

# Vehicle Examiners



## Introduction

From **1 July 2021** the Commonwealth *Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018* (RVSA) fully commenced and replaced the Commonwealth *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989*.

As a result of this, vehicles approved to be provided to the Australian market under this new act are required to be included on the Register of Approved Vehicles (RAV). The RAV is an electronic data base administered by the Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

## Changes

Vehicles approved under the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* were required to have an Identification Plate (also referred to as a Compliance Plate). However, vehicles approved under the new act do not. **As vehicles are gradually released under the new legislation the RAV will become the main method for obtaining vehicle details currently found on the Compliance Plate.**

Transitional arrangements are in place for light trailers, please see below.

## Register of Approved Vehicles (RAV)

The Commonwealth's RAV is an online publicly searchable database of vehicles that have met the requirements of the RVSA legislation and are approved for provision to the Australian market. The RAV is publicly accessible, so there is no need to log in. The RAV is searchable via the vehicle's Vehicle Identification Number and includes information vital for registration such as mass ratings, manufacture date, seating capacity etc, all of which were previously included on an Identification Plate (also referred to as a Compliance Plate). Of note is the RAV entry date represents the equivalent of the Compliance date. Vehicles approved under the previous *Motor Vehicle Standards Act* are NOT searchable on the RAV. The RAV can be accessed at: <https://rav.infrastructure.gov.au/>

The image below outlines the typical layout of the information available on the RAV.

Register of Approved Vehicles Search

VIN:

VIN: 6F500000AA442231

RAV Date of Entry	Entry Pathway Sub-Category	Approval Number	Approval Holder	VCC	Make	Model	Build Date	GVM / ATM (kg)	Seats	Gross Comb Mass (kg)	Road Train Capable	B Double Capable	Authorised by Name
03/04/2019	Type Approval - Standard	42627	Paccar Australia	NC	Kenworth	C509	10/2018	24000	3	90000	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ross

The RAV features two entry pathways.

- **Type Approval Pathway**- unrestricted supply of new road vehicles, like existing Identification Plate approval provisions.
- **Concessional RAV Entry Pathway**- restricted supply such as personal effects vehicles, specialist and enthusiast vehicles, special purpose vehicles and after **1 July 2022** some trailers.

Additional information is available from the Australian Government website

<https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/vehicles/rvs/index.aspx>

## Transitional arrangements

Vehicle manufacturer's holding Identification Plate Approval under the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* may continue to provide vehicles under this approval until **1 July 2022**. However, from this date all new vehicles, and used vehicles imported under the RVSA are required to be on the RAV or in exceptional cases hold non-RAV entry approval.

## Light Trailers

An extended transitional period is in place for light trailers with a RAV entry required for new trailers as from **1 July 2022**. This provides time for light trailer manufacturers to obtain the necessary Commonwealth approvals.

Further information relating to trailers and the RAV entry approval process is available from the Australian Government website. <https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/vehicles/rvs/index.aspx>

Until **1 July 2022** the current requirements relating to light trailer plates remain in place.

However, from **1 July 2022** all new trailers are required to be included on the RAV, or in exceptional circumstances hold non- RAV entry import approval.

## Actions

Existing procedures require a Vehicle Examiner to physically locate and view a vehicle Compliance Plate. From 1 July 2021 onwards, when inspecting a motor vehicle for registration purposes, in the absence of an identification/compliance plate, or previous registration history the Vehicle Examiner must access the RAV online data base to obtain vehicle specific information such as RAV seating capacity mass rating such as (GVM or ATM) build date and RAV entry date.

The RAV entry date replaces the Australian Compliance date; therefore, this is the date that must be recorded as the compliance date for registration purposes for all vehicles **with exception to used import vehicles** where we will continue to record the build date. The AA forms will be amended in the next print run to incorporate RAV entry options.

Please note, this is initial high-level information in relation to this important change.

## Questions?

Any further questions regarding this Special Information Bulletin should be directed to Vehicle Standards on [vehicle.standards@stategrowth.tas.gov.au](mailto:vehicle.standards@stategrowth.tas.gov.au) or Ph: 6166 3263.