

PRACTICAL GUIDE

National Code of Practice for Heavy Vehicle Modifications (VSB6)











All vehicle modifiers have a responsibility to their customers, regulatory authorities and ultimately the community to ensure that modified vehicles are safe and reliable. This involves maintaining professional standards, training, accountability, traceability, compliance with standards and codes - and always striving for industry best practice. This poster is intended to provide a reference point for modifiers and improve obligation awareness generally throughout the industry.

www.artsa.com.au





Section K—Cabin

- **K1** Seating capacity alteration and the installation or removal of seats, seatbelts and anchorages
- **K2** Certification of seat and of seatbelt anchorage
- **K3** Changes to or replacement of the cabin structures
- **K5** Installation of wheelchair occupant restraint system
- **K6** Installation of child restraint anchorage

Section B—Replacement Transmissions

B1 - Fitting an additional or alternate transmission including PTOs

Section E—Front Axle Steering

- **E1** Installation of front axles
- **E2** Steering alteration or conversion
- **E3** Installation of non-standard front wheel components

Section G—Brakes

- **G1** Relocation of air brake components
- **G2** Installation of trailer braking controls
- **G3** Upgrading a trailer brake system
- **G4** Certifying a motor vehicle brake system
- **G5** Installation of auxiliary or endurance brakes
- **G6** Installation of air operated accessories
- **G7** Brake system substitution/wheelbase extension
- **G8** Design of a trailer brake system upgrade

For full details on each section of the The National Code of Practice for Heavy Vehicle Modifications (VSB6), go to:

www.nhvr.gov.au/VSB6

Section A—Engines

- **A1** Engine substitution
- **A2** Fitting an additional or alternate air cleaner
- **A3** Installation of turbochargers
- **A4** Exhaust system alteration
- **A5** Installation of road speed limiters

Section M—Fuel Systems

M1 - Changes to fuel systems and installation or changes to fuel tanks

Section R—Vehicle Mounted Lifting Systems

- R1 Installation of vehicle mounted lifting systems
- **R2** Installation of wheelchair loaders

Modifier Obligation All Modifications in the Heavy Vehicle Modifications

Code of Practice require assessment and reporting by an Approved Vehicle Examiner (AVE). This applies to trucks, trailers and buses.

