



# Policy Instrument: CEO approval of Tow Truck Warning Sign and Portable Warning Devices

## Purpose

To establish the types of warning sign and warning devices approved by the DoT Chief Executive Officer (CEO) that must be carried on a tow truck necessary to visually warn other users on the roadway of an accident or breakdown for which the tow truck is in attendance, or where a heavy vehicle is being towed by a tow truck.

## Definitions

**AS** means Australian Standard.

**Portable Warning Device** means a visual warning device for placement on the roadway by the tow truck driver when attending an accident or breakdown for the purpose of warning or guiding approaching traffic.

**Tow Truck** has the meaning given in the Part 1 of the Road Traffic (Vehicles) Regulations 2014 (the Regulations).

**Warning sign** means a sign used to indicate actual or potential hazards to road users.

## Scope

Regulation 410(3) and (4) of the Regulations prescribes the standards and requirements, in respect of tow trucks, for certain lights and warning devices that must be carried or displayed.

The CEO DoT has the delegation to approve the types of and/or placement requirements.

## Policy

### Portable warning devices - r.410(3)

A tow truck must be equipped with and be maintained in good order, at least three **portable warning devices** in compliance with:

reflective cones meeting AS 1742.3:2019 Manual of uniform traffic control devices Traffic control for works on roads; or

warning triangles compliant with AS 3790-1992 Portable warning triangles for motor vehicles.

### Warning sign - r.410(4)

The driver of a tow truck that is towing a **heavy vehicle** must ensure that the heavy vehicle displays a **warning sign** in compliance with:

- For heavy tows a warning sign must display the words "Under Tow" in black capital letters, and be made to the same size and specification as either:
  - a "Long Vehicle" or "Road Train" sign (as per r.277); or
  - an "Oversize Sign" (as per Main Roads Oversize Vehicle & Pilot Vehicle General Requirements D15#453366).

- The warning sign may be rigid or flexible.
- The warning sign, when displayed on the rear of the towed vehicle, will override all existing signage requirements as detailed in r.276.

## Relevant legislation

Road Traffic (Vehicles) Regulations 2014

## Approval



Linley Crackel

Executive Director, Driver and Vehicles

7 July 2023