

Victoria's 26-metre Performance Based Standards Level 2A Tanker Network

Information Sheet

April 2021

Introduction

This information sheet sets out the access arrangements for 26-metre A-double tankers transporting liquids such as milk, fuel and water seeking to operate on Victoria's published [PBS Level 2A Network](#).

Reference vehicles

The PBS Level 2A Network has been assessed against the following 26m A-double tanker reference vehicles.

Table 1. 26m Tanker Network Reference Vehicles

Reference Vehicle	Maximum GCM	Central Trailer Spacing ¹
1	68.5 tonnes	3.5m-6.0m
2	68.5 tonnes	3.5m-4.5m
3	68.5 tonnes	2.8m-3.5m
4	68.5 tonnes	5.0m-6.0m

Axle spacings for each reference vehicle can be found in the Appendix.



¹ Central trailer spacing is defined as the distance measured between the centre point of the rear axle of the lead semi-trailer and the centre point of the front axle of the dolly trailer.

Conditions of operation

Tanker combinations operating on the PBS Level 2A Tanker Network must be:

- assessed against Level 2 PBS;
- accredited under the [Mass Management module](#) of the National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme;
- fitted with an anti-lock braking system on all axles;
- fitted with certified Road Friendly Suspension (RFS); and
- fitted with a 'long vehicle' warning sign at the front and rear.



Do I need a permit?

A Class 2 permit is required for PBS Level 2A tankers to access Victoria's published PBS Level 2A Network. The operator must also obtain a letter of PBS final approval from the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) prior to applying for a permit.

DoT is working with the NHVR to include the tanker network as part of a broader PBS gazette. This will remove the need for a permit.

For more information on PBS, see the industry guide on the Department of Transport website or visit the [National Heavy Vehicle Regulator website](#).

Can I still use my current permit?

Yes, existing permits allowing access at higher mass remain valid. For example, if you have a permit allowing your tanker to operate at 70.0 tonnes on a specific route, you can continue to use that permit.²

Dimension limits

Maximum dimension limits are in Table 2.

Table 2. Maximum dimensions

Combination	Height	Width	Length
PBS Level 2A tanker	4.3m	2.5m	26.0m

Mass limits

Maximum mass limits are in Table 3. Axle group definitions can be found in the Appendix.



Table 3. Maximum axle mass limits

Axle group	Reference vehicle			
	1	2	3	4
A (steer)	6.5t	6.5t	6.5t	6.5t
B (drive)	16.5t	17t	17t	17t
C (front tanker)	16.5t	15t	15t	15t
D (dolly)	12.5t	15t	15t	15t
E (rear tanker)	16.5t	15t	15t	15t
Total	68.5t	68.5t	68.5t	68.5t

Mass-limited structures

There are 10 mass-limited structures on the PBS Level 2A network that cannot be crossed by the reference vehicles operating at full mass.

These structures are represented by an orange dot on the published network and are listed in Table 4. Axle-mass limits are listed in Table 5.

Table 4. Mass-limited structures on the network

Structure No.	Road Name	Feature Crossed
SN2754	Princes HWY	Surry River
SN1470	Murray Valley HWY	Broken Creek
SN1507	Murray Valley HWY	Barr Creek
SN2165	Sunraysia HWY	Mt Greenock Creek
SN2252	Pyrenees HWY	Un-named Watercourse
SN1258	Pyrenees HWY	Phillips Gardens Drain
SN9488	Maroona-Glenthompson Rd	Un-named Watercourse
SN2143	Borong HWY	SRWSC – East Karkaroc Channel
SN3131	South Gippsland HWY	Yallock Creek Deviation
SN4879	Murchison-Violet Town Rd	Goulburn River

Table 5. Mass-limited structures mass limits

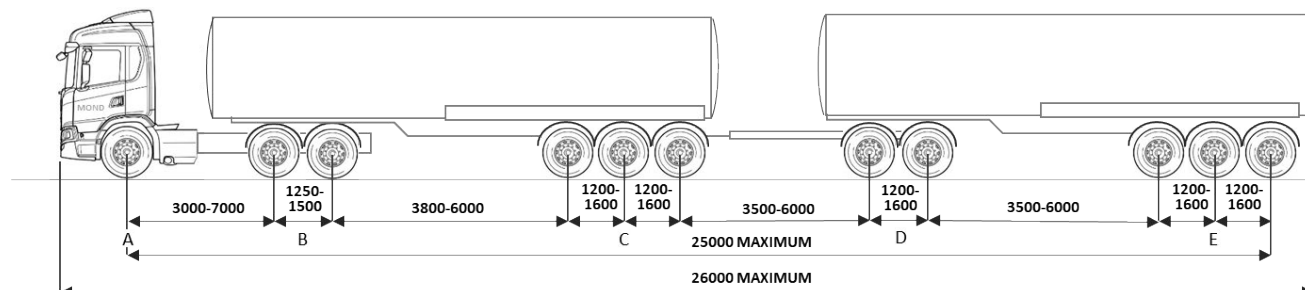
Axle group	Reference vehicle			
	1	2	3	4
A (steer)	6.5t	6.5t	6.5t	6.5t
B (drive)	16.5t	16.5t	16.5t	16.5t
C (front tanker)	15.06t	14.34t	13.5t	14.5t
D (dolly)	11.38t	14.34t	13.5t	14.5t
E (rear tanker)	15.06t	14.34t	13.5t	14.5t
Total	64.5t	66.0t	63.5t	66.5t

² Permits will continue to be renewed and mass limits may be reduced to protect vulnerable infrastructure.

