



HEAVY VEHICLE NATIONAL LAW

Queensland Class 3 Cotton Module Transportation Dimension Exemption Notice 2024 (No.1)

1. Purpose

- 1) This notice grants exemptions from height requirements for a class 3 heavy vehicle that is transporting cotton modules.
- 2) This notice also grants an exemption from rear overhang requirements for some chain bed semitrailers, whether transporting cotton modules or not.

2. Authorising provision

- 1) This notice is made under the following provision of the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL):
 - a) section 117 – *Regulator’s power to exempt category of class 1 or 3 heavy vehicles from compliance with mass or dimension requirement.*

3. Title

This notice may be cited as the *Queensland Class 3 Cotton Module Transportation Dimension Exemption Notice 2024 (No.1)*.

4. Commencement date

This notice commences on 10 February 2024.

5. Expiry date

This notice expires on 9 February 2029.

6. Definitions

- 1) Unless otherwise stated, words and expressions used in this notice have the same meanings as those in the HVNL and its regulations.
- 2) In this notice, definitions specified in the following notice apply:
 - a) *National class 2 B-Double Authorisation Notice*, as amended from time to time.
- 3) In this notice:

Guide means the Queensland Class 3 Cotton Module Transportation Dimension Exemption Notice Operator’s Guide published by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator, and as amended from time to time.

Chain bed semitrailer means a semitrailer equipped with a chain bed designed for the transport of cotton modules.

Cotton module means a packed and compressed cotton bale.

7. Application

- 1) This notice applies to a class 3 heavy vehicle that meets all the requirements in this section.
- 2) This notice applies to a heavy vehicle that is:
 - a) a prime mover towing a semitrailer; or
 - b) a B-double.
- 3) This notice applies to a vehicle:
 - a) in the case of a vehicle that has a chain bed semitrailer, whether it is carrying cotton modules or not; or
 - b) in the case of any other vehicle, only when the vehicle is transporting cotton modules.
- 4) This notice applies in Queensland.
- 5) A heavy vehicle to which this section applies and that complies with the conditions of this notice is an eligible vehicle.

8. Exemption – Prescribed dimension requirements

- 1) An eligible vehicle is exempt from the following dimension requirements under Schedule 6 of the *Heavy Vehicle (Mass Dimension and Loading) National Regulation* (MDL Regulation):
 - a) section 5 – Length (rear overhang)
 - b) section 8 – Height
- 2) An exemption in 1) only applies to the extent that specific conditional dimension limits are provided in section 9 of this notice.
- 3) The exemption in (1)(a) only applies to chain bed semitrailer that was constructed or modified before 1 January 2007.

9. Condition – Dimension limits

- 1) For a parameter given in Column 1 of Table 1, an eligible vehicle must not exceed the dimension given in Column 2.

Table 1: Maximum dimensions

Column 1	Column 2
Parameter	Maximum Dimension (m)
Length (rear overhang)	4.2
Height	4.6

10. Condition – stated areas or routes

- 1) An eligible vehicle is authorised to access the stated routes and areas specified in this section.
- 2) An eligible vehicle that is a prime mover towing a semitrailer has general access.
- 3) An eligible vehicle that is a compliant B-double, but for the exemption provided in this notice, may operate on networks in the following Gazette notice as though it were a compliant class 2 B-double subject to all conditions of that notice:

National Class 2 B-Double Authorisation Notice

- 4) For the purposes of section 119(1)(a) of the HVNL, an area or route specified in this section is a stated area or route to which this notice applies.
- 5) An eligible vehicle may operate on the routes or areas shown in the following networks:
 - a. “QLD - Cotton Module Transportation Prime Mover and Semi-trailer Network” and
 - b. “QLD - Cotton Module Transportation B-double Network”
- 6) Regardless of any access granted under this section, an eligible vehicle must comply with any conditions or restrictions applied to a given area or route by the *Specified Road Manager Network Requirements* in the Guide.
- 7) In this section, general access means access to all roads except as restricted by the Specified Road Manager Network Requirements in the Guide or as stated in the map.
- 8) An eligible vehicle operating on an area or route specified in this section must comply with any of the following conditions prescribed for that area or route:
 - a) Road conditions pursuant to section 160 of the HVNL; and
 - b) Travel conditions pursuant to section 161 of the HVNL; and
 - c) Vehicle conditions pursuant to section 162 of the HVNL.

11. Condition – Travel restrictions

- 1) The transportation of cotton modules on a vehicle is restricted to the safest direct route from the farm of origin to a cotton gin nominated by the producer of the cotton.
- 2) An enclosed eligible vehicle that has a chain bed semitrailer may only travel unladen:
 - a) to farm sites for the purpose of loading cotton modules, or
 - b) for the purpose of carrying out maintenance on the trailer, or
 - c) for a return trip to the vehicle's base.

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