


GD-CS-015 - Guidelines for the use of Cone Trucks on Northern Territory Government Roads

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Document title	GD-CS-015 - Guidelines for the use of Cone Trucks on Northern Territory Government Roads
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Approved by	Bob Pemble 
Date approved	16/10/2025
Document review	Annually or as required
TRM number	2025/2160~0004

Version	Date	Author	Changes made
1	29 July 2025	Rebecca Smales	First Version

Acronyms	Full form
NT	Northern Territory
DLI	Department of Logistics and Infrastructure
MVR	Motor Vehicle Registry
AGTTM	Austrroads Guide to Temporary Traffic Management
VMS	Variable Message Sign
RIM	Road Infrastructure Manager
TMI	Traffic Management Implementor

References	
AGTTM	Austrroads Guide to Temporary Traffic Management
AS 1742.3	Australian Standard 1742.3 - Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 3: Traffic control for works on roads.
AS 4852.1	Australian Standard 4852.1 - Variable message signs, Part 1: Fixed signs
Traffic Act 1987	Traffic Act 1987
Traffic Regulations 1999	Traffic Regulations 1999
GD-CS-015A	Cone Truck application for exemption to ride in the load space

1. Introduction

The Department of Logistics and Infrastructure is the Northern Territory Government Road Infrastructure Manager (Competent Authority) and is responsible for the management of roads and road reserves in the Territory under the care and control of the Northern Territory Government (NTG).

The RIM has a statutory duty to ensure so far as reasonably practicable the safe and efficient operation of the road network under their authority.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide the specifications cone trucks are required to meet in order to operate within NT Government controlled roads and road related areas, including procedures, conditions of approval and technical requirements.

3. Cone Truck Device Requirements

The Cone Truck requires the following:

- compliance with AGTTM:
 - as per part 5, section 5.1.5 *Set Out - Vehicles used to install signage and equipment must have a yellow flashing lamp(s) that is visible to all approaching traffic*
 - as per AGTTM part 4, 3.7.2 *Signs mounted on vehicles - Vehicle mounted warning devices fitted with illuminated arrow signs must be fitted to all convoy vehicles and plant items*
- all flashing arrow signs shall be installed in accordance with AS 1742.3. 4.14.2 Illuminated Flashing Arrow
- a Size B Colour VMS board in accordance with AS 4852.2 (capable of displaying both colour and standard amber messages)
- a camera system that:
 - is activated when there is a TMI in the load space
 - captures a clear view of the TMI in the load space
 - captures a clear view of approaching traffic/pedestrians at the rear of the vehicle
 - keeps a record of all data and footage
- camera data and footage records must be kept for a period of no less than 30 days and made available to the Department on request
- rear deck working lights
- reversing alarm
- UHF radios accessible by the Cone Truck Operator and TMI while in operation
- an emergency alarm button in the TMI load space
- approved engineered safety harness fixing point in the load space
- other safety equipment: fire extinguishers, safety harness, first aid kits etc

In addition the following considerations are encouraged but not mandatory:

- the loading space of the cone truck to be located in front of the rear axle
- use of 900mm cones to reduce the requirement of the TMI to lean out of the vehicle while installing and retrieving cones
- rollover protection structure

4. Cone Truck Operating Environment

In accordance with AGTTM part 5 the cone truck must operate as part of a mobile work convoy.

The use of the Cone Truck must be included in the TMP and procedures documented within the implementation plan.

5. Exemption to Ride in Load Space

To allow for the qualified TMI deploying cones to work in the rear of the truck the registered owner must hold an exemption to section 10B of the *Traffic Act 1987* and regulations 7(1) and 7(3) of the *Traffic Regulations*.

Exemptions are specific to each individual cone truck and valid for a maximum of 2 years subject to the vehicle being registered and insured.

To apply for an exemption, submit the completed application form [GD-CS-015A – Cone Truck application for exemption to ride in the load space](#) with all complying documents outlined below to roadsdarwin.ntg@nt.gov.au.

Once reviewed as suitable for use, Road Operations will submit the application to Road Safety and Compliance for approval.

Approval must be received prior to the use of the cone truck in the NTG road reserve.

5.1. Exemption Application requirements

Applicants must provide the following information to support the application for exemption to ride in the load space.

- sample TMP that includes use of the Cone Truck
- cone truck implementation procedure with appropriate sequencing of implementation and removal of TTM devices
- operation instructions for cone truck driver
- operational instructions for TMI in loading space including entry and exit procedure
- site/task specific risk assessment
- Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS)
- evidence of licensed Cone Truck Driver and qualified TMI
- max speed of the cone truck while implementing
- lateral clearance to traffic for cone truck and TMI in loading space
- any constraints to the setup such as ramps, side streets etc. and how they will be safely managed
- any 'stop work' hazard and Contingency plans

6. Further Information

For further information contact:

DLI Road Operations
Level 2 Highway House, Palmerston NT, 0830
Telephone: 8999 4449
Email: roadsdarwin.ntg@nt.gov.au