

Certification of new trailers up to and including 4.5 tonnes ATM

Purpose

This Vehicle Standards Information (VSI) No.52 sheet is intended to inform trailer manufacturers and/or distributors of the necessary process for the certification and registration of new or revised light trailers, i.e. trailers with an aggregate trailer mass (ATM) up to and including 4.5 tonnes. This TfNSW process will create a 'vehicle specification sheet' to make registration of light trailers easier for manufacturers and dealers. This process is not for existing trailers already registered in NSW.

Construction requirements

A light trailer must be designed and constructed to meet the requirements of Vehicle Standards Bulletin (VSB) No. 1 'Building Small Trailers' issued by the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (DITRDC) – see page 2 for contact details.

Note: On 1 July 2021, Commonwealth legislation changed. The Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018 (RVSA) replaced the Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989 (MVSA) with a 1 year transition period.

What is changing for the trailer industry?

Under the RVSA legislation, manufacturers and importers of trailers **with an aggregate trailer mass (ATM)* of 4.5 tonnes or less (low ATM trailers)** now need an approval from DITRDC before they can provide a trailer type to the Australian market.

Under the MVSA, trailer manufacturers and importers could self-certify that a trailer complies with Vehicle Standards Bulletin 1 (VSB1 – Building Small Trailers). This certification has been included on the trailer's identification plate – but it hasn't been necessary to notify the Federal government.

This has now changed.

Every road vehicle – including trailers – must have vehicle and compliance information listed on the Register of Approved Vehicles (RAV) online database. Only then can they be provided to Australian consumers for the first time.

Contact the [Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications \(DITRDC\)](#) for more information.

Registration information

Inspections of light trailers are conducted at

- Authorised Unregistered Vehicle Inspection Stations (AUVIS) - for trailers up to and including 2 tonnes gross trailer mass (GTM) except those fitted with break-away brakes; or
- Heavy Vehicle Authorised Inspection Stations (HVAIS) for:
 - Trailers exceeding 2 tonnes GTM up to and including 4.5 tonnes GTM
 - Trailers fitted with break-away brakes.

Case-by-Case Registration

A light trailer may be registered on an individual basis by obtaining a weighbridge ticket and undergoing an appropriate inspection (identity, safety, and design check) before registration is established.

Batch Registration

Alternatively, manufacturers/distributors ('applicants') may apply to Transport for NSW (TfNSW) for certification of a 'batch' of identical trailers. To do this an application form must be completed, along with an appropriate inspection and a weighbridge ticket for the **first of each** trailer make and model.

For a light trailer applicant that undertakes the certification process and where the applicant is:

- An appropriate Dealer Vehicle Registration Scheme (DVRS) participant - the applicant is exempt from the requirements to present a weighbridge ticket and an inspection report for the registration of each **subsequent** trailer where the first trailer of the batch has an approved certification/specification sheet endorsed by TfNSW, and is also exempt from the requirement to conduct an identity and safety check inspection.
- Not an appropriate Dealer Vehicle Registration Scheme (DVRS) participant - the applicant is exempt from the requirements to present a weighbridge ticket and the design check component of an inspection for the registration of each **subsequent** trailer where the first trailer of the batch has an approved certification/specification sheet endorsed by TfNSW. However, the identity and safety check inspection components are still required.

Application process

To apply for a new or revised model trailer (i.e. new variant) to be endorsed by TfNSW and granted an approved certification/specification sheet, the applicant must:

- Obtain a weighbridge ticket for the first trailer of each make and model to be certified. (A weighbridge ticket is valid for 28 days from date of issue).
- Obtain an appropriate inspection report (identity, safety, and design check) for the first trailer of each make and model to be certified (An inspection report is valid for 42 days from date of issue).
- Complete and sign the form 'Application for certification of new trailer'. A copy of the form is attached to this VSI No. 52 – photocopy as required.
- Mail the completed form, the original inspection report for each make and model, and a copy of the weighbridge ticket/s to:

Team Leader
Transport for NSW Technical Enquiries
PO Box 1120, Parramatta NSW 2124

Note: you can also email the documents to Technical Enquiries Technical.Enquiries@transport.nsw.gov.au but they have to be sighted and stamped by a TfNSW Registry or Service NSW staff member for a faster turnaround.

TfNSW will issue written notification of the endorsed trailers to the applicant who may then arrange for registration of subsequent trailer/s in accordance with the batch registration process outlined above.

Note: To register a trailer immediately without undergoing the application process outlined in this information sheet, present an appropriate inspection report and a weighbridge ticket in person at any registry or Service NSW centre and complete an 'Application for Registration' form.

Attachment

Transport for NSW form 'Application for certification of new trailer'.

