Code of Practice for Prime Mover & Low Loader Combinations

(Equal to or less than)

LENGTH \leq 25 Metres
WIDTH \leq 3.5 Metres
HEIGHT \leq 4.9 Metres

July 2012
Operating conditions when driving on South Australian roads.

This Code of Practice is a legal document. You must comply with the conditions contained in the document when operating a Prime Mover and Low Loader Combination with a maximum length of 25 metres, a maximum width of 3.5 metres, a maximum height of 4.9 metres and a Gross Combination Mass up to 59.5 tonnes in South Australia.
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**What the Terms Mean**

**Code** means this Code of Practice for Prime Mover Low Loader Combinations with a maximum length of 25 metres, a maximum width of 3.5 metres, a maximum height of 4.9 metres and a GCM that does not exceed 59.5 tonnes.

**DPTI** means the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure.

**Expanding or Widening Low Loader** means a low loader that is capable of being extended lengthways and/or in width suitable to the load being carried and closing back to minimum dimensions when empty.

**Explanatory Note** contains information that does not form part of the conditions of this Code of Practice and is provided for explanation purposes only.

**Gazette Notice or ‘Notice’** means the Notice of Approval and Exemption issued for a vehicle or combination that exceeds the mass or dimensions that are prescribed in the *Road Traffic Act 1961* and published in the South Australian Government Gazette.

**Gross Combination Mass (GCM)** means the maximum permitted loaded mass of the towing vehicle and any other vehicles or trailers being towed by that vehicle:

(a) as specified by the manufacturer on the identification/compliance plate; or

(b) as specified by the vehicle registration authority if:

   (i) the manufacturer has not specified a maximum loaded mass; or
   (ii) the manufacturer cannot be identified; or
   (iii) the vehicle has been modified to the extent that the manufacturer’s specification is no longer appropriate.

**General Mass Limits (GML)** means the:

- defined axle mass limits of Table 1 in the *Road Traffic (Mass and Loading Requirements) Regulations 1999*; and

- mass limits relating to axle spacing in Table 2 of the *Road Traffic (Mass and Loading Requirements) Regulations 1999*.

**Gross Trailer Mass (GTM)** means the mass of the trailer and its load transmitted through the trailer axle, or axle group, when connected to the towing vehicle:

(a) as specified by the manufacturer on the identification/compliance or trailer plate; or

(b) as specified by the vehicle registration authority if:

   (i) the manufacturer has not specified a maximum mass; or
   (ii) the manufacturer cannot be identified; or
   (iii) the vehicle has been modified to the extent that the manufacturer’s specification is no longer appropriate.

**Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM)** means the maximum loaded mass of the motor vehicle:

(a) as specified by the manufacturer on the identification/compliance or trailer plate; or

(b) as specified by the vehicle registration authority if:

   (i) the manufacturer has not specified a maximum loaded mass; or
   (ii) the manufacturer cannot be identified; or
   (iii) the vehicle has been modified to the extent that the manufacturer’s specification is no longer appropriate.

**Indivisible Item** means an item that cannot be divided without great difficulty, expense or risk of damage and cannot be carried on a Low Loader Combination within statutory limits. Auxiliary equipment such as excavator buckets or bulldozer blades which are part of the indivisible item but detached may be carried provided the equipment does not constitute higher mass or dimension limits than allowed.

**Low Loader Approved Route Network** is a network system published via the DPTI RAVnet Online Mapping System that shows the approved routes that Low Loader Combinations at a Gross Combination Mass (GCM) up to 59.5 tonnes can operate on.

**Low Loader** means a gooseneck semi-trailer with a loading deck no more than 1.0 metre above the ground including a low loader that is capable of being extended lengthways and/or in width.
Low Loader Combination means a prime mover and gooseneck semi-trailer operating as a single unit under this Code of Practice.

Oversize Tri-axle Group means a group of three axles, in which the horizontal distance between the centre lines of the outermost axles is more than 3.2 metres but not more than 3.7 metres (most commonly 1.8m axle spacing).

Prime Mover means a motor vehicle built to tow a semi trailer.

Quad-axle Group means a group of four axles, in which the horizontal distance between the centre lines of outermost axles is more than 3.2 metres but not more than 4.9 metres.

Retractable Axle means an axle that can be raised so that the tyres on the axle do not touch the ground.

