

Livestock and Rural Transporters’ Fatigue Management Scheme

Livestock and rural transport operators face unique circumstances and operate in a unique and demanding environment in inland Australia.

With the commencement of the Heavy Vehicle National Law in February 2014, the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) became the sole approval body for access to flexible fatigue management arrangements in participating jurisdictions in Australia.

By the end of this year, the NHVR will commence the implementation of the Livestock and Rural Transport Fatigue Management Scheme (LRTFMS), providing new opportunities for operators and drivers who become accredited with the NHVR.

The scheme will commence by making 14 day rosters available to livestock and rural operators. Subject to the support of the NHVR’s independent expert fatigue safety advisors, the scheme will expand with two other opportunities for rural operators.

Fortnightly cycles

The fortnightly cycle will give livestock and rural transport operators the ability to schedule drivers for up to 12 consecutive days, so long as they finish work before midnight on all occasions and have an increased number of short breaks from driving.

Long rural runs

Subject to final approval, this template within the LRTFMS will cater for rural operators who need to run long distances from time to time.

It will address tasks like bringing a road train from inland Australia to a regional port for a live export shipment. It is intended to give drivers a combination of one long and one short day, with the requirement to have a recovery day afterwards.

The option will be available for operators and drivers to use as and when needed. It will not be required to be used for every trip taken.

Rural time bank

Subject to final approval, the rural time bank template will be designed for rural operators whose transport task and road network access make it unrealistic to set or keep rigid and inflexible schedules.

This template is intended to be compatible with other fatigue management scheme available in inland Australia, though there is a stronger emphasis on record keeping and auditing requirements to ensure drivers and other road users are kept safe.

How can industry help?

The NHVR is seeking Expressions of Interest from transport companies who are likely to want to use the fortnightly cycle template and/or are willing to be interviewed by our fatigue safety advisors as we finalise the other two templates.

We will use your feedback to:

- plan the resources the NHVR will need to support the implementation of the LRTFMS
- check that the LRTFMS template is practical and workable for transport operators
- develop support tools to help other transport operators companies use the LRTFMS template



Sal Petrocetto
Chief Executive – National Heavy Vehicle Regulator

Frequently asked questions

If I express my interest now, do I have to enter AFM accreditation?

No. Your expression of interest just helps us plan our likely workload.

What will it cost?

There is no fee for lodging an Expression of Interest.

The NHVR charges an administrative fee of \$127 for all accreditation applications.

Apart from this fee, you will need to meet the costs associated with training your staff and having your company audited by a third party auditor.

Do I need to get a fatigue expert to enter the scheme?

No. The NHVR will arrange for approval of the scheme as a template, including any consultation with fatigue experts that may be necessary.

If you apply for accreditation based on the templates, you will have to meet the audit and accreditation standards.

[Register your interest today online](#)

Or fill in your details below and return this form to the NHVR, via:

- Email: fatiguemanagement@nhvr.gov.au
- Post: Fatigue Management Unit, NHVR, PO Box 492, Fortitude Valley Qld 4006

Your personal information is confidential and will not be shared without your prior consent.

Name:

Company Name:

Telephone:

Email:

Address:

- Yes, I'd like to use a fortnightly cycle. Please include my details in the list of operators to receive further details when this template is finalised.
- Yes, I am interested in the templates for Long Rural Runs and the Rural Time Bank. I would be willing to be interviewed by a fatigue safety expert to help finalise these templates.