

Management of Heavy Vehicle Mass

- **Anyone driving a vehicle carrying grain must ensure they are aware of and comply with all Chain of Responsibility requirements including heavy vehicle mass management**

Viterra is committed to working with grain growers, transport carriers and their drivers from Victoria, NSW and Queensland to meet Chain of Responsibility obligations including mass management and driver fatigue while still recognising the difficulties faced by growers and heavy vehicle operators in moving the crop from field to site.

Throughout harvest Viterra will work with the industry, local transport authorities and the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) to implement measures that combat the incidence of heavy vehicle overloading and promote compliance with transport regulations.

Growers as Consignors of freight, Loaders and Drivers all have obligations under transport regulation. If you are unsure of your obligations you should seek independent advice.

Operation of Vehicles at Higher Mass Limits or by Permit

- **All vehicles claiming Higher Mass Limit (HML) or Concessional Mass Limit (CML) must be accredited under the National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme (NHVAS)**

Drivers claiming vehicle mass limits higher than general mass, e.g. either Concessional or Higher Mass limits (mass codes starting with the letters C, H or GH) or Permit based Mass Limits (mass codes starting with P) are required to provide Viterra representatives with the vehicle's accreditation label number or relevant permit number.

Failure to provide supporting evidence of the vehicle's mass limit entitlement via either NHVAS accreditation or Permit will result in the treatment of the vehicle as operating at the General Mass Limit.

The required accreditation label number is highlighted below.



Driver Declaration of Legal Mass

- **The Driver is responsible for determining the vehicle's legal mass limit and is required to declare the LEGAL mass of their vehicle at a Viterra site**

The Driver is responsible for determining the vehicle's legal mass limit prior to commencing an off-farm grower delivery after considering the following:

- a) Accreditations held, and
- b) vehicle combination used, and
- c) route travelled from the loading point to the delivery site.

Drivers are required to declare the **LEGAL** mass of their vehicle at all Viterra sites through the application of a mass limit code. These codes are linked to the legal mass of specific vehicle type configurations including accredited vehicles. The code is recorded on the Weighnote.

Declaring the wrong code on a Weighnote and therefore exceeding the legal gross vehicle mass limit of the heavy vehicle constitutes an offence.

Management of Overloaded Vehicles

- **When a vehicle loaded on farm the Loader and Driver have a responsibility to ensure the vehicle is not loaded in excess of its statutory mass limit**

Viterra will monitor all vehicles entering or leaving its sites in NSW and Victoria and, where appropriate, will take action against operators whose vehicles are loaded in excess of their Statutory Mass Limit. If a vehicle enters any Viterra site overloaded to any extent, the Weighnote will be notated with a mass breach warning.

To ensure site safety overloaded vehicles will be assessed by Viterra staff and where appropriate the driver will be advised of additional requirements to facilitate safe management of the vehicle. Drivers are reminded that they are required to follow Viterra employee instructions at all times whilst onsite.

If the vehicle is loaded on farm both the Loader and Driver are responsible for ensuring the overload is corrected before the next load and are able to demonstrate that corrective actions have been taken to avoid overloads recurring.

To assist with compliance to Chain of Responsibility obligations, overload breaches detected at any Viterra site will be assessed and may result in the following actions:

- verbal warning or
- formal written warning or
- records relating to breaches by that vehicle being forwarded upon request to the relevant State's Transport Safety Compliance department for their consideration or
- the vehicle being banned from further entry to Viterra sites