Road Traffic Act or ‘the Act’ means the South Australian Road Traffic Act 1961 and associated Regulations and Rules.

‘S’ Dimension (Length of Trailer) means the distance from the point of articulation at the front of trailer to the rear overhang line (centre of the rear axle group).

Tandem-axle Group means a group of two axles other than a steer axle group on a prime mover, in which the horizontal distance between the centre lines of the outermost axles is at least 1.0 metre, but not more than 2.0 metres.

Tri-axle Group means a group of three axles, in which the horizontal distance between the centre lines of the outermost axles is more than 2.0 metres but not more than 3.2 metres.
Introduction

1 What is a Code of Practice?

1.1 This Code of Practice is a legal document issued by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) under a Notice of Approval and Exemption published in the South Australian Government Gazette titled Operation of 25 metre long Prime Mover and Low Loader Combinations with a Gross Combination Mass up to 59.5 tonnes.

1.2 It sets out the requirements, in addition to the Road Traffic Act 1961, as an owner, operator or driver you must comply with when operating a Low Loader Combination on roads in South Australia.

1.3 It does not replace the responsibility that you have as the owner, operator or driver, to comply with the Road Traffic Act 1961 and associated Rules and Regulations and Local Government by-laws.

1.4 It is your responsibility to make sure that you are operating your vehicle in accordance with the Gazette Notice and this Code of Practice.

1.5 You commit an offence if you do not comply with this Code or the Road Traffic Act 1961 and Regulations.

2 What is a Low Loader Combination?

2.1 For the purpose of this Code of Practice, a Low Loader Combination is where:

2.1.1 the prime mover has a single steer axle and a tandem drive axle;

2.1.2 the low loader has a tri-axle or quad-axle group with:

2.1.2.1 four tyres per axle that does not exceed 2.5 metres in width when fully closed;

2.1.2.2 eight tyres per axle that does not exceed 2.7 metres in width when fully closed;

2.1.3 the maximum GCM does not exceed 59.5 tonnes (steer - 6t, drive -18.5t, trailing group -35t). See Explanatory Note;

2.1.4 the maximum loaded dimensions are 25.0 metres in length, 3.5 metres in width and 4.9 metres in height when carrying an indivisible item;

2.1.5 the ‘S’ dimension of the Low Loader does not exceed 12.9 metres; and

2.1.6 for an oversize tri-axle group, the horizontal distance between the centre lines of the outermost axles is more than 3.2 metres but does not exceed 3.7 metres.

Explanatory Note

The maximum Gross Combination Mass of the Low Loader Combination (including the load) must not exceed 59.5 tonnes (unless the combination is also operating under the Gazette Notice titled 6.5 Tonne Steer Axle Mass Limit for Heavy Vehicles at which the GCM must not exceed 60 tonnes).
3 When Do You Use this Code?

3.1 You must use this Code when transporting an indivisible item in South Australia where your Low Loader Combination and load exceeds the following mass and/or dimensions:
   3.1.1 19 metres in length but not exceeding 25 metres; and/or
   3.1.2 a height of 4.3 metres but not exceeding 4.9 metres; and/or
   3.1.3 a width of 2.5 metres but not exceeding 3.5 metres; and/or
   3.1.4 general mass limits; and/or
   3.1.5 statutory axle mass limits; and/or
   3.1.6 an ‘S’ dimension of 9.5 metres but not exceeding 12.9 metres.

4 What is Not Covered by this Code?

4.1 You cannot use this Code for the transport of containers, crates or auxiliary fuel tanks.

4.2 You cannot use this Code when your combination permanently exceeds 2.7 metres width with eight tyres per axle; 2.5 metres width with four tyres per axle, and/or 4.3 metres height, and/or 23 metres length.

4.3 You cannot use this Code when your combination is of variable size that cannot be restored to 2.7 metres or less in width, 4.3 metres or less in height, and 23 metres or less in length.

5 What Documentation Must You Carry?

5.1 When operating a Low Loader Combination under this Code, you must carry a legible, current and complete copy of the Gazette Notice titled Operation of 25 metre long Prime Mover and Low Loader Combinations with a Gross Combination Mass up to 59.5 tonnes.

