

National Class 1 Special Purpose Vehicle Notice 2016

This document provides information on Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) which are approved to operate under the National Class 1 Special Purpose Vehicle Notice 2016 (National SPV Notice). Please refer to the National SPV Notice for the legal requirements of operating under this Notice.

Purpose of the SPV notice

The National SPV Notice establishes a consistent framework for SPV operations by harmonising access and vehicle standards exemptions conditions in all participating jurisdictions. This Notice will drastically reduce the number of permits required to operate SPVs in Australia. Permits will still be required for SPVs that are not eligible to operate under the Notice and to access roads which are not part of the approved SPV network.

What are Class 1 SPVs?

A SPV is a vehicle built for a purpose other than carrying goods such as a mobile crane, a concrete pump or drill rig. Agricultural vehicles and tow trucks are not SPVs. A SPV that exceeds one or more of the general mass and dimension limits set out in the Heavy Vehicle Mass, Dimension and Loading National Regulation (the National Regulation) is a Class 1 restricted access heavy vehicle.



SPVs operating under this notice

This Notice applies to heavy motor vehicles which are Class 1 SPVs and which meet the conditions and requirements set out in the Notice, including state schedules. **It does not apply to 3-axle all terrain mobile cranes, special purpose combinations or trailers in Queensland.**

Dimension requirements

SPVs operating under the National SPV Notice are exempt from compliance with certain prescribed dimension requirements set out in Schedule 6 of the National Regulation. However, they must meet a set of dimension requirements specified in the National SPV Notice. Relevant key dimension requirements are outlined in Table 1.

TABLE 1 KEY DIMENSION LIMITS

Dimension	Limit
Height	4.6m
Width	3.5m
Length	14.5m
Projection in front of the centre of the steering wheel for any SPV except mobile cranes	3.5m
Projection in front of the centre of the steering wheel for mobile cranes	5.5m
Rear Overhang	Lesser of 4m or 90% of the wheelbase
Rear Overhang for concrete pumps meeting PBS Level 1 tail swing and low speed swept path performance (subject to conditions specified in notice)	May exceed 4.0m without exceeding 4.5m

Mass requirements

Total vehicle mass

The total mass of a SPV must not exceed the lesser of:

- The gross vehicle mass (GVM); and
- The sum of the mass limit for each single axle and axle group on the vehicle (limited by the tyre width of the narrowest tyre on the axle); and
- 40 tonnes; and
- The mass worked out using the Gross Mass Limit Formula: **Mass in tonnes = (3 x L) + 15 ±G** where:

"L" is the distance in metres between the centre lines of the vehicle's foremost and rearmost axles; and

"±G" is a number of tonnes

- to be added at the rate of 1 tonne for each 100mm by which the ground contact width of the heaviest axle or axle group exceeds 2.5m; or
- to be subtracted at the rate of 1 tonne for each 100mm by which the ground contact width of the heaviest axle or axle group is less than 2.4m.

Note: In addition to the above limits, specific mass-related requirements apply to 2-axle all terrain mobile cranes.

Other key mass requirements

SPVs operating under the National SPV Notice are exempted from compliance with certain prescribed mass requirements set out in Schedule 1 of the National Regulation. They still must meet a set of mass requirements specified in the National SPV Notice. Relevant key mass requirements are outlined in Table 2. Please refer to the National SPV Notice for a comprehensive list of mass requirements applicable to SPVs operating under the Notice.

TABLE 2 KEY MASS LIMITS

Mass	Limit
Single axle or single axle group fitted with single tyres on:	
▪ all terrain mobile cranes	12.0 t
▪ any other SPV	7.0 t
Single axle or single axle group fitted with dual tyres on:	
▪ pick and carry cranes	12.0 t
▪ any other SPV	10.0 t
Twinsteer axle group:	
▪ without a load-sharing suspension system	10.0 t
▪ with a load-sharing suspension system	16.0 t
Tandem axle group fitted with single tyres	14.0 t
Tri- axle group fitted with single tyres	18.0 t
Tandem axle group and tri-axle group fitted with dual tyres	Dependent on axle group spread and ground contact width.

Warning lights and markings

Further to the requirements of Schedule 8 of the National Regulation that apply to all Class 1 heavy vehicles, SPV operators wishing to operate under the National SPV Notice may be required to fit their vehicles with additional warning lights and markings. These requirements are outlined in Part 5 of the National SPV Notice.



SPV operations in QLD

There are five legal instruments for SPV access in Qld:

- ❖ Heavy Vehicle National Law including Heavy Vehicle (Mass Dimension & Loading) National Regulation).
- ❖ National SPV Notice
- ❖ [Guideline for Excess Dimension](#) - Form 4
- ❖ [Guideline for Operation of Excess Mass](#) - Form 11
- ❖ Access permits

National SPV Notice

If operating under the National SPV Notice, a permit is not required for a SPV complying with the relevant requirements of the Notice and travelling on an approved route. Some vehicle and route conditions are specific to each state. These conditions are set out in state schedules which are part of the National SPV notice.

For instance, operators who wish to operate under the National SPV Notice in Qld must hold approval as an Approved Heavy Haulage Operator (AHHO) and an Authority to Operate (ATO) issued by TMR. The AHHO must conduct a route assessment based on the '[Conditions of Operation Database](#)' before any journey.

