to the vehicles, loads and routes specified, and does not relieve the responsibility that you have as the owner, operator or driver to comply with the *Road Traffic Act 1961* and Rule and Regulations and Local Government by-laws.
- 5.15.2 The conditions set out in this notice may be overridden by a limitation fixed at any time on a bridge, culvert, causeway road or road ferry.

Note: Persons operating under the provisions of this Notice are advised that some parts of the road system bridges, overhead services and wires, roadside furniture (signs, traffic lights etc) and vegetation may not allow sufficient clearance for the passage of a vehicle and load at the dimensions permitted by this Notice.

Note: Section 107 of the *Road Traffic Act 1961 (Damage to Road Infrastructure)* requires you to notify the Police, DTEI or local Council if you cause damage to roads, bridges and culverts or if you interfere with roadside furniture through unreasonable use. If you cause anything to fall on the road that may hinder or injure other road users (traffic signs, tree branches etc) Australia Road Rule 293 requires you to remove it or take action to have it removed.

- 5.16 Except as otherwise specified in this Notice, the standard form conditions prescribed in the *Road Traffic (Oversize or Overmass Vehicle Exemptions) Regulations 1999* for the purposes of section 115 of the Act, shall not apply.
- 5.17 This Notice shall stand alone. It cannot be used in conjunction with any other exemption, Notice or permit.
- 5.18 From 1st July 2011, when operating under this Notice, you must carry a legible, current and complete copy of this Notice either in hardcopy or in an electronic format so that it can be read from a device having a visual display (e.g. smart phone, tablet or laptop PC, in vehicle unit) that is carried within the vehicle and that is accessible, to a DTEI Authorised Officer appointed under the *Road Traffic Act 1961* or a Police Officer, from outside the vehicle.

6. COMMENCEMENT OF THIS NOTICE

- 6.1 This Notice is valid from 12:01am on 17 June 2011.

7. AUTHORISATION

BRIAN E HEMMING
Director, Transport Safety Regulation
For and on behalf of the
Executive Director, Safety & Regulation Division
Department for Transport, Energy & Infrastructure
Authorised Delegate for the Minister for Transport