

NSW dangerous goods update

Transport emergency response planning
The future of dangerous goods

Matt Arkell

Principal Technical Advisor – Dangerous Goods



Photo: St George & Sutherland Shire Leader

A caveat to start



Dangerous goods transport is complex. While very similar across Australia, it's still important that you're across all relevant requirements.

The information in this presentation is a general overview, focusing on land transport.

The detailed provisions are found in:

The Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Act 2008 (NSW)

- The Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Regulation 2022 (NSW)

- The Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail, 7th edition (The ADG Code)

There may be other legislation you need to consider.

In NSW, the regulation of dangerous goods transport is shared between the EPA and SafeWork NSW.

Transport Emergency Response Planning



Clearer guidance for industry

Background



Why did we need this?

A few notable incidents happened in NSW.

Slow response due to a lack of a good plan

Transporters who relied on service providers

- OK if done right, a problem if not!

The problem we are trying to solve

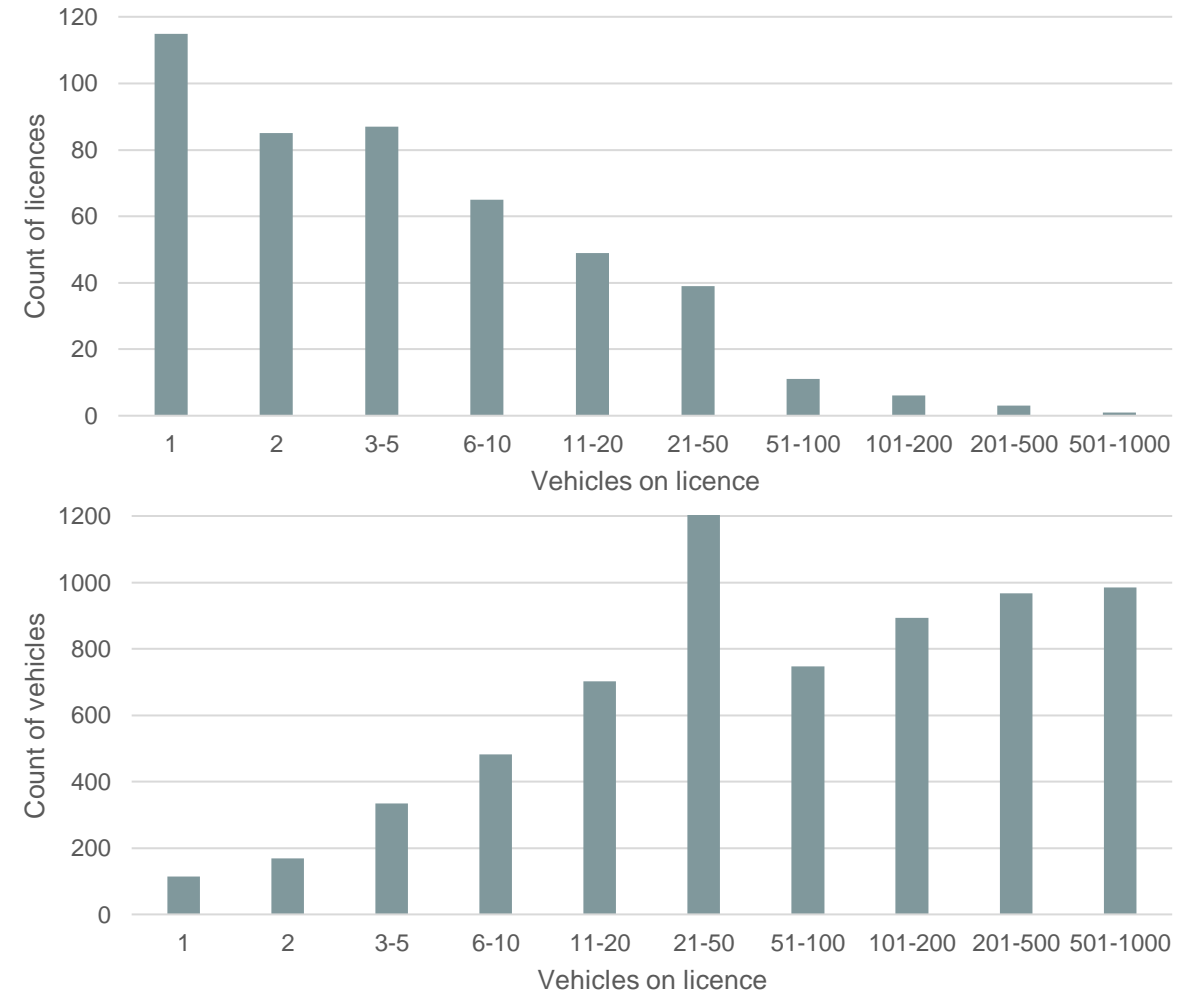


Industry makeup

- Few big players
- Lots of smaller players

Industry participants

- Time-poor, present-focused
- Often quite simple operations
- Diverse backgrounds, and often ex-truckies



What is an emergency plan for?

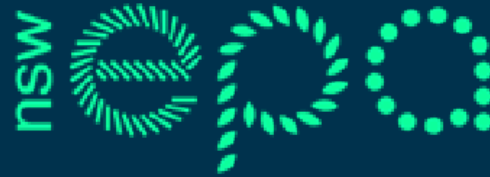


No plan survives first contact with the enemy



Framework

- Incidents rarely happen at convenient times, locations or in perfect weather
- Deal with reasonably foreseeable issues
- Makes sure that the basics are covered
- Remember that airline pilots are both:
 - skilled and experienced
 - extensive users of checklists



Environment Protection Authority

Transport Emergency Response Plans

Transport of Dangerous Goods

DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

Characteristics

- Plain English explanations
- Everything in one place
- Templates to support simple operations

Tank Vehicle Inspection Manual



Clearer guidance for industry

Why do we need this?

AS 2809 has gone through a full update cycle since the current version was published

Tank vehicle maintenance is “locked away” in AS 2809 – but required by the ADG Code



What changes are we planning to make?



- Review against the six parts of AS 2809
 - Particular focus on the maintenance list
- Review against vehicle requirements in the ADG Code
 - Such as fire extinguishers