The AHHO driver and operator of a pick and carry crane or 2 axle all terrain crane at greater than 10 tonne per axle operating under this Notice must ensure the vehicle does not cross a structure that is listed on the '[Do not Cross Structure List for National Class 1 Special Purpose Vehicle notice 2016](#)'.

Subject to the above conditions and other conditions set out in the Qld schedule to the SPV notice, SPVs operating under this notice have access to **all state controlled roads** as well as **council roads** that have been approved for SPV access by Local Governments in Queensland.

QLD Form 4 and Form 11

The Guideline for Excess Dimension (Form 4) and Guideline for Operation of Excess Mass (Form 11) will continue to provide access in Qld, as there are differences in the types of SPVs and routes/areas approved for access under these guidelines. Table 3 compares the mass/dimension limits of the National SPV Notice and Qld Forms 4 & 11.

TABLE 3 NATIONAL SPV NOTICE VS QLD FORM 4 & FORM 11

Dimension/Mass/ Access	National SPV Notice Limit	QLD Form 4 and Form 11 Limit
Height	4.6m	4.6m
Width	3.5m	3.5m
Length	14.5m (special purpose trailers or combinations not covered in National SPV Notice)	14.5m (single vehicle/trailer) 25.0m (special purpose combination)
Projection in front of the centre of the steering wheel for any SPV except mobile cranes	3.5m	3.5m
Projection in front of the centre of the steering wheel for mobile cranes	5.5m	5.4m
Rear Overhang (measured as the distance from the centre of the last two axles to the rear of the vehicle for 3-axle all terrain cranes)	Lesser of 4m or 90% of the wheelbase	Lesser of 4m or 90% of the wheelbase
Rear Overhang for concrete pumps meeting PBS Level 1 tail swing and low speed swept path performance (subject to conditions specified in Notice)	May exceed 4.0m without exceeding 4.5m	Lesser of 4m or 90% of the wheelbase
Gross mass	40t	40t
Single axle fitted with single tyres used on a 2-axle all terrain mobile crane	12.0t	7.0t
Single axle fitted with dual tyres used on a pick and carry crane	12.0t	10.0t
Access	All state roads + council roads that have been approved by Local Governments. The 'Do not Cross Structure List' applies.	Form 4 – All state and council roads, subject to restrictions. Form 11 – All state roads subject to conditions.

Access permits

SPVs that are not eligible to operate under the National SPV Notice, Qld Form 4 and/or Form 11 will continue to require an access permit to operate in Qld.

Examples of SPV operations in QLD

Examples of how SPVs can operate in Qld under the National SPV Notice, Form 4 and/or Form 11 and access permits are provided below:

Example 1 – 2-axle pick and carry crane

A 2-axle pick and carry crane (fitted with dual tyres, operating at 12t per axle) that exceeds the mass limits of the Guideline for Operation of Excess Mass (Form 11) but complies with the mass and dimension limits of the National SPV Notice can operate on all state controlled roads and roads that have been approved by Local Governments in Qld, subject to the conditions set out in the Qld schedule of the National SPV Notice (in particular with regard to 'Conditions of Operations Database' and the 'Do not Cross Structure List').

An access permit is required for access by a 2-axle pick and carry crane to any non-SPV approved Local Government road.

Example 2 – 2-axle all terrain mobile crane

A 2-axle all terrain mobile crane (2.6m wide, 3.1m high, 11.0m long, 2.8m forward projection and 14 tonnes) that complies with the mass and dimension limits of the National SPV Notice, Form 4 and Form 11 may operate on state controlled roads under either the National SPV Notice or the guidelines (Form 4 and/or Form 11) in Qld.

Example 3 – 4-axle all terrain mobile crane

A 4-axle all terrain mobile crane (2.55m wide, 3.8m high, 2.1m forward projection and 48 tonnes) that exceeds the mass limits of the National SPV Notice and Form 11 cannot operate under either legal instrument. However, this vehicle may be able to operate under an access permit.

About the NHVR

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) is Australia's dedicated independent regulator for heavy vehicles over 4.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass.

For more information

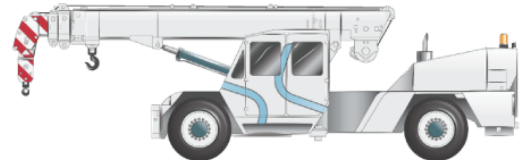
If you have any questions about the SPV notice, please contact the NHVR on **1300 MYNHVR (1300 696 487)** or email **info@nhvr.gov.au**

Examples of SPVs which may be eligible to operate under the National SPV notice in QLD

Note: The 6-axle short combination is shown for reference only. The vehicle lengths shown below are typical lengths observed in today's fleet. They do not represent the maximum vehicle lengths under current regulations.

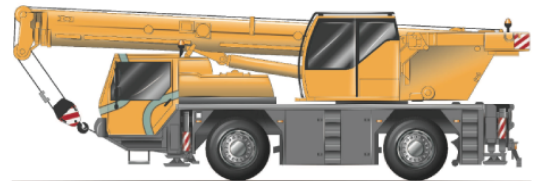
2-axle pick and carry crane

Typically approximately 10.0 m long



2-axle all terrain mobile crane

Typically approximately 10.2 m long



4-axle mobile concrete pump

Typically approximately 12.0 m long



3-axle truck crane

Typically approximately 12.5 m long



4-axle truck crane

Typically approximately 13.2 m long



Short combination

Typically approximately 18.0 m long

