

## ***Traffic Note 39***

**Date:** September 2003  
**From:** Safer Roads  
**Authorisation:** Peter Croft, Manager Safer Roads

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

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### **Overdimension permit notifications to road controlling authorities - information**

There has been growing interest from road controlling authorities (RCAs) for information about large, overdimension load movements, particularly those involving the transport of houses. This interest comes from concern about damage to roadside furniture arising from some movements of large loads.

The extent of this interest was not made apparent to the Land Transport Safety Authority (LTSA) during development of the *Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Dimension and Mass*. Consequently, the oversize permit system was not designed to, and can't readily, provide information of the type and extent likely to be of value to RCAs.

The LTSA agrees there are safety and operational benefits in sharing this information and is addressing the issue.

In the longer term an internet-accessed database providing information on unusual transport and roadside activities would be ideal for all parties. However, this will take considerable investment, planning and co-ordination with related permit issuing authorities and RCAs.

#### **Interim measure**

As an interim measure the LTSA proposes releasing, on a weekly basis, a spreadsheet providing essential details on oversize permits. This will require changes at the LTSA's Overdimension Permit Issuing Agency (OPIA), planned for completion toward the end of 2003.

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The spreadsheet would include operator name, load departure and arrival points, description and width of the load. The spreadsheet would not specifically distinguish which RCA would be affected by each load movement.

**Information for high-priority cases only**

Currently the OPIA can provide specific information regarding notified load movements in response to ad-hoc requests. Typically, these would occur when a RCA has become aware of damage and is seeking information regarding load movements in a specific area on a specific day.

The OPIA can usually provide this information within 16 working hours. However, this facility was not originally planned for and is a resource-intensive process. The OPIA would appreciate its use being restricted to high priority cases.

**Improving the notification system**

The LTSA will be working with representatives of local government and other parties to develop the notification system changes necessary to provide the information required by RCAs.

Queries regarding this issue should be directed to your nearest LTSA regional office.