5.2 The Gazette Notice can be carried in either in hardcopy or in an electronic format so that it can be read from a device having a visual display (e.g. smart phone, tablet or laptop PC, in vehicle unit) that is carried within the vehicle and that is accessible, to a DPTI Authorised Officer appointed under the Road Traffic Act 1961 or a Police Officer, from outside the vehicle.

5.3 You are not required to carry a copy of this Code.
6 The Road System in South Australia

The standard of the road system in South Australia varies significantly from area to area. Some roads, such as main highways and key arterial roads have been designed to carry large and heavy vehicles while other roads provide access to residential areas and are generally only designed for vehicles with a mass of 4.5 tonnes or less.

The Act provides two categories for the operation of heavy vehicles on South Australian roads. The two categories are:

- General Access Vehicles; and
- Restricted Access Vehicles.

General Access Vehicles (GAVs) are vehicles that operate within statutory mass and dimension limits. These limits provide general protection for the whole of the road system in South Australia and allow these vehicles to operate on the road network without any route or time restrictions other than locally imposed controls, such as load limits on bridges.

The Restricted Access Vehicle (RAV) category allows larger and heavier vehicles to operate on South Australia’s road system, but restricts access to approved routes that have been designed with the strength and capacity to cater for this size of vehicle. Low Loader Combinations are classified as RAVs.

7 Approved Routes

7.1 Low Loader Combinations operating under this Code must only operate on the approved route network for combinations with a GCM up to 59.5 tonnes.

7.2 The approved network is available for viewing on DPTI’s RAVnet Online Mapping System found at http://www.dpti.sa.gov.au/ravnet

7.3 The approved route network may contain special conditions relating to travel on particular roads and bridges, as well as turning requirements or restrictions for some intersections and junctions.

8 Damage to Roads and Infrastructure

8.1 You must make sure that there is enough side and overhead clearance on the roads that you intend to use.

8.2 The conditions set out in this document may be overridden at any time by a limitation sign fixed on a bridge, culvert, causeway, road or road ferry.

Explanatory Note

Some parts of the road system, such as bridges, overhead services and wires, roadside furniture (signs, traffic lights etc.) and vegetation may not allow sufficient clearance for a vehicle and load travelling under this Code.

Section 107 of the Road Traffic Act 1961 (Damage to road infrastructure) requires you to immediately notify a police officer or road authority, if you cause damage to roads, bridges and culverts, or if you interfere with roadside furniture.

If you cause or permit anything to fall on the road that may hinder or injure other road users (traffic signs, tree branches etc.) Australian Road Rule 293 requires you to remove it, or take action to have it removed.
9 General Route Conditions

9.1 A Low Loader Combination can only operate on routes that have been approved for Low Loader operation.

9.2 When travelling on Main South Road from the intersection of Gulf View Road and Justs Road at Sellicks Beach to Cape Jervis the combination must not exceed 25 metres in length and 3.0 metres in width.

9.3 You must not assemble or disassemble your Low Loader Combination on any approved route unless the vehicle has broken down or if you are directed to do so by an Authorised Officer appointed under the Road Traffic Act 1961 or a Police Officer.

9.4 If you intend to use a roadside parking area you can only stop in a parking area showing a ‘Rest Area’ sign or a ‘Truck Parking Area’ sign. Parking areas must only be used for rest purposes or vehicle checks, not for assembly or disassembly purposes.

9.5 Low Loader Combinations are prohibited from using rest areas indicated with the ‘Unsuitable for Trucks’ sign. This sign displays a symbolic articulated vehicle with a diagonal ‘ban’ slash across the vehicle. All signs display white symbols and letters on a blue background.

9.6 All entrances into and exits out of a depot must be suitable to allow access for a Low Loader Combination (refer to Section 33).

9.7 If there is not a separate lane available for overtaking, you must, at regular intervals when it is practicable to do so, move off the road to allow other vehicles to overtake.

9.8 You must be able to see to the sides and rear of the vehicle with the use of rear vision mirrors.

9.9 All entry into and out of depots must be in a forward direction only.

Explanatory Note

Pursuant to Clause 35(5) and (6) of the Road Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Rules 1999 rear vision mirrors may project up to 150mm or for retracting mirrors up to 230mm beyond the widest part of the vehicle which includes any load being carried.
Dimensions

10 Width

10.1 Your Low Loader Combination, including load, must not exceed 3.5 metres in width.

10.2 When travelling on Main South Road from the intersection of Gulf View Road and Justs Road at Sellicks Beach to Cape Jervis your Low Loader Combination must not exceed 3.0 metres in width.

