

Vehicle Standards Guide 10 (VSG-10)

Backlit badges and logos

Revised April 2025

This guide provides advice to heavy vehicle owners and modifiers about the fitment and use of backlit badges and logos (BLBLs) on heavy vehicles.

Introduction

BLBLs that meet certain requirements (detailed below) are not considered as a lamp for the purpose of applying the ADR13/00.

The fitment of BLBLs to a heavy vehicle is a minor modification and **does not require approval** from an Approved Vehicle Examiner (AVE) or the NHVR. The vehicle must continue to be within the manufacturer's specifications and comply with the national heavy vehicle safety standards.



Figure 1: Example of backlit badge fitted with a yellow light

Requirements

A heavy vehicle may be fitted with one or more BLBLs, provided they meet the following requirements:

- the light source is integrated within, and contained completely within the dimensions of the BLBL
- the BLBL must only show:
 - white or yellow to the **front** of the vehicle; or
 - yellow to the **side** of the vehicle; or
 - red or yellow to the **rear** of the vehicle
- the light source from the BLBL must not be any colour other than white, yellow or red
- the BLBL must not have a light intensity of more than 60 candela
- the light source from the BLBL must be constant and not flash or change luminous intensity in any way
- the badge and light source are fitted more than 200mm from the nearest lamp
- the illuminated part of the BLBL must not cause the driver of the vehicle discomfort either directly or indirectly through the devices for indirect vision and/or other reflecting surfaces of the vehicle
- the BLBL must not be so large that it negatively impacts the prominence of any mandatory lights (e.g. headlamp, direction indication etc.)
- the BLBL light source is connected such that it can only be illuminated while the front position lamps (parking lamps) are on. A separate switch may be used to allow the badge or logo to be turned off independently.

Note: Yellow, in relation to a light, includes amber.

Non-compliant backlight badges or logos

BLBLs that do not comply with the requirements are non-compliant lights and are prohibited under the Heavy Vehicle National Law.

Fitting of non-compliant light is a contravention of the *Heavy Vehicle (Vehicle Standards) National Regulation* and makes a vehicle defective.

Chain of Responsibility

The primary duty requires [Chain of Responsibility](#) parties to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that they carry out their transport activities in a way that ensures public safety when heavy vehicles are used on a road.

Keeping up to date with vehicle standards and implementing them in your fleet is one part of your transport activities.

Complying with the national heavy vehicle safety standards

The operator of a heavy vehicle must ensure that their vehicle complies with the relevant *Australian Design Rules (ADRs)* and the *Heavy Vehicle (Vehicle Standards) National Regulation*. Using or permitting another person to use a defective heavy vehicle on a road is an offence.

A defective heavy vehicle is a vehicle that:

- does not comply with the heavy vehicle safety standards; or
- has a part that does not perform its intended function; or
- has deteriorated to an extent that it cannot be reasonably relied on to perform its intended function.

Penalties can include on-the-spot fines or prosecution. Formal warnings or a defect notice may also be issued. More information can be found at [Heavy vehicle defects | NHVR](#).

For more information:

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VSG-10 Revision history		
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