

Changes Affecting Low ATM (light) Trailers

This information bulletin provides key information regarding eligibility for registration of low-Aggregate Trailer Mass Trailers (ATM), also referred to as light trailers.

A low-ATM trailer is a trailer with an Aggregate Trailer Mass rating not exceeding 4.5t.

New laws effective 1 July 2023

On 1 July 2021, the new Road Vehicle Standards legislation was implemented by the Australian Government. This replaced the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989*.

Under the new legislation, manufacturers, and importers of vehicles (including low-ATM trailers) will need Australian Government approval before they can provide a trailer to the Australian market and achieve registration.

Transitional arrangements end in June. From **1 July 2023** all low-ATM trailers without documented Australian registration history must be included on the Register of Approved Vehicles (RAV).

The RAV is an online, publicly accessible electronic data base administered by the Australian Government. A vehicle entered on the RAV is searchable via the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) and includes information vital for registration, such as mass ratings, manufacture date, tare, and RAV entry date.

Low ATM Trailer RAV Entry Options

Two Commonwealth RAV entry options are available.

- Concessional RAV entry approval
- Vehicle Type Approval

These pathways have different eligibility criteria and approval conditions.

The correct option is determined by the number of vehicles to be provided, and if any approvals are in place relevant to the manufacturer and vehicle category.

Concessional RAV entry.

- Manufacturers or importers (including an individual or a corporation) may apply to the Australian Government for a **concessional RAV entry approval for 4 low-ATM trailers or less in a 12-month period**. These vehicles will be entered onto the RAV, on behalf of the approval holder, vehicle by vehicle. Fees are involved for each vehicle entered RAV entry.
- Applications for concessional RAV entry approval must also include a declaration that the trailer complies (or will comply) with the relevant national road vehicle standards at the time the vehicle is entered onto the RAV.
- Vehicle Standards Bulletin 1 (VSBI) version 6 has been developed to assist trailer manufacturers with compliance to the national road vehicle standards, known as Australian Design Rules (ADR). VSBI is available from;
https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/sites/default/files/migrated/vehicles/vehicle_regulation/bulletin/files/vsbi-rev-6-20210222.pdf
- Concessional RAV entry is the appropriate RAV entry pathway for home builders manufacturing less than 4 low-ATM trailers in a 12-month period.

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Vehicle Type Approval RAV entry

- Vehicle Type Approval RAV entry allows an unlimited number of vehicles of a particular type to be imported and /or entered on the RAV and is generally used for commercial quantities.

An entity may hold various approvals to cater for vehicles of differing Australian Design Rule category. Fees are applied for the RAV Type Approval and a nominal fee for each subsequent vehicle entered on the RAV via a Type approval.

Note: Vehicle Type Approval RAV entry is not to be confused with any Tasmanian dealer registration scheme type approvals a vehicle dealership may have in place to assist with new vehicle registration.

Vehicle Identification Numbers (VIN)

From **1 July 2023** VINs will not be obtained from Approved Inspection Station Vehicle Examiners. The VIN will be issued as part of the Australian Government Concessional RAV entry or to be nominated by the manufacturer during a Type Approval RAV entry.

Concessional RAV entry.

The Australian Government may issue a unique VIN to a low- ATM trailer as part of the Concessional RAV entry process. Once allocated, in addition to be displayed on the RAV, this is required to be stamped, etched, or embossed on the vehicle.

Type Approval RAV entry.

Manufacturers of low-ATM trailers in Tasmania requiring Vehicle Type Approval RAV entry, producing between 4 and less than 500 vehicles per annum may continue to receive VINs under existing approvals and arrangements.

Alternatively, a manufacturer may have VINs loaded to the National Exchange of Vehicle and Driver Information System (NEVDIS) and recognised for use on the RAV. Further information regarding NEVDIS and uploading VINs is available from.

<https://austroads.com.au/drivers-and-vehicles/nevdis/information-for-manufacturers>

Regardless of the source of the valid VIN, the VIN is required to be nominated on the RAV for the specific vehicle as part of a Type Approval RAV entry.

ROVER

ROVER (**R**oad **V**ehicle **R**egulator) is an administration system managed by the Australian Government and provides a single integrated system for all approvals and activities under the Commonwealth Road Vehicle Standards legislation.

ROVER allows a person to.

- Submit and pay for a RAV entry application,
- Monitor the progress of an application,
- Receive and respond to requests for information regarding an application,
- Be notified of the decision outcome of an application.

Further information and access to ROVER is available from the following link.

<https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure-transport-vehicles/vehicles/rvs/rover-resources>

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Pre-registration Inspection

To achieve registration in Tasmania, a vehicle is required to successfully pass an inspection at an Approved Inspection Station. During this inspection, the vehicle is assessed for roadworthiness, vehicle identity and mass ratings are recorded. Approved inspection Stations are outsourced service providers and may require a fee for this inspection.

Approved Inspection Station locations are available from the following link:

<https://maps.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=eb23bed451fb420c9b0b0076fac23529>

From **1 July 2023** a low-ATM trailer without previous registration history is required to be included on the RAV, identified by the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN). The unique VIN must be stamped, etched, or embossed on the vehicle.

The presence of a VIN and RAV entry, in addition to meeting the minimum roadworthiness requirements is required for a vehicle to pass a pre-registration inspection and be eligible for Tasmanian registration. Information included in the RAV entry is relied on for registration purposes and determining mass ratings.

Previously registered vehicles.

RAV entry (Concessional or Type approval RAV entry) is not required to achieve registration of a vehicle with previous registration history.

This involves the vehicle identifier, chassis number or VIN, which is stamped, etched, or embossed on the vehicle matching that of the Register of Motor Vehicles and Trailers, or that of another Australian state or territory.

A surrogate VIN or chassis number may be issued in certain circumstances following individual assessment by Vehicle Standards Unit or inspection and assessment by Transport Safety and Investigation Officers.

Low-ATM trailer standards.

Road vehicles including low -ATM trailers must comply with the relevant Australian Design Rules (ADR) as national standards. ADRs can be accessed at: [Australian Design Rules](#)

Additional information specific to trailer construction, lighting, brakes and dimensions etc. is available in [Vehicle Standards Bulletin 1](#) version 6.

Additional information.

Further information regarding low-ATM trailers, RAV entry, the ROVER system and ADR is available from the following link.

<https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure-transport-vehicles/vehicles/rvs/low-atm-trailers>

For more information contact:

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