10.3 The load must be carried to minimise the amount by which it exceeds 2.5 metres.

10.4 The overall width of all axles or axle groups of the vehicle, excluding the front axle or front axle group, measured between the outer edges of the tyre tread, must not be less than 2.1 metres.

10.5 Any cross member, supporting frame or outrigger fitted to support the load must not project beyond the load by more than 50mm.

11 Height

11.1 Your Low Loader Combination, including load, must not exceed 4.9 metres in height.

12 Clearance Conditions

12.1 You must ensure that there is sufficient side and overhead clearance available on routes that you intend to use.

12.2 If your Low Loader Combination is between 4.3 metres and 4.9 metres in height, before starting your journey you must contact:

12.2.1 ETSA Utilities or ElectraNet and confirm height clearances under powerlines along your route; and

12.2.2 Optus and confirm height clearances for travel in the Optus clearance zone (refer Appendix 2).

Contact Details

ETSA Utilities (lower voltage distribution lines): Phone (08) 8292 0492 or fax (08) 8292 0105

ElectraNet (high voltage powerlines): Phone: 1800 243 853 or fax (08) 8404 7956

Optus: Phone (08) 8468 5200 or fax (08) 8468 5217

13 Length

13.1 Your Low Loader Combination, including load and any overhang, must not exceed 25 metres in length.

14 Rear Overhang

14.1 Where a Low Loader Combination exceeds 19m in length the rear overhang of the semi-trailer, including the load, must not exceed the lesser of:

14.1.1 5.5 metres; or

14.1.2 25% of the overall length of the entire vehicle, including the load.
15 Loading Requirements

15.1 The load must not consist of more than one indivisible item.
15.2 The load must be equally-spaced across the tray of the low loader trailer.
15.3 The side projection of a load must not exceed 0.5 metres on either side of the tray of the low loader trailer.
15.4 An adjustable trailer must be retracted to the minimum dimensions suitable for the indivisible load being carried.
15.5 The load must be restrained in accordance with the Load Restraint Guide.

16 Requirement for the Use of Pilot Vehicles

16.1 Two (2) pilot vehicles must accompany the Low Loader Combination if:
   16.1.1 you are travelling in the Adelaide Metropolitan Area (refer Appendix 1), and the overall length of the combination is greater than 23 metres and up to and including 25 metres except when travelling on the Port Wakefield Road between the South Road Connector/Salisbury Highway intersection and the Gawler River bridge on Route 1 or on the Northern Expressway.
   16.1.2 you are travelling on Main South Road from the intersection of Gulf View Road and Justs Road at Sellicks Beach to Cape Jervis and the overall length of the combination is greater than 23 metres up to and including 25 metres.

16.2 One (1) pilot vehicle must accompany the Low Loader Combination if:
   16.2.1 you are travelling on Main South Road from the intersection of Gulf View Road and Justs Road at Sellicks Beach to Cape Jervis and the overall length of the combination is greater than 20 metres up to and including 23 metres; and 2.5 metres wide.
   16.2.2 you are travelling on Main South Road from the intersection of Gulf View Road and Justs Road at Sellicks Beach to Cape Jervis and the overall length of the combination is 21 metres in length and 3.0 metres wide.

16.3 The driver/s of any pilot vehicle/s while accompanying the Low Loader Combination must operate in accordance with the booklet titled Escorting Guidelines for Oversize and Overmass Vehicles and Loads, published by DPTI (MR 744).
Empty Travel Conditions

17 Empty Travel

Empty travel shall comply with the following:

17.1 the combination consists of the prime mover and low loader trailer only; or

17.2 the carrying of one of the following:
   17.2.1 low loader dolly; or
   17.2.2 low loader dolly and one pilot vehicle; or
   17.2.3 two pilot vehicles.

17.3 the load must not protrude beyond the extremities of the low loader trailer to constitute a long or wide load. The load must be confined within the extremities of the vehicle;

17.4 the maximum GCM must not exceed 42.5 tonnes;

17.5 the statutory axle mass limits must not exceed:
   17.5.1 steer: 6 tonnes; and
   17.5.2 drive: 16.5 tonnes; and
   17.5.3 tri/quad axle: 20 tonnes.

