



# Road Vehicle Standards Bill 2017

## Testing Facilities

The Road Vehicle Standards Bill 2017 is intended to replace the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* (MVSA) to implement the Australian Government's announced Reforms to the regulatory framework for the safety, environmental and anti-theft performance of all road vehicles being provided to the Australian market for the first time – both new and used. The reforms will deliver modernised legislation to increase community safety and remove unnecessary processes for businesses.

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*The Australian Government has released an Exposure Draft of the Road Vehicle Standards Bill for public information. The Bill will need to be debated and passed by both Houses of Parliament before it becomes law. This is expected to happen in 2018. More details are below.*

To improve the integrity, efficiency and effectiveness of vehicle certification the Australian Government will require testing facilities to be approved. This will provide an increased level of confidence that testing facilities have the appropriate staff, testing procedures, records management, and calibration procedures meeting the requirements of the tests being performed. Confidence in the testing of vehicles and vehicle components against the appropriate standards underpins the assurance of a vehicle's safety when first supplied to the Australian market.

Only approved testing facilities can be used to conduct tests to prepare evidence for approvals under the *Road Vehicle Standards Act* (RVSA).

Under the RVSA the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development (the Department) will:

- issue type approvals for vehicles and components, and approvals for testing facilities, for a period of 5 years, encouraging approval holders to maintain their compliance; and
- issue approvals for eligible components or sub-assemblies to be used in the manufacture of new road vehicles.

### Transitional arrangements

- The RVSA will commence 12 months after the bill is passed by the Parliament.
- Testing facilities interested in applying for approval, may submit an application for approval from approximately 3 months prior to the RVSA commencing. When the RVSA commences,

any applicants requiring testing facilities to do their testing will need to supply the details of an RVSA approved testing facility.

- The testing facility approvals will be issued for a period of 5 years.
- Where:
  - a Component Registration Number (CRN) or a Sub-Assembly Registration Number (SARN) has been used in evidence for an MVSA Identification Plate Approval, or
  - evidence has been prepared using a Road Vehicle Certification System (RVCS) testing facility,

the CRN, SARN or RVCS evidence will be acceptable for opt-in to RVSA type approvals during the first 6 months of the transitional period. Outside of this period and for all new type approvals, evidence prepared at RVSA approved testing facilities will be required.

## Compliance & enforcement

Compliance with, and enforcement of, RVSA obligations will be supported by enhanced monitoring and investigation powers, and new enforcement tools including infringement notices, civil penalties and enforceable undertakings under the *Regulatory Powers (Standard Provisions) Act 2014*.

## Information technology

As a result of the introduction of the RVSA, updates to the Information Technology (IT) system for testing facilities will be progressed over the next 1-2 years.

## Other relevant information sheets

More information on:

- Model Reports can be found at information sheet 3
- Full volume new vehicles and component type approvals can be found at information sheet 6
- Second Stage Manufacturers can be found at information sheet 8

## For further information

Please visit our website [https://infrastructure.gov.au/vehicles/mv\\_standards\\_act/](https://infrastructure.gov.au/vehicles/mv_standards_act/)