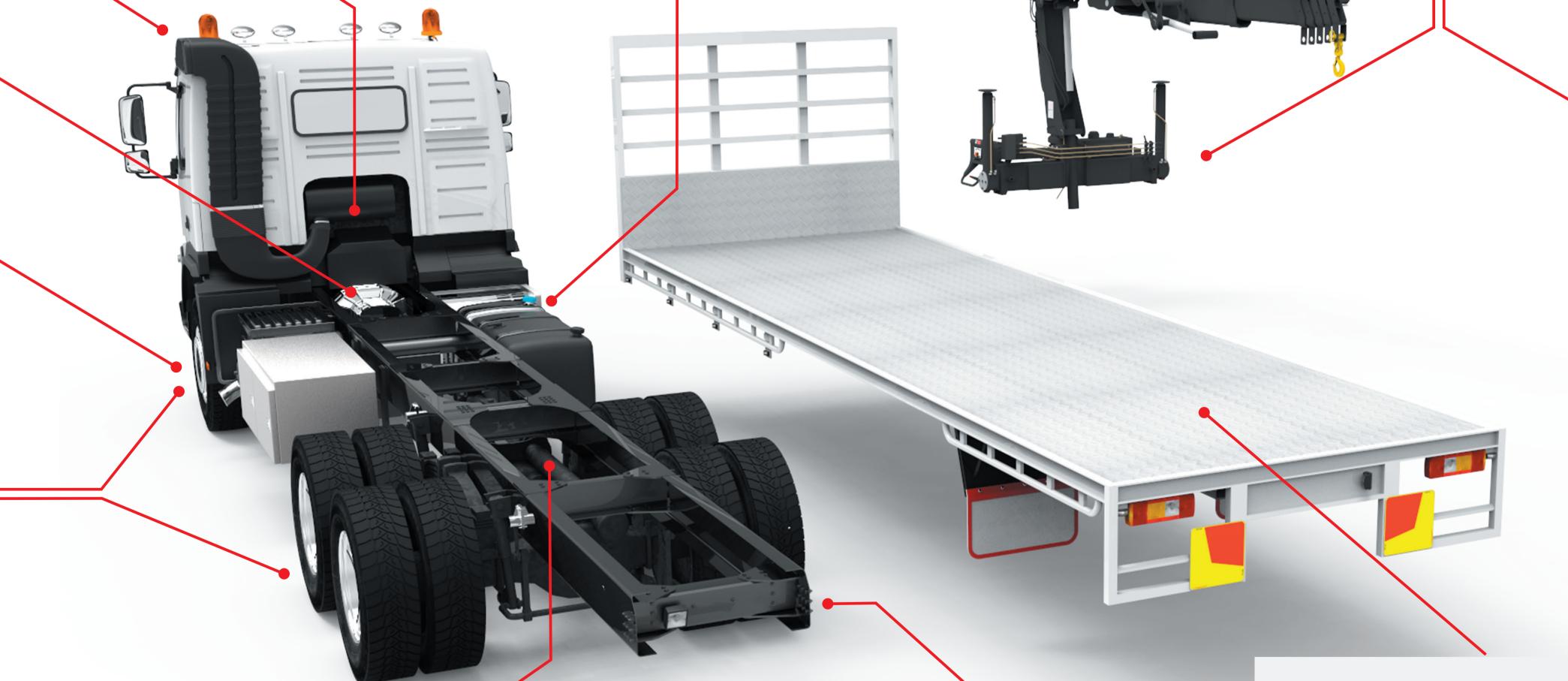
Getting it Right - An AVE may use complex mathematics, CAD modelling, computer analysis or even physical testing to confirm a design before the modification can take place.

AVE Modification Certificates are lodged with the applicable State or Territory registration authority as a record of the modification. Registration authorities audit reports

> and AVE record keeping to help guarantee the integrity of the AVE system. The AVE must affix a modification plate or label to the vehicle.

Raise the Bar - The code of practice is critical to ensuring the integrity, performance and ongoing safety of the vehicle.

Trades persons should be qualified and trained to perform heavy vehicle modifications under the supervision of experienced heavy vehicle modifiers conversant with the code of practice.



Section C—Tail shafts C1 - Tail shaft alterations

Section D—Rear Axles

- **D1** Installation or removal of rear axles
- **D2** Modification or substitution of differentials (ratio)

Section F—Suspension

- **F1** Installation, modifications or removal of motor vehicle suspension
- **F2** Installation, modifications or removal of trailer suspension or axles

Section P—Tow Couplings

- P1 Installation of a towbar or tow coupling that is not a fifth wheel or kingpin
- **P2** Installation of a fifth wheel or kingpin

Section J—Body Mounting

- **J1** Installation of a body
- J2 Installation of a bus body on a cab chassis
- J3 Installation of roll-over or falling object protection system

Section H—Chassis Frame

- **H1** Wheelbase extension outside OEM options
- **H2** Wheelbase reduction outside OEM options
- **H3** Wheelbase alterations within OEM options
- **H4** Changes to a motor vehicle's chassis
- **H5** Changes to a trailer chassis
- **H6** Installation of approved front underrun protection
- **H7** Designing aftermarket front underrun protection

Section T—Tow Trucks

- **T1** Construction of a Tow Trucks
- **T2** Designing a Tow Truck

Section S—Vehicle Rating

- **S1** Re-rating GVM / GCM
- **S2** Design for a GVM re-rating
- **S3** GCM re-rating
- **S7** Re-rating ATM / GTM
- **S8** Rating a motor vehicle for road train use
- **S9** Rating a motor vehicle for B-double use
- **S11** Rating a trailer for road train use
- **S12** Design for a ATM / GTM re-rating