17.6 the prime mover is not required to have a minimum axle mass limit of 14 tonnes on the tandem drive axle group;

17.7 the low loader trailer must be fully retracted to the maximum dimension of 2.5 metres wide for low loaders with 4 tyres on each axle;

17.8 low loader trailers with 8 tyres on each axle which cannot be fully retracted to 2.5 metres wide must be fully retracted to a dimension which does not exceed 2.7 metres wide;

17.9 the combination with the low loader trailer when retracted to minimum dimensions shall not exceed 23 metres in length;

17.10 if your combination exceeds 2.5 meters (but not exceeding 2.7 metres) in width it must have:
   17.10.1 four (4) flags complying with Section 27 and
   17.10.2 “OVERSIZE” sign complying with Sections 21, 22, 23, and 24.

17.11 when travelling empty the distance between the point of articulation at the front of the trailer and the rear overhang line can be more than 9.5 metres;

17.12 pilot vehicle/s are not required when the combination is retracted to minimum dimensions of 23 metres long and 2.7 metres wide;

17.13 the combination must only operate on the approved route network for Low Loader Combinations with a GCM up to 59.5 tonnes.

Explanatory Note

The Gazette Notice titled Operation of 23m Long Prime Mover and Low Loader Combinations and associated Code of Practice have been developed specifically for empty travel and may be more suited to your empty travel needs.

A copy of these documents can be found on the Department’s website at www.sa.gov.au.
18 Prime Mover

18.1 The maximum mass limit on a single steer axle must not exceed 6 tonnes unless the prime mover complies with requirements of the Gazette Notice titled *6.5 Tonne Steer Axle Mass Limit for Heavy Vehicles* (note the manufacturer’s ratings cannot be exceeded), i.e. If complying with this Code and the 6.5 tonne steer Gazette Notice at maximum weights the GCM of the Low Loader combination cannot exceed 60 tonnes.

18.2 The minimum mass on the tandem drive axle group fitted with dual tyres shall not be less than 14 tonnes when the combination is loaded.

18.3 The maximum mass limit on a tandem drive axle group fitted with dual tyres must not exceed 18.5 tonnes.

19 Low Loader

19.1 The manufacturer’s tyre rating must not be exceeded.

19.2 The tri-axle low loader may have three (3) rows of four (4) or three (3) rows of eight (8) tyres per axle.

19.3 The quad axle low loader may be four (4) rows of four (4) tyres per axle or four (4) rows of eight (8) tyres per axle.

19.4 The distance between the third and fourth axle spacing (rear drive axle and first axle on the low loader trailer) may vary between a minimum of 6.0m to 10.0m.

19.5 For tri-axle low loaders the distance between the fourth, fifth and sixth (low loader) axle spacing must be within the range of 1.20 m and 1.24 m or alternatively 1.80 m and 1.85m (for oversize tri-axle groups).

19.6 For quad-axle low loaders the distance between the fourth and fifth; and sixth and seventh (low loader) axle spacing may vary between 1.20m and 1.24m.

19.7 For quad-axle low loaders the distance between the fifth and sixth (low loader) axle spacing may vary between 2.40m and 2.44m.

20 Maximum Axle Group Mass and GCM Limits

20.1 The maximum Gross Combination Mass of the Low Loader Combination (including the load) must not exceed 59.5 tonnes (unless the combination is also operating under the Gazette Notice titled *6.5 Tonne Steer Axle Mass Limit for Heavy Vehicles* at which the GCM must not exceed 60 tonnes).

20.2 The trailing axle group on the low loader (with either rows of four (4) or eight (8) tyres) shall not exceed the following maximum axle group mass as detailed in Table 1 and Table 2:-
### Table 1: Low Loader Tri-Axle Mass Limits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WIDTH OF GROUP (metres)</th>
<th>NUMBER OF AXLES IN TRAILING GROUP</th>
<th>3 at 1.2m spacing (min)</th>
<th>3 at 1.8m spacing (min)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 tyres</td>
<td>8 tyres</td>
<td>4 tyres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 2: Low Loader Quad Axle Mass Limits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WIDTH OF GROUP (metres)</th>
<th>NUMBER OF AXLES IN TRAILING GROUP</th>
<th>QUAD SPREAD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 at 1.2m spacing (min)</td>
<td>4 at spacing 1.2, 2.4, 1.2 (min)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 tyres</td>
<td>8 tyres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
21 Warning Signs

