SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT BULLETIN

ARTC No. B0001

TITLE/SUBJECT:

Train Operating Conditions (TOC) Waivers communicating safety critical information.

Type: Guidance

PURPOSE

ARTC is contacting all rolling stock operators (RSO) who operate on the ARTC Network to clarify the process and responsibilities related to Train Operating Conditions (TOC) Waivers communicating safety critical information. TOC waivers will continue to be issued until such time as the relevant sections of the ARTC TOC Manual have been withdrawn and replaced with Route Access Standard (RAS).

It is ARTC's responsibility to:

- Review applicability, assess and issue TOC Waivers to RSO's regarding waivers against the conditions of the ARTC TOC Manual,
- Specify controls and conditions for safe operation of rolling stock and trains on the ARTC Network,
- Maintain a current register of TOC Waivers which can be located on the ARTC Website. https://www.artc.com.au/customers/operations/notices/toc/
- Conduct assurance activities relating to compliance to TOC Waiver conditions.

ARTC would like to remind those using TOC Waivers, that users should access the live document as published at the link above to ensure that the TOC Waiver is still valid or note whether it has been amended. Printed and saved versions of the TOC Waiver may be withdrawn or have conditions amended and the operator is at risk that this is no longer valid.

ARTC are currently undertaking a review of the TOC Waiver Rule.

TOC Waivers are issued for the following applicable time frames.

Applicable Time Frame	Explanation
{specified date range}	Only valid during this date range
Until Published	Until published into an ARTC document such as the Route Access Standard (RAS), register publication, or other operational document.
Until movement complete	Applicable for the specific defective wagon/train, relocation movement only.
Until testing complete	Applicable while testing of a vehicle is undertaken.
Superseded / Withdrawn	The TOC Waiver has either been superseded or withdrawn.

ACTION REQUIRED

It is ARTC's expectations that with regards to TOC Waivers, that it is the RSO's / User's responsibility to:

- Where requested, conduct a risk assessment and SFAIRP argument
- Review any TOC Waiver and ensure it is applicable to the circumstances for which it was sought and note any limitations as to time and location
- Disseminate the current TOC Waiver to other end users within their organisation and monitor the applicability of the TOC Waiver.
- Undertake internal compliance audits to ensure that the conditions granted within the TOC Waivers are adhered to and monitored.
- Advise ARTC immediately if conditions issued to the Operator require amending or are no longer valid.
- Monitor expiry dates of TOC waivers and where applicable to seek extensions for continuation at least 2 weeks in advance of the expiry date.
- Advise ARTC in writing on the completion of trials and their expectations on the next steps or the integration into ongoing operations.
- Have their own rolling stock registers, inclusive of vehicle characteristic and parameters, areas of permitted operation and applicable operating conditions.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information contact: opstandards@artc.com.au