Further information

Transport for NSW

PO Box 1120, Parramatta NSW 2124

E technical.enquiries@transport.nsw.gov.au | **T** 1300 137 302 | **F** (02) 8837 0037

- Vehicle construction and registration requirements in NSW

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (DITRDC)

GPO Box 594 Canberra ACT 2601

www.infrastructure.gov.au | **T** 02) 6274 7111 | **F** (02) 6257 2505

[VSB No. 1 'National Code of Practice – Building Small Trailers'](#)

This form is intended for the certification of new trailers up to and including 4.5 tonnes aggregate trailer mass (ATM). To assist you in completing this form please refer to the notes overleaf, and the application process outlined in Vehicle Standards Information No. 52 'Certification of new trailers up to and including 4.5 tonnes ATM'.

An inspection report and weighbridge ticket for each model must be submitted with this form by mail. All fields are mandatory for each model for which certification is sought. Incomplete forms will be returned to applicant for completion before application is processed, which may result in certification delays.

Trailer description (print)

Make	Type
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

	1	2	3	4
Model designation				
Tare mass				
Gross trailer mass				
Aggregate trailer mass				
NSW vehicle shape code				
Axle code				

Applicant details (print)

Manufacturer/distributor's name

Street address	Suburb	State	Postcode
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

Postal address (if different to above)

Telephone	Facsimile	Email
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

Name of person completing form (applicant)	Position in company*
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

*If manufacturer/distributor is a company this section must be completed by Company Director.

Privacy Collection Notice

Transport for NSW is committed to protecting your privacy and ensuring your personal and health information is managed according to law. Find out why we collect your personal information and how we use and manage it by reading our privacy statement at www.transport.nsw.gov.au/privacy-statement or phone 13 22 13 to request a copy.

Declaration

I declare that the information supplied is complete, true and correct in every detail and that trailers appearing on this application form are manufactured to comply with the requirements of Vehicle Standards Bulletin No.1 'Building Small Trailers'.

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

Notes for completing 'Application for certification of new trailer'

The following notes will assist you in completing the form on the previous page. The specifications for up to four (4) different models of the same type of trailer (eg 'boat' or 'box') can be provided on a single form.

Make

The manufacturer's name as it appears on the trailer plate.

Type

The type of trailer/s for which certification is sought eg 'boat' or 'box'.

Model designation

The name that appears on the trailer plate as trailer model.

Tare mass

Must be shown in kilograms, as it appears on the weighbridge ticket. Note that the original weighbridge ticket for each model must be retained by the applicant.

Gross trailer mass

Must be shown in kilograms. The mass transmitted to the ground by the axle or axles of the trailer when coupled to a towing vehicle and carrying its maximum load approximately uniformly distributed over the load bearing area – see Vehicle Standards Bulletin (VSB) No.1 *Building Small Trailers*.

Aggregate trailer mass

Must be shown in kilograms. The total mass of the laden trailer when carrying the maximum load recommended by the manufacturer. This includes any mass imposed onto the towing vehicle when the combination vehicle is resting on a horizontal supporting plane – see VSB No.1 *Building Small Trailers*).

NSW vehicle shape code

From the following table select the three-letter code that corresponds with the type of body fitted to the trailer eg caravan = CVT.

ACT	Animal carrier	DLT	Dolly	RCT	Roadwork plant carrier
AIT	Air compressor	DTT	Dump truck	RPT	Recreational plant
APT	Agricultural plant	ELT	Electrical plant	RVT	Refrigerated van
BCT	Bulk carrier	EPT	Earthwork plant	RWT	Roadwork plant
BLT	Bolster trailer	FFT	Fire fighting plant	SMT	Semi trailer
BST	Barrier stall/totalisator	HPT	Honey extracting plant	TFT	Table top with fittings
BTT	Boat	IPT	Industrial plant	TKT	Tanker
BXT	Box	JKT	Jinker	TPT	Tipper
CCT	Concrete carrier	LOT	Low loader	TTT	Table top without fittings
CMT	Concrete mixer	OPT	Plant	VCT	Motor vehicle carrier
CVT	Caravan	PAT	Pantehnicon	VNT	Van

Axle code

From the following table select the axle code that corresponds with the configuration of the axle/s or axle group/s fitted to the trailer e.g. two axles with 2 tyres per axle = T9.

Trailer with one axle/axle group	
No. of wheels and tyres per axle	Axle code
②	T1
④	T2
② ②	T9
② ④	T3
④ ④	T4
② ② ②	T0
② ④ ④	T5
④ ④ ④	T6
④ ④ ④ ④	T8

Any trailer with a steerable axle or axle group towards its front and an axle or axle group towards its rear	
No. of wheels and tyres per axle	Axle code
$\overline{\text{②}} \quad \overline{\text{②}}$ or $\overline{\text{②}} \quad \overline{\text{④}}$ or $\overline{\text{④}} \quad \overline{\text{④}}$	T22
$\overline{\text{④}} \quad \overline{\text{②②}}$ or $\overline{\text{④}} \quad \overline{\text{④④}}$	T24
$\overline{\text{④④}} \quad \overline{\text{④④}}$	T44