21.1 If your Low Loader Combination exceeds 19.0 metres in length or 2.5 metres in width, you must display an “OVERSIZE” warning sign at the front and rear of your vehicle or load, that:

21.1.1 can be clearly seen by other roads users;
21.1.2 are fitted horizontally at the front and rear of the combination;
21.1.3 is not more than 1.8 metres from ground level;
21.1.4 is not less than 500 millimetres from ground level; and
21.1.5 if the warning sign is in two (2) parts, the parts must be fitted horizontally to your Low Loader Combination, at the same height.

22 Sign Size

22.1 The “OVERSIZE” warning sign on your Low Loader Combination must be at least 1.2 metres wide and 450 millimetres high.

23 Sign Material

23.1 The “OVERSIZE” sign on your Low Loader Combination must

23.1.1 be made of either:
   a) stiff, flat weatherproof material, such as Zincalume at least 0.8mm thick or aluminium at least 1.6mm thick; or
   b) flexible material provided it is held taut, positioned and secured in a manner that is clearly seen and maintained in a condition that is easily read. A flexible sign must comply with all other requirements relating to warning signs as if it were a stiff sign.

23.1.2 have a yellow surface complying with Class 1 or 2 of the Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1906.1:2007 ‘Retroreflective Materials and Devices for Road Traffic Control Purposes, Part 1: Retroreflective Sheeting’; and

23.1.3 have a black border at least 20mm wide; and

23.1.4 have the manufacturers’ name or trademark and the class of retro-reflective material marked in block letters at least 3mm but not more than 10 millimetres high.

24 Sign Wording

24.1 The “OVERSIZE” sign on your Low Loader Combination must display the words:

24.1.1 “OVERSIZE” in black capital letters at least 200 millimetres high; and

24.1.2 be written in typeface Series C(N) that complies with Australian Standard AS 1744—1975 ‘Forms of Letters and Numerals for Road Signs’.

24.2 Warning signs can be split into two parts, provided;

24.2.1 the left-hand displays the word OVER and the right-hand displays the word SIZE;

24.2.2 there is no border between the adjacent edges of the two parts;

24.2.3 they are the same height.
25 Warning Devices

25.1 If a load projects more than 150mm beyond one side of an oversize vehicle or combination, and the projection is less than 500mm thick from top to bottom, there must be:

25.1.1 a warning light attached to the vehicle or combination; and

25.1.2 at least two (2) yellow, rigid pieces of material (known as “delineators”) each attached to the front and to the rear of the projection.

Explanatory Note
If the load projects more than 150mm beyond both sides of the vehicle there must be at least one delineator on each side at the front and at least one on each side at the rear (i.e. at least 4 delineators).

Delineators shall be used in addition to the warning flags

25.2 A delineator must:

25.2.1 be at least 300mm long and at least 300mm wide; and

25.2.2 comply with Class 1 or 2 of Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1906.1:2007 ‘Retroreflective Materials and Devices for Road Traffic Control Purposes’; and

25.2.3 if at the front of the projection, be attached so that the reflective surface is facing forward of the vehicle; and

25.2.4 if at the rear of the projection, be attached so that the reflective surface is facing rearward of the vehicle.

26 Warning Lights

26.1 If your Low Loader Combination exceeds 23 metres long and/or 3 metres wide, you must display a warning light or lights so that at least one is visible from a distance of 500 metres in any direction.

26.2 The warning light must:

26.2.1 emit a rotating, flashing, yellow-coloured light; and

26.2.2 flash at a rate between 120 and 200 times per minute; and

26.2.3 have a power of at least 55 watts; and

26.2.4 not be a strobe light.

26.3 Warning light(s) shall be permanently connected into the electrical system of the vehicle but may use standard automotive connectors to allow easy electrical disconnection and removal of the light(s) when not required.

26.4 Warning light(s) shall have incorporated into their electrical system an on/off switch control which is located within easy reach of the driver.
27 Flags

27.1 If your Low Loader Combination, together with any load, is wider than 2.5 metres or longer than 19.0 metres it must have four (4) flags complying with the following requirements:

27.1.1 brightly coloured red, yellow, or red and yellow, with each being at least 450mm long and at least 450mm wide

27.1.2 attached to the extremities of the projecting load or, if no projecting load, to the extremities of the vehicle or combination itself;

27.1.3 must be clearly visible at a distance of 100 metres to a person of normal vision.

