

RE-ENGINEERING THE USE OF ROAD NETWORKS THROUGH ON-BOARD MASS (OBM) SYSTEMS

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ABSTRACT

In Australia, On-Board Mass (OBM) systems are being used to record the mass and configuration of heavy vehicle combinations.

On-Board Mass (OBM) Systems are technologies that are able to measure the mass of axle groups and calculate the gross vehicle mass of a vehicle.

Often referred to as weigh scales or mass measurement systems, the transport industry has adopted the use of OBM Systems to better manage commercial obligations and conformance with regulatory loading and mass regulations.

OBM Systems also offer the opportunity to change the way road assets are utilised, which can enable changes to access arrangements, and ultimately, lead to significant productivity and safety reforms.

It is through the availability of reliable and accurate vehicle location, mass and configuration from OBM Systems which can unlock improved productivity outcomes. More specifically, the use of OBM Systems have the potential to support higher productivity heavy vehicle access arrangements, which would not otherwise be possible.

This presentation will provide an overview of the functional and technical requirements which are being applied to OBM Systems, and how different approaches are encouraged to achieve an outcome – fostering innovation and best practice, and the promotion of competition and choice – while catering to government and industry demands for greater reliability, accuracy, integrity and security in the measurement of heavy vehicle mass.

The presentation also provides an update on the implementation of a certified OBM program, which will provide the strongest assurances that OBM data can be relied upon by infrastructure managers to introduce productivity enhancing access arrangements – without being forced to invest in upgrades to road and bridge infrastructure.