



HEAVY VEHICLE OPERATIONS

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UPDATE

Our reference: **D15#44502**

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Implementation of Chain of Responsibility Legislation

The Department of Transport has advised the new road transport regulations have been finalised and gazetted and will take effect from 27 April 2015. There are four new sets of regulations and these are accessible on the State Law Publisher's website:

Road Traffic (Vehicles) Regulations 2014

http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/main_mrtitle_13558_homepage.html

Road Traffic (Administration) Regulations 2014

http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/main_mrtitle_13556_homepage.html

Road Traffic (Authorisation to Drive) Regulations 2014

http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/main_mrtitle_13557_homepage.html

Road Traffic (Repeals and Amendments) Regulations 2014

[http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/gazette/gazette.nsf/searchgazette/A9B1E669E97BA8F048257DB7001D1ADD/\\$file/TocGg204.pdf](http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/gazette/gazette.nsf/searchgazette/A9B1E669E97BA8F048257DB7001D1ADD/$file/TocGg204.pdf)

Already in place in other States, the new laws introduce the concept of 'Chain of Responsibility' to recognise the responsibilities others have in the transportation of goods by road, beyond just the driver and operator.

The aim of the legislation is to ensure a uniform approach to compliance and enforcement of road transport laws and in particular laws specific to mass, dimension and load restraint for safe operation of heavy vehicles, improved road safety, minimisation of unfair competitive advantage amongst operators and better protection for infrastructure and the environment.

Responsible parties within the transport and logistics chain need to satisfy themselves that compliance systems and programs they have in place for managing the risks associated with the transport task are sufficiently robust to meet their obligations under the new law in the context of their industry.

The Chain of Responsibility legislation is contained in the Road Traffic (Vehicles) Act 2012 and the Road Traffic (Administration) Act 2008 and needs to be viewed in conjunction with the new regulations. The legislation is accessible on the State Law Publisher's website:

http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/main_mrtitle_4471_homepage.html

http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/main_mrtitle_12926_homepage.html

Should you require further information on the progress of implementing the Chain of Responsibility Legislation, please check the Main Roads website <http://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/UsingRoads/HeavyVehicles> or contact the Heavy Vehicle Operations Help Desk, on 138 HVO (138 486).

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