28 Headlights

28.1 A Low Loader Combination must have its low-beam headlights on while travelling at all times.

29 Times of Travel

29.1 Travel is only permitted between the hours of sunrise and sunset as specified in the Proof of Sunrise and Sunset Act 1923 as amended and published in the South Australian Government Gazette.

29.2 You must not travel in the Adelaide Metropolitan Area between the hours of 7am to 9am and 4pm to 6pm, Monday to Friday inclusive.

29.3 You must not travel during periods of low visibility. Low visibility means any time when, due to insufficient daylight or unfavourable weather conditions, people or vehicles on a road are not clearly visible at 250 metres by a person of normal vision. If you are already travelling when visibility is reduced to the level described above, the driver must drive to the nearest safe parking area, and wait until visibility improves beyond that level before continuing to travel.
30 Intersection and junctions

30.1 When you are turning:

30.1.1 right from a one-way road, you must approach and enter the intersection from as near as practicable to the right side of the road (Fig 1);

30.1.2 right into a one-way road, you must enter as near as practicable to the right boundary of the one-way road (Fig 2);

30.1.3 left at an intersection from a single-lane road, you must approach and enter the intersection from as near as practicable to the left side of the road (Fig 3).

30.1.4 right from a road, you must not obstruct traffic coming from the opposite direction.

Explanatory Note

Continuous arrows indicate that you must, wherever practicable, turn your vehicle in the direction shown. Broken arrows indicate that you can only turn in the direction shown if it is impracticable to do so otherwise, and only if it is safe.

31 Multi-Laned Roads

31.1 When you are travelling on a multi-laned road where turning arrows are marked you must:

31.1.1 turn only in the direction of the arrows marked on the road (Fig. 4);

31.1.2 turn only in the direction of the marked arrows and enter the corresponding lane of the other road (Fig. 4).
31.2 When you are travelling on a multi-laned road and turning lanes lines are provided as an extension of the turning lane, you must keep the vehicle combination in the turning lane while you are turning (Fig. 5).

Fig 5

31.3 When you are travelling on a road where turning arrows are not marked, and you are turning:

31.3.1 right from a multi-laned road, you must begin your turn from the lane that is just to the left of the centre of the road (Fig. 6);

31.3.2 right into a multi-laned road, you must where practicable, enter the lane nearest to the centre of the road (Fig. 6);

31.3.3 left from a multi-laned road, you must approach and enter the intersection from as near as practicable to the far left side of the road (Fig 7). Alternatively, if your vehicle displays a “DO NOT OVERTAKE TURNING VEHICLE” sign, you can approach and enter the intersection from the marked lane next to the left lane (Fig 7a).

Fig 6  Fig 7  Fig 7a

32 Un-marked Roads

32.1 When you are travelling on a road that does not have a dividing line or median strip, is not a one-way road and you are turning right, you must, where practicable:

32.1.1 approach and enter the intersection from the left of, parallel to, and as near as practicable to, the centre of the road (Fig 8);

32.1.2 pass as near as practicable to the right of the centre of the intersection; and

32.1.3 enter the other road just left of the centre; and

32.1.4 not obstruct traffic coming from the opposite direction.

Fig 8
33 Driveways and Depots

33.1 You must not reverse your vehicle into or out of roadways or depots.

33.2 When you are operating on a multi-laned road and turning:

33.2.1 left into a depot, you must turn from as near as practicable to the far left side of the road (Fig 9). Alternatively, if your vehicle displays a "DO NOT OVERTAKE TURNING VEHICLE" sign, you can turn from the marked lane next to the left lane (Fig 9a);

33.2.2 right into a depot, you must turn from the lane that is nearest to the centre of the road (Fig 9);

33.2.3 left out of a depot, you must, where practicable, enter the lane that is nearest the left kerb (Fig 10);

33.2.4 right out of a depot, you must, where practicable, enter the lane that is nearest the centre of the road (Fig 10).

