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*This document aims to provide heavy vehicle drivers with information about safe driving behaviour. The information provided in this publication is not a substitute for knowing the legislation and should not be taken as an accurate or binding interpretation of the law.*

Heavy Vehicle Driver – Tips & Guide

Issue 3 - March 2012

Road Train Assembly Areas

As a professional heavy vehicle driver, you need to be aware of the purpose of Road Train Assembly Areas (RTAAs) located in Western Australia and your responsibility when using these facilities.

THE PURPOSE OF RTAAs

RTAAs are designed to assist the transport industry to meet lawful requirements and to help achieve these requirements, the assembly areas have been strategically located on main road freight routes along the State Road Network. The primary purpose of an RTAA is as follows:

* To provide a suitable and temporary transitory area, where transport operators and drivers who operate Restricted Access Vehicles, can stop and reconfigure their vehicles according to their permit requirements in a safe environment, when travelling from one RAV Network to a more restrictive RAV Network or vice versa, depending on travel direction and permit conditions.
* To provide a suitable and safe location to assist transport operators to meet their legal obligation underOccupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996 and the Code of Practice for Fatigue Management for Commercial Vehicle Drivers.

RTAA LOCATIONS

Abernethy Road (Perth) Road Train Assembly Area

Apple Street Road Train Assembly Area

Bedfordale (Perth) Road Train Assembly Area

Broome Road Train Assembly Area

Bunbury Road Train Assembly Area

Carnarvon Road Train Assembly Area

Derby Road Train Assembly Area

Exmouth Road Train Assembly Area

Northam Road Train Assembly Area

Wubin Road Train Assembly Area

Refer to the *WA Road Train Assembly Area Map* on: [www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/UsingRoads/HeavyVehicles/PublicationsInformation](http://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/UsingRoads/HeavyVehicles/PublicationsInformation)

**IMPORTANT**

**A Road Train Assembly Area is not a long term parking facility.**

**DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY**

As a professional heavy vehicle driver, you need to be aware that if you intend to use an RTAA, there are rules you must abide by to ensure that you do not negatively impact other operators and the amenity of the RTAA is maintained.

* When entering or exiting a RTAA always drive your vehicle in a safe manner and follow designated speed limit, route pattern or road marking direction, if applicable, when inside the RTAA.
* Where specific parking bays have been marked in an RTAA, then you must park your vehicle accordingly within a marked bay.
* When you exit your vehicle within an RTAA, you must wear a Hi-Vis safety vest or Hi-Vis shirt at all times.
* When detaching trailers, ensure landing legs are lowered onto the concrete strip provided in each parking bay to prevent damage to bitumen surface.
* Operators are responsible for their own vehicle and load, safety and security.
* RTAAs are not to be used by drivers as a place to load or unload goods unless an emergency situation necessitates for this action to occur.
* RTAAs are not to be used as a place to perform vehicle/mechanical servicing unless an emergency situation necessitates for this action to occur.

**DANGEROUS GOODS DRIVERS**

Additional obligatory requirements placed on drivers of dangerous goods vehicles in RTAAs are as follows:

* Drivers must not leave their vehicle unattended when parked at RTAAs, except for when a driver requires a brief toilet break.
* Drivers must not park or leave their vehicle standing within 15 metres of any building in which there is or likely to be a concentration of people such as a RTAA toilet facility.
* Drivers must not park or leave their vehicle standing within 8 metres of another vehicle which is transporting a placard load of dangerous goods.

To help us maintain the safety and amenity of RTAAs for industry, Main Roads WA encourages operators to report any concerns to the appropriate authority in relation to damaged road surfaces, other maintenance issues, suspicious behaviour or acts of vandalism at RTAAs. Call Main Roads WA on 138 138.