

Media Release

The Hon Melissa Horne MP
Minister for Ports and Freight
Minister for Health Infrastructure
Minister for Prevention of Family Violence



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CUTTING COSTS AND TIME FOR FREIGHT OPERATORS

Labor is rolling out new technology that is slashing costs and boosting productivity for freight operators.

The new Heavy Vehicle Structural Assessment Permit System (HVSAPS) is eliminating the need for most manual bridge and culvert assessments.

The technology is dramatically reducing wait times – cutting approval times from up to six months to days.

It's also slashing costs that can reach up to \$30,000 for manual assessments.

More than 60 per cent of assessments are now completed within 30 minutes at no cost to operators.

Before the system was introduced, engineers would manually undertake around 1,000 bridge and culvert assessments every year.

Already, the HVSAPS has processed more than 4,000 assessments – boosting efficiencies by 300 per cent.

Where some manual assessments are required, cases are returned within five business days – compared to up to three months before the new technology was introduced.

It is expected that 95 per cent of assessments will be fully automated by September.

The HVSAPS is an initiative of the Labor Government's Business Acceleration Fund.

Only Labor has new solutions that will make life easier and more affordable for freight operators.

Victoria's freight sector contributes more than \$36 billion to the economy every year and supports around 240,000 jobs.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Ports and Freight Melissa Horne

"Our new technology is cutting time and slashing costs for our freight operators."

"We are making investments in new technology to keep goods moving across Victoria as efficiently as possible."

Quote attributable to Minister for Finance Sonya Kilkenny

"We're cutting red tape to make it easier to do business, and this new automated system is improving efficiency and productivity, which is a win for freight operators and the supply chain overall."

Quote attributable to National Heavy Vehicle Regulator CEO Nicole Rosie

"We are continuing to work with government to support Victoria's heavy vehicle industry, and we're pleased to already see the benefits of this new system and permit application process within NHVR Go."