

MEDIA STATEMENT

29 August 2018

Road rules refresher for truckies at Warwick during safety week

Truckies and truck operators are being encouraged to have a rest near Warwick, and participate in a road rules refresher education and awareness event tomorrow.

Department of Transport and Main Roads Regional Director (Southern Region) Steve Beck said the event was one of the Queensland Road Safety Week activities happening across the state this week.

“We’re encouraging truck drivers and operators to pull into the Caltex truck stop on the New England Highway, north of Warwick, from 10am to 2pm tomorrow,” Mr Beck said.

“Drivers and operators will have a chance to chat with road safety officers and police as well as industry representatives from the Australian Trucking Association, the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator, the Queensland Trucking Association and RACQ.

“It’s a great opportunity to talk to our heavy vehicle operators face to face, so road safety is front of mind while they are on the road.”

Mr Beck said each day of Queensland Road Safety Week focused on different road users – with heavy vehicles tomorrow’s focus.

He said a one-stop-shop had been set up where drivers and operators could brush up on their road rules and get important information on general road safety and fatigue management, as well as operational topics, including load restraints, mass limits, permits, trip planning and accreditations.

“We’re expecting to meet a lot of drivers and operators as the location is along a major thoroughfare to and from New South Wales,” Mr Beck said.

“The heavy vehicle industry is a vital part of our economy and a major player on our roads, delivering goods across Australia for the benefit of all Queenslanders.

“That’s why it’s important we take a proactive approach in educating drivers and operators on their road safety obligations, which is part of our efforts to drive the road toll down to zero.”

In 2017, 33 road deaths involved heavy freight vehicles while 443 people were hospitalised due to a road crashes involving a heavy freight vehicle.

Mr Beck said to stop people being killed on our roads, all road users needed to take responsibility for their behaviour.

Queensland Road Safety Week is a State Government initiative, delivered in partnership by the Department of Transport and Main Roads and Queensland Police Service.

To find out more or to find a local community event, visit <https://jointhedriver.gld.gov.au/road-safety-week>. To make a pledge download a Speak Up for Road Safety Facebook filter and make your pledge using the #SpeakUpSelfie hashtag.

You can also share your stories or life-saving tips on social media by using #SpeakUpForRoadSafety or #QRSW2018 hashtags. For more information on heavy vehicles, visit <https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/business-industry/Heavy-vehicles>

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