33.3 When you are operating on a road that does not have a dividing line or median strip and you are turning:

33.3.1 left into a depot, you must approach and enter the driveway from as near as practicable to the far left side of the road (Fig. 11);

33.3.2 right into a depot, you must approach the entrance from the left of, parallel to, and as near as practicable to, the centre of the road (Fig. 12);

33.3.3 right out of a depot, you must make the turn so that you turn to the left of the centre of the road you are entering, unless you are entering a one-way road (Fig.12).
Appendix 2 – Optus Clearance Zone Map
The Australian Road Rules contains all the rules with which drivers must comply. Some of the important rules that apply to all Heavy Vehicles are listed as follows:

**Speed-limits**
The speed-limit applying to all vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM) greater than 12 tonnes is 100 kilometres per hour.

The general speed-limit in built-up areas is 50 kilometres per hour, however there are some zones where the speed-limit is 40 kilometres per hour.

**Using low gear**
If a "TRUCKS & BUSES MUST USE LOW GEAR" sign is displayed on a length of road, the driver of a truck or bus must use a gear that is low enough to limit the speed of the vehicle without having to use the primary brake.

**Overtaking**
In order to avoid a collision or an obstruction, a vehicle overtaking or passing another vehicle must not return to the marked lane or line of traffic where the other vehicle is travelling, until there is sufficient distance.

While a vehicle is being overtaken, it must not increase its speed.

The "Do Not Overtake Turning Vehicle" sign can be legally enforced. If, for example, a vehicle displaying this sign is indicating a left turn, and the turning vehicle is not close to the left hand kerb of the road, other drivers cannot overtake on the left, even if they are in another lane.

**Multi-lane roads**
On multi-lane roads where the speed limit is higher than 80 kilometres an hour, vehicles must keep to the left, even when there is no sign saying 'Keep left unless overtaking'. The right lane can only be used to avoid an obstruction or traffic congestion, or when overtaking or turning right.

If your vehicle is in a line of traffic that is merging with one or more lines of traffic, and there are no lines marked, you must give way if any part of the vehicle to the left or right of you is ahead of your vehicle.

If your vehicle is moving from one marked lane that is ending to another marked lane, you must give way to any vehicle travelling in the marked lane to which you are moving.

**Restrictions on stopping and parking**
Heavy vehicles must not stop on a length of road in a built-up area for longer than an hour, unless there is information, a traffic control device or local law that allows a longer period. If dropping off or picking up goods, however, the vehicle can stop for longer than one hour, but not any longer than is necessary for the task.

When operating on a length of road that is not in a built-up area, drivers may stop on the shoulder of the road.

**Lights and warning devices**
A vehicle with a GVM over 12 tonnes cannot be driven unless it is equipped with at least 3 (three) portable warning triangles. The driver must produce the warning triangles if asked by an Authorised Officer appointed under the *Road Traffic Act 1961* or a Police Officer.

If some or all of any load being carried falls off the vehicle, or if a driver stops on a road and the vehicle is not visible for at least 200 metres in all directions, the driver must position the warning triangles so that:

- one triangle is at least 50 metres, but not more than 150 metres in front of the vehicle or fallen load and one is placed likewise but behind the vehicle; and
- one triangle is placed to the side of the vehicle or load to give adequate warning to other road users.
**Keeping a safe distance**
Drivers must keep sufficient distance between the vehicle travelling in front in order to stop safely and avoid a collision. Vehicles must not unreasonably obstruct the path of another vehicle.

Any vehicle that is longer than 7.5 metres (long vehicle) must keep the required minimum distance from other long vehicles, unless driving on a multi-lane road or any length of road in a built-up area or overtaking. The minimum distances are:

- for a long vehicle travelling in an area in which Road-Trains are permitted to operate, unless driving on a multi-lane road or any length of road in a built-up area or overtaking – 200 metres;
- for a long vehicle travelling on a approved B-Double route driving on a multi-lane road or any length of road in a built-up area or overtaking – 60 metres.
Further Information

**Oversize/Overmass Specifications**
DPTI – Transport Safety Regulation
Vehicle Permits Team
Telephone: 1300 882 249
Facsimile: (08) 8348 9551

**Gazette Notices – General Information**
DPTI – Policy, Planning and Programs Division
Heavy Vehicle Operational Policy
Telephone: (08) 8343 2282
Facsimile: (08) 8343 2564

**Australian Road Rules**
Telephone: 13 10 84