

MemberUpdate

No. 13 of 2023 • 9 June 2023

TOPIC: Review of the RICP Master Code - Round 1 – Calling for Industry Submissions

DISTRIBUTION: GTA Members – primary contact list. Please circulate to all appropriate internal parties.

1. Purpose

- The purpose of this Member update is to seek Member input and feedback into a review by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) of the Master Industry Code of Practice Review ([Master Code](#)).

2. Background

- The NHVR registered the Master Code in 2018 after an extensive industry consultation and drafting process by the Australian Transport Association and the Australian Logistics Council. Grain Trade Australia (GTA) and our Transport, Storage & Ports (TSP) Technical Committee was involved throughout this process.
- The [Master Code](#) is a practical guide for the whole of the heavy vehicle industry to achieve the standards of heavy vehicle safety and compliance required under the HVNL and the various Heavy Vehicle National Regulations (HVNLR). As a NHVR registered industry code of practice (RICP) compliance with the Master Code is admissible as evidence in court of whether or not a duty or obligation under the Law has been complied with.
- GTA has also developed the [Grain Transport Code of Practice](#) (Grain TCOP) as an important tool to assist Australian Grain Industry (industry) participants who transport grain in bulk and in containers to do so efficiently, safely and within the relevant laws.
- The Grain TCOP is a voluntary Code specific to the grain transport supply chain. However, it **references the registered Master Code**.

3. NHVR Master Code Review

- The NHVR has announced a review of the Master Code is to commence and be completed by March 2024. To ensure the Master Code deals with and covers grain industry issues a **GTA Transport Sub-Committee** will provide input into this review through involvement in an External Industry Working Group.
- The review will consist of 6 phases with phase 1 requiring industry stakeholder feedback and comments on the current version of the Master Code. GTA will seek member input and provide a Submission to this first phase that runs from June to July 2023.
- The NHVR Working Group members will:
 - Provide detailed feedback about the content of the existing Master Code, including those hazards, risks, or controls which they believe should be added, replaced, or edited.
 - Provide comment about public feedback received regarding the existing content of the Master Code.

- Explain their feedback to other Working Group members, particularly where it is within their field of expertise.
- At the end of the Master Code review GTA and the Working Group will use the learnings from the NHVR process to consider an update to the Grain TCOP.

4. Calling for Submissions

- The GTA Transport Sub-Committee is seeking submissions from GTA members to provide feedback or comments about the current version of the Master Code. Submissions received will be reviewed and consolidated into feedback by the GTA Transport Sub-Committee to the NHVR.
- You are invited to provide written feedback or comments about the current version of the Master Code and respond to these questions:
 - Are the hazards, risks, and controls in the code still comprehensive and relevant?
 - Are there new hazards, risks and controls that should be included?
 - Are there existing controls that should be updated or altered?
 - Is the code practical, clear and easy to follow?
- Use the [GTA Submission proforma](#) to lodge your submission, noting that submissions do not need to be supported by other GTA Members, however, if they are supported, please indicate on the form. The deadline for submissions providing feedback is by **COB on the 23rd June 2023**.
- Unless marked “confidential” and appropriate supporting reasons are provided, all submissions may be placed on the GTA website for industry review.

Ends: