Guide to heavy vehicle management (RTS 16) published - Information

Over recent years Land Transport New Zealand (Land Transport NZ) staff has received many requests from traffic engineers, managers and vehicle operators for information about the legal and safety requirements that apply to heavy vehicles in New Zealand. This information is in several places and is sometimes not easy to locate.

Land Transport NZ has therefore produced a Guide to heavy vehicle management (RTS 16) as the latest in the Road and Traffic Standards (RTS) series of guideline documents. It provides an introduction to heavy vehicle safety and management for road and traffic engineers, planners and managers. With increasing numbers of heavy vehicles using New Zealand roads, it is important that such vehicles and their drivers are considered when road designs or traffic management plans are prepared. This guide could also be of interest to heavy vehicle operators, designers, engineers and enforcement personnel. This document provides several references to other documents (many of which can be viewed on websites) for more detailed information.

After review by technical staff in Transit NZ and the Ministry of Transport, a draft was placed on the Land Transport NZ website for consultation in September 2005. Submissions received were generally supportive of the document and asked for additional topics and details to be added to it. This work has now been completed and the final document can be released.

The document can be viewed and downloaded from our website at


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