

# ASSISTING INDUSTRY IN ADAPTING TO THE LATEST CHANGES IN TEMPORARY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT



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The long-anticipated changes to the Temporary Traffic Management industry have started to come into practice. On 11 December 2019 the release of both the new national Standard AS1742.3 from Standards Australia and the Austroads Guide to Temporary Traffic Management, occurred in Brisbane.

I have been personally leading the development, management and delivery of the Austroads Guide to Temporary Traffic Management since it was first conceived in December 2015 at an Austroads Steering Committee meeting in Wellington, New Zealand. The New Zealand Code of Practice for Temporary Traffic Management (CoPTTM) was presented to the Steering Committee and provided an ideal template for industry best practice. The Steering Committee immediately proposed that the Austroads Safety at Road Worksites project should be amended to commence the development of an Austroads Guide to similarly inform the temporary traffic management industry in Australia. Following this meeting I was appointed to manage the development of the current structure (including one part that was later omitted) and then deliver the writing and publication of the ten-part series.

Separately, I was nominated to sit on the Australian Standards committee responsible for the update to AS1742.3. This update is the most substantial change to the Standard in over 25 years and now includes most of the best practice devices used within the temporary traffic management industry today. The development of the Standard commenced in late 2015 with the publication held to coincide with the Austroads launch.

The formal launch of the Guide to Temporary Traffic Management took place on 11 December 2019 at the Transport and Main Roads offices in Brisbane with presentations from Nick Koukoulas (CEO Austroads), Neil Scales (Chair - Austroads Board) Louise van Ristell (TMAA EO) and Dan Sullivan (Solutions in Transport). A video of the Austroads launch event can be found at <https://vimeo.com/378888084>. The new Australian Standard AS1742.3 can be purchased from Standards Australia (<https://www.standards.org.au/>) and the Austroads Guide can be downloaded for free from Austroads (<https://austroads.com.au/>).



I also led the development of a series of short webinars (20 to 30 minutes each Part) to support the launch of the Guides and to assist readers in gaining a quick understanding of the content of each Part.

However, I am always aware that the publication of documents by itself does not achieve the outcomes that we all want which is safety at road worksites. To assist industry in understanding all the new documents, I have, in association with TMAA and CCF, been visiting most States and Territories to provide an overview presentation of the new Australian Standard and the Austroads Guide to Temporary Traffic Management. The focus of the sessions has been to provide a brief overview of the intent behind the new documents and of the principle contents of the documents. Importantly, information on how to read the series of documents is provided as it can be quite a daunting pile of paper for the new reader.

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To date, industry briefing sessions have been held in Adelaide, Melbourne, Launceston, Hobart (3), Darwin (2) and Perth as of the end of February. All sessions have been a sell-out. Future sessions are planned for Townsville, Brisbane, Toowoomba and Sydney so if you live in those areas look out for the invites for these events on the TMAA website.



The biggest issue raised at these sessions has been about the timeframes that industry needs to be aware of for the transition from the existing practices. Unfortunately, there is not one agreed date by all the road authorities as some States / Territories need to make legislative changes while others simply need to change some of their own guidelines to refer to the new documents. You are encouraged to watch for advice from your State / Territory road authority for further information on transition timeframes.

A copy of the presentation for these events is available through TMAA. In addition, one of the sessions in Hobart was videoed so look out for that to become available in the near future on TMAA/CCF websites.

In addition to these industry briefings, I am developing worksite training sessions to assist Local Governments, Contractors and Temporary Traffic Management Companies in the following areas

<p><b>Generic TMP and TGS</b></p>	<p>This workshop outlines the fundamental processes to undertake in developing a generic TMP for repetitive maintenance type activities and the associated TGSs to use for these works. The key elements of the workshop are centred around;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· understanding all of the available Temporary Traffic Management options which can be applied</li> <li>· the development of a generic TMP</li> <li>· the development of a full set of generic TGS diagrams</li> <li>· and most importantly the process to be applied in the selection and application of generic TGS,</li> </ul> <p>The outcomes of a properly developed generic TMP and TGS process will be improved consistency in the application of the TGS and safety outcomes for all workers and for the public.</p> <p>There is the option to develop up a Generic TMP and TGSs as an add on to this workshop.</p>
<p><b>Road Categorisation</b></p>	<p>A key task confronting all road authorities is the categorisation of all roads in their network in accordance with the new guidelines in the Austroads Guide to Temporary Traffic Management. While this process may seem daunting, trial applications have been undertaken for three road authorities across Australia which have demonstrated that this process can be completed in as few as two days. Additional categorisation processes can then be applied to higher category roads to ensure that over-onerous requirements are not applied for lower impact works.</p>
<p><b>Traffic Management Planning overview</b></p>	<p>The Traffic Management Plan has been a permanent requirement of State and Territory guidance for many years yet is rarely undertaken in a sufficiently robust manner.</p> <p>This workshop is targeted at those who need to procure, project manage or undertake surveillance of temporary traffic management but may not necessarily need to sit and understand the full Traffic Management Design course.</p>
<p><b>Procuring temporary traffic management – the risks and the responsibilities</b></p>	<p>Road authorities and contractors procuring temporary traffic management services typically set out a set of technical requirements that must be met by the traffic management contractor. These often seem like obvious requirements but can place high levels of risk back onto these organisations.</p> <p>This workshop uses examples of real-life projects to lead a facilitated discussion into how procuring organisations can better understand and protect themselves from the risks associated with temporary traffic management.</p>

Keep a watch out for these sessions coming soon or contact me for further information or to book a session.

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