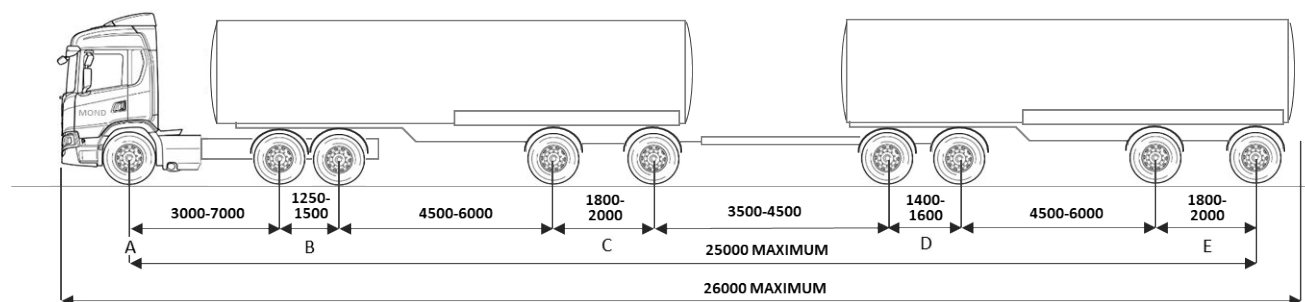
Appendix

26m A-double Tanker Reference Vehicle Designs³

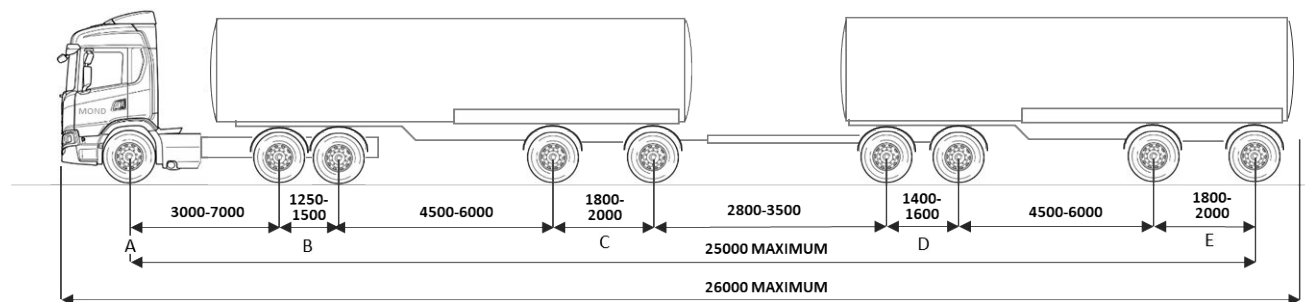
Reference vehicle 1: up to 68.5 tonne GCM with 3.5m-6.0m central trailer spacing



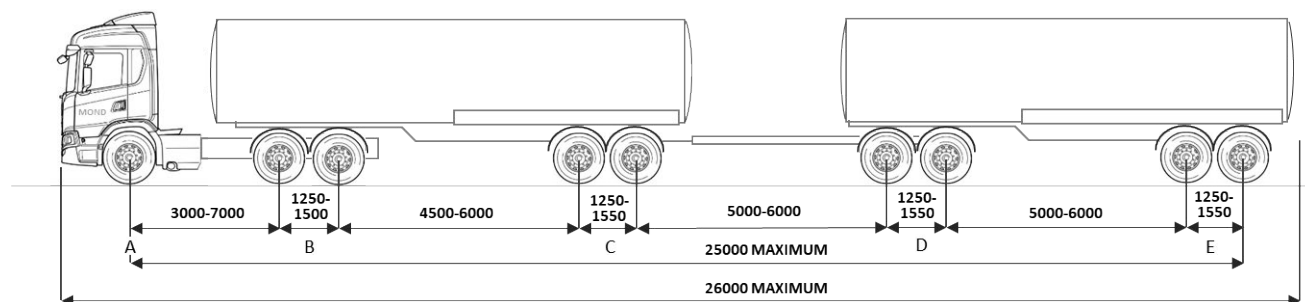
Reference vehicle 2: up to 68.5 tonne GCM with 3.5m-4.5m central trailer spacing



Reference vehicle 3: up to 68.5 tonne GCM with 2.8m-3.5m central trailer spacing



Reference vehicle 4: up to 68.5 tonne GCM with 5.0m-6.0m central trailer spacing



³ Not to scale. All measurements in millimetres.