

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

## Information Sheet

September 2020

### 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 <sup>1</sup>
1	64.5 tonnes	3.5m - 6.0m
2	66.0 tonnes	3.5m - 4.5m
3	63.5 tonnes	2.8m - 3.5m
4	66.5 tonnes	5.0m - 6.0m

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



### 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

### 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
- display a 'Long Vehicle' warning sign at the front and rear.



<sup>1</sup> 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.

# 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	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

What if my design doesn't match one of the reference vehicles?

If your combination falls within the maximum mass limit for one of the published networks, you may operate on that network provided you do not exceed the axle limits specified in Table 3 or the dimensions specified in the Appendix.

Combinations that do not comply with the maximum axle limits specified in Table 3 will require a bridge assessment on the nominated route.

An assessment may incur costs.

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.

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.<sup>2</sup>

More information on PBS and permits can be found on the [National Heavy Vehicle Regulator website](#).

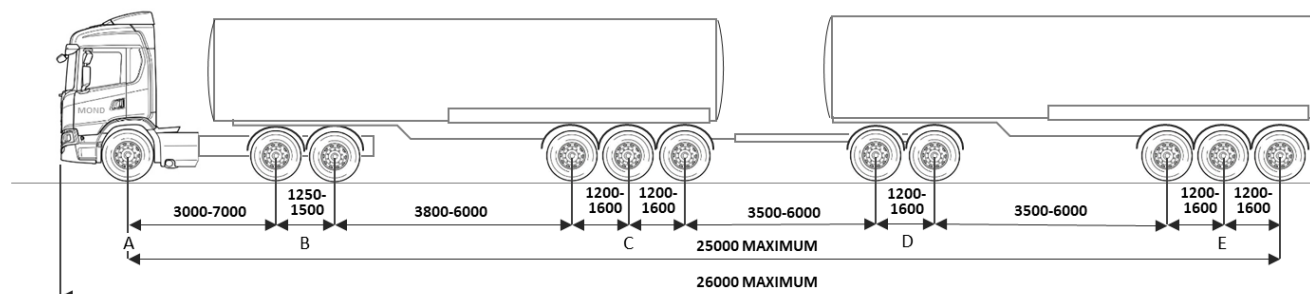


<sup>2</sup> Permits will continue to be renewed and mass limits may be reduced to protect vulnerable infrastructure.

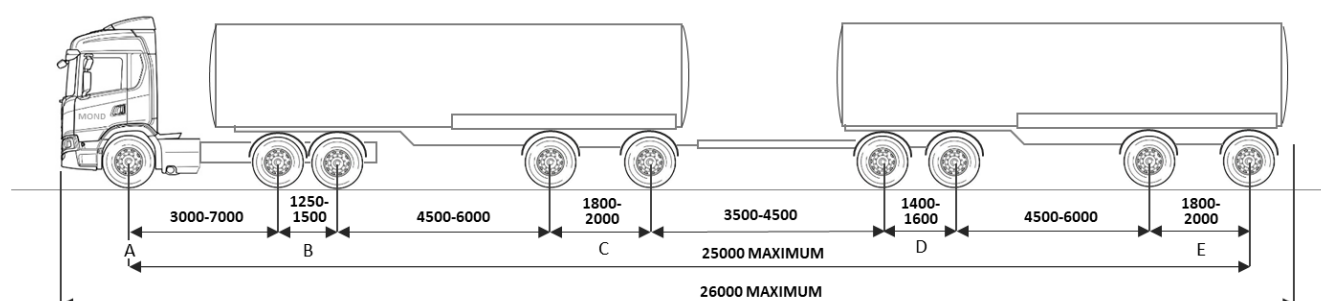
## Appendix

### 26m A-double Tanker Reference Vehicle Designs<sup>3</sup>

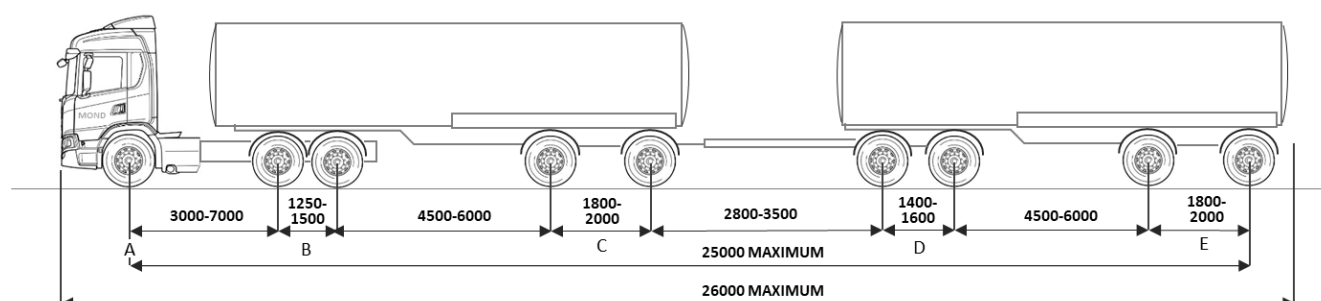
Reference vehicle 1: up to 64.5 tonne GCM with 3.5m-6.0m central trailer spacing



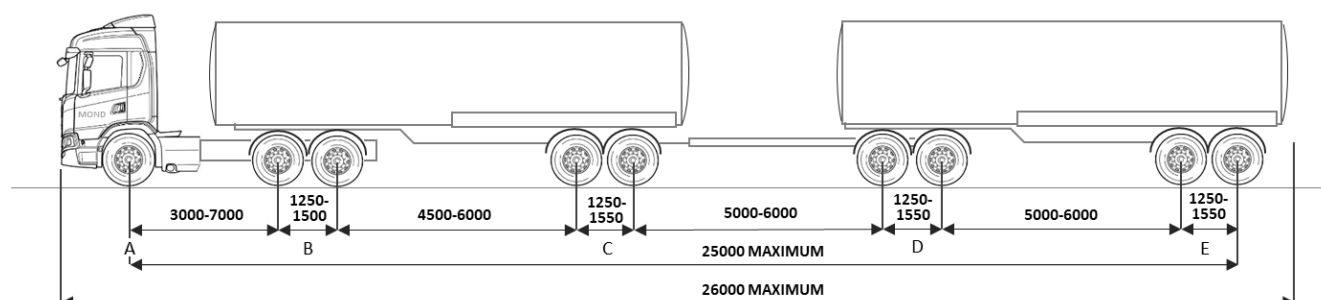
Reference vehicle 2: up to 66.0 tonne GCM with 3.5m-4.5m central trailer spacing



Reference vehicle 3: up to 63.5 tonne GCM with 2.8m-3.5m central trailer spacing



Reference vehicle 4: up to 66.5 tonne GCM with 5.0m-6.0m central trailer spacing



<sup>3</sup> Not to scale. All measurements in millimetres.