

Do you need a Dangerous Goods Bulk Drivers Licence? (IS006)

If you intend to drive a vehicle carrying dangerous goods above the prescribed quantities ('bulk' quantities) by road in Tasmania, then you must have a dangerous goods bulk driver's licence in addition to your normal car or truck driver's licence.

The *Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail) Transport Regulations 1998* (the Regulations) regulate the transport of dangerous goods. Under these Regulations, drivers transporting bulk quantities of dangerous goods must have a bulk drivers licence.

Workplace Standards Tasmania administers the licensing of dangerous goods drivers and the approval of dangerous goods driver training courses. Licenses are issued for a period of up to three years and may be subject to conditions.

Licenses are issued for:

- Class 1 (explosives), as defined in the *Australian Code for the Transport of Explosives by Road and Rail* (AE Code)
- Classes 2–9 as defined in the *Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail* (ADG Code).

For example, a Class 1 licence is required where the net explosive quantity (NEQ) of explosives transported exceeds Risk Category 3 from the AE Code.

Class 2–9 licenses are generally issued for the remaining classes (except Class 7—Radioactive substances). An example is transporting Class 2—Flammable Gases in a container with a capacity of more than 500 litres (maximum container water capacity), or dangerous goods of another class in a container with a capacity of more than 450 litres or net mass of more than 400kg.

A licence is not required when the dangerous goods are being transported in intermediate bulk container/s (IBC) with a total capacity on the vehicle of not more than 3,000 litres, providing the IBC/s are not filled or emptied on the vehicle.

To be eligible for a licence you must be at least 21 years of age. Applications for a licence must include:

- completed application forms (Forms 1 & 2)
- a copy of your heavy vehicle drivers licence (issued by Land Transport Safety Division)
- either a certified extract of record of any traffic infringements and offences, licence restrictions or cancellations that you may have incurred; or authorisation for Workplace Standards to access this information (the authorisation can be provided on the application form)
- a test or training certificate as evidence that you have completed an approved bulk driver training course, or equivalent written evidence (Note: mutual recognition provides for equivalent training to be undertaken in another state or territory)
- a medical certificate confirming your fitness to drive a vehicle to transport dangerous goods in bulk, issued by a registered medical practitioner. There is provision on the application form for your doctor to complete this
- two recent passport size photographs
- the prescribed fee (contact Workplace Standards for the current fee).

Evidence of your driving record, completed training and your medical examination must not be more than six months old at the time you apply for a licence.

When you undertake the approved bulk driver training course, your training course provider will arrange to submit your dangerous goods drivers licence application to Workplace Standards.

To obtain the application forms:

- ring the Workplace Standards Helpline on 1300 366 322 (or (03) 6233 7657 if calling from interstate)
- fax on (03) 6233 8338
- go to www.wst.tas.gov.au
- through your training course provider

You can get information on approved training course providers by calling the Workplace Standards Helpline.

General

If you are transporting dangerous goods below the quantities requiring you to have a bulk driver's licence, please ensure that you comply with the relevant safety requirements from the Regulations. These Regulations govern dangerous goods bulk driver licenses in Tasmania. They can be viewed www.thelaw.tas.gov.au

Other legislative requirements

The Department of Health and Human Services is responsible for regulating the import, transport and storage of Class 7 Radioactive material. For more information, call 1300 135 513.

Additionally, if you intend to transport controlled (hazardous) waste for fee or reward, you must have an Environmental Protection Notice issued under the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994. This includes transporting sewerage/septic waste, asbestos, waste oils and/or pesticides. For more information, call the Department of Primary Industries and Water on 1300 368 550.

Bulk Vehicle requirements

The Regulations also govern vehicles transporting dangerous goods. Under these Regulations, road vehicles transporting dangerous goods in bulk require a bulk vehicle licence. For more information and a free copy of the information sheet *Is your Vehicle Licensed to Transport Dangerous Goods in Bulk?* call the Workplace Standards Helpline or go to www.wst.tas.gov.au

Please note:

- This information sheet describes the driver licensing requirements for the transport by road of designated bulk dangerous goods only. It does not deal with vehicle design, approval or vehicle licensing requirements or general vehicle operations, or the loading, placarding, segregation or packaging of dangerous goods for transport by road.
- The transport of dangerous goods by air, sea or rail has other requirements.

For further enquiries call the Workplace Standards Helpline on 1300 366 322 or (03) 6233 7657 if calling from interstate.