



PROPOSAL DETAIL

Reform of the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* Full Volume New Vehicles

The *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* (the Act) provides the regulatory framework to control safety, environmental and anti-theft performance of all vehicles entering the Australian market for the first time – both new and used. The reforms will deliver modernised legislation to increase community safety, provide greater choice and protection for consumers, and remove unnecessary red tape on businesses.

While Australia's current approach for certification of new vehicles is broadly supported, there are some opportunities to improve its efficiency and effectiveness through changes to legislation and certification processes. As part of reforming the Act, the Australian Government will:

- retain the Australian Design Rules (ADRs) as the mechanism for applying and mandating harmonised international standards;
- accelerate harmonisation of the ADRs with United Nations (UN) regulations;
- adopt the internationally based Whole of Vehicle Type Approval (IWVTA) regulation when finalised by the UN in 2016. IWVTA will enable certification of light passenger vehicles at vehicle rather than component level, with the approach to be applied to other vehicle types over time;
- revise business systems to streamline certification of models carrying an IWVTA;
- remove current requirements to fit 'identification plates' to motor vehicles; and
- establish a 'Register of Approved Vehicles' as an online source of information currently contained on the identification plate;

Trailers

The Act will continue to regulate both imported and locally manufactured trailers and caravans. In relation to trailers, the Australian Government will:

- apply the same level of regulation to locally manufactured and imported trailers and caravans;
- clarify the requirement for audit access to all stages of production, including manufacture of components covered by a Component Registration Number or Sub-Assembly Registration Number;
- consult with suppliers and manufacturers on certification requirements for trailers under 4.5 tonnes Aggregate Trailer Mass; and
- introduce 'model reports' to facilitate certification of light and heavy trailers.

Model Reports

Trailers and caravans are highly diverse road vehicles, yet they often contain common components that are critical to compliance with the national standards.

A 'model report' is a means for designs, test evidence and modification procedures to be examined and approved only once by the Department, while allowing for use by multiple workshops or vehicle builders.

Each model report will include a checklist of key specifications and modifications to be used by a manufacturer or during an inspection of the vehicle to confirm compliance.