



SAFETY NOTICE TO ALL SHAREHOLDERS, TENANTS & CUSTOMERS

NSW Police joined up with the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NVHR) attending the Sydney Markets site to conduct Operation Big Wheels. The operation commenced from 6pm on the 21st of July 2024 and concluded the next day at 4pm.

Operation Big Wheels targeted heavy vehicle compliance, including the removal of impaired heavy vehicle drivers within the Market site and surrounding areas. A total of 285 vehicles were stopped and inspected.

Results of the 22-hour safety blitz:

- Five drivers allegedly returned a positive roadside drug test.
- One driver allegedly returned a low-range prescribed concentration of alcohol.
- Total of ninety-nine infringement notices were issued for various alleged licence, traffic and load restraints offences.
- 109 defect notices were issued by NHVR.

NSW Police have advised that further operations are planned to ensure ongoing compliance.

As a result of Operation Big Wheels, SML reminds all truck owners and drivers of their obligation to uphold the following principles to ensure a safer environment for all Market participants:

- **Load Security:** All cargo must be securely fastened on every truck (including tabletop and curtain vehicles) before departure. This entails using appropriate restraints to secure the load.
- **Driver Responsibility:** The truck driver must personally verify that the loading or unloading process is completed and ensure that the load is properly secured with the correct restraints.
- **Curtains and Doors:** All curtains and doors on the vehicle must be properly secured before operating the vehicle.
- **Forklift Operator Awareness:** The driver must ensure that all forklift operators involved in the loading or unloading process are informed of the vehicle's pending departure.
- **Load Limits:** The vehicle must not be overloaded beyond its capacity.
- **Vehicle Maintenance:** The vehicle in use must be maintained in good condition. Operators are required to perform daily inspections of the vehicle.
- **Reversing Procedures:** Truck drivers must have a clear view when reversing. If this is not possible, a designated person should assist by guiding the driver.
- **Compliance with Road Rules:** All vehicles operating on the Market Site must adhere to the Road Rules established by Roads & Maritime Services.
- **Workplace Safety Meetings:** It is recommended that all businesses within the Market conduct weekly Toolbox meetings with staff to review Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) practices.

For further information, please click the following link to view SML's recent video release regarding Operation Big Wheels, <https://youtu.be/JFS1JmMPswA>.

NOTE: Please report all unsafe work practices to an SML Market Officer via the 24-hour contact number 0409 325 232 or to the WHS Manager, Leighton Freney, at 0417 325 171.

Leighton Freney

Work Health and Safety Manager
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