- Some re-ordering of the list
- Some new details
 - Context for inspection and maintenance
 - Required inspection frequencies

Status of the update



- Will be reviewed by:
 - AS 2809 technical committee members
 - Other competent authorities
- Progress through publishing processes
- Will be made available by:
 - Download from EPA website
 - Hardcopy proposed to be sent to every tanker licensee in NSW

CAP update



Competent Authorities Panel



Transport of dangerous goods Competent Authorities Panel Guide for applicants



December 2015, Version 1.2

1. Introduction

The purpose of this guide is to provide information for applicants seeking approvals, exemptions, determinations and other actions through Australia's transport of dangerous goods Competent Authorities Panel (CAP). This guide provides an overview of the role and functions of CAP, the application process, and the available review mechanisms for CAP decisions.

This guide is not intended to be a substitute for, or interpretation of, the state and territory transport of dangerous goods laws themselves, under which CAP decisions are made. Users of this guide should also consult with the Competent Authority in their state or territory.

2. The Competent Authorities Panel

2.1. What is CAP?

CAP is the national panel of state and territory Competent Authorities for the transport of dangerous goods by road and rail in Australia. It has been established under state and territory transport of dangerous goods laws, which are based on the national *Model Legislation—Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road or Rail*.

Items of discussion at CAP 63:

- Tanker working party
 - Modifications and re-approvals
 - Additive devices on tankers
- CAP website
 - NTC is now providing secretariat services
 - We are working on an improved website together
 - Making decisions more readily available
- Improved guides for applicants

The future of DG transport in Australia



ADG Code Review

ADG Code Review



Tanks & vehicles

Differentiating between tanks and the vehicles that carry them.

Clearer information on cases where the ADG code is currently silent

A better understanding of what is allowed and what isn't

Clarifying approvals for tanks versus vehicles, and some of the processes surrounding them





Emergencies

- What equipment needs to be carried on a DG vehicle?
- What is it used for?
- When is it expected to be used?
- What do we expect the driver to do?

Questions?



131 555

matt.arkell@epa.nsw.gov.au

hazardous.materials@epa.nsw.gov.au

