



**POLICY, PLANNING AND
PROGRAMS DIVISION**

Roma Mitchell House
136 North Terrace
Adelaide SA 5000

GPO Box 1533
Adelaide SA 5001

Telephone: 08 8343 2222
Facsimile: 08 8204 8740

ABN 92 366 288 135

INFORMATION BULLETIN

**GAZETTED OPERATION OF B-TRIPLES
IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

B-Triples up to 36.5 metres long have been operating in South Australia under permit on a restricted route network for a number of years. There are also B-Triples operating under the Performance Based Standards (PBS) regime to provide a high level of on-road safety performance and at the same time gain greater network access.

B-Triples are an extension of the common B-Double configuration, having an additional lead trailer. B-Triples are gaining popularity in the transport sector nationally as an efficient combination for the movement of long distance freight.

In accordance with the 2006 Council of Australian Governments (COAG) National Transport Reform Agenda, the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) is proposing to gazette the operation of prescriptive 35.0 metre long B-Triples in South Australia to promote common design standards, encourage transport efficiency and reduce red tape and paperwork related to the issue of permits.

B-Triples that meet the specifications detailed in the attached draft Code of Practice (October 2011) will be eligible to travel on the gazetted Double Road Train Higher Mass Limit network. This network is shown on the DPTI RAVnet Online Mapping System described as the 36.5m Road Train (HML) route network in accordance with any conditions and limitations specified on those maps.

The vehicle specifications in this Code align with the National Transport Commission's proposed modular B-Triple concept but with some additional dimension requirements to ensure compliance with the swept path standard.

Current permit and access arrangements for existing 36.5 metre and PBS B-Triples will not be affected by this access regime for 35 metre B-Triples. It is expected that over time all B-Triples will either operate under this Code or the PBS regime.

Prior to formal gazetting, the draft Code of Practice has been released for industry comment.

Written comments should be directed to Mr John Jarrad, Policy, Planning and Programs Division, DPTI by email: john.jarrad@sa.gov.au or mailed to GPO Box 1533, Adelaide, SA, 5001 by **Friday 16 December 2011**.

Mark Elford
Director, Road Transport Policy and Planning

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