



Operating requirements for the transport of baled hay and straw

Information Bulletin

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Introduction

This purpose of this information bulletin is to assist operators transporting baled hay and straw—where the load exceeds general dimension limits—to comply with the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL), the Heavy Vehicle (Mass, Dimension and Loading) National Regulation (MDL Regulation) and specific jurisdictional requirements under various legal instruments, such as Notices (see Table 1).

This information bulletin collates and summarises important information only. It is not intended to be a complete and detailed overview of access exemptions and conditions. For more detailed information, please refer to the applicable Notice or Operator’s Guide.

This information bulletin is only relevant to the transport of baled hay and straw. Other commodities may be able to run on the same Notices; however, they may have exemptions and conditions that are different to those summarised in this information bulletin. Other commodities may also have different access and operation requirements under a Notice not covered by this information bulletin.

Interstate travel

Operators must comply with all applicable Notices that are relevant to the jurisdiction in which they are operating.

General dimension limits

The general dimension limits for heavy vehicles are set out in Schedule 6 of the MDL Regulation. They are:

- width: less than or equal to 2.5m
- height: less than or equal to 4.3m.

The Notices covering the transport of baled hay and straw provide exemptions to the above limits.

The Notices do not exempt vehicles from any length limits (e.g. semitrailers cannot be loaded with baled hay so the length exceeds 19m).

Legal instruments (Notices)

Table 1 identifies the legal instruments that are relevant to vehicles carrying baled hay and straw.

These Notices outline different dimension exemptions, the approved networks to which they apply, and conditions of access and operation.

If this information bulletin is accessed on the NHVR’s website www.nhvr.gov.au, the Notices referenced in Table 1 are hyperlinked to the online version of these.

The Notices are also available for printing on the NHVR website at www.nhvr.gov.au/law-policies/notices-and-permit-based-schemes.

Table 1: Instruments relevant to the transport of baled hay and straw

State/territory	Instrument
All	<p><i>National Class 3 Drought Assistance Dimension Exemption Notice 2018 (No.1)</i></p> <p><i>National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation (Notice) 2014 (No. 2)</i></p> <p><i>National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle Road Train Authorisation (Notice) 2015 (No. 1)</i></p>
NSW	<p><i>New South Wales Class 3 Baled Commodities Dimension Exemption Notice 2017</i></p> <p><i>New South Wales Class 3 Drought Assistance Dimension Exemption Notice 2018 (No.1)</i></p> <p><i>4.6 Metre High Vehicle Notice 2013</i></p> <p><i>New South Wales and Queensland Class 3 Heavy Vehicle 4.6m High Loaded Semitrailer Dimension Exemption (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)</i></p> <p><i>New South Wales Class 1 Load Carrying Vehicles Notice 2014</i></p>
QLD	<p><i>New South Wales and Queensland Class 3 Heavy Vehicle 4.6m High Loaded Semitrailer Dimension Exemption (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)</i></p>
VIC/TAS	<p><i>Schedule 10 of the Tasmania and Victoria Consolidated National Heavy Vehicle Mass and Dimension Exemption (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)</i></p>
ACT	<p><i>Road Transport (Mass, Dimensions and Loading) 4.6m High Vehicle Exemption Notice 2010 (No 1)</i></p>
SA	<p><i>Operation of B-Double Vehicles carting rectangular Baled Hay loaded to a Height of 4.6 metres</i></p> <p><i>Exemption for the transport of baled wool and/or baled hay to exceed a width of 2.5 metres</i></p> <p><i>Exemption for the transport of sheaved hay to exceed a width of 2.5 metres</i></p> <p><i>Transport of large rectangular baled hay</i></p>

National Class 3 Drought Assistance Dimension Exemption Notice 2018 (No.1)

This Notice allows eligible vehicles to operate up to a width of 2.83m and a height of 4.6m when transporting specified commodities for consumption by livestock in declared drought affected areas.

This Notice was developed to assist farmers with the transport of specific commodities to drought affected areas.

Drought affected areas

A drought affected area means an area declared as drought affected or drought declared, or similar, under a law of the relevant participating jurisdiction.

Check your state or territory government website for officially declared drought affected areas.

Access under the Notice

This Notice works by allowing a vehicle that already has access to the road network (either general access or restricted access under a Notice) to operate at wider and higher dimensions.

To use these expanded dimensions, the vehicle must comply with its normal access conditions, as well as the conditions of the drought assistance notice.

A summary of eligible vehicles and their applicable access and conditions—under both normal and Drought Notice arrangements—is provided in Table 2.

Table 2: Eligible vehicles and their applicable access and conditions

Vehicle	Normal access and conditions	Drought Notice access and conditions
Rigid truck Length: up to 12.5m	General access to all roads Width: up to 2.5m Height: up to 4.3m	Access to all roads: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> managed by participating road managers and on journeys carrying baled or rolled hay or straw to drought affected areas Width: up to 2.83m* Height: up to 4.6m Conditions of the Drought Notice
Prime mover semitrailer Length: up to 19m <u>Queensland Only:</u>	General access to all roads Width: up to 2.5m Height: up to 4.3m	Access to all roads: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> managed by participating road managers; and on journeys carrying baled or rolled hay or straw to drought affected areas Width: up to 2.83m* Height: up to 4.6m Conditions of the Drought Notice
Rigid truck and dog trailers Length: up to 19m		Width: up to 2.83m* Height: up to 4.6m Conditions of the Drought Notice
Class 2 B-double notice Length: up to 26m	Access to B-double networks under the <i>National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation (Notice) 2014 (No. 2)</i> (or similar B-double authorisation) Width: up to 2.5m Height: up to 4.3m Must comply with conditions of the B-double Notice	Access to all roads under the <i>National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation (Notice) 2014 (No. 2)</i> (or similar B-double authorisation): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> managed by participating road managers and on journeys carrying baled or rolled hay or straw to drought affected areas Width: up to 2.83m* Height: up to 4.6m Conditions of the drought notice and conditions of the B-double Notice that do not specifically conflict with the Drought Notice (such as width, height and road access)

Vehicle	Normal access and conditions	Drought Notice access and conditions
Class 2 Type 1 road train under notice Length: up to 36.5m	Access to Type 1 road train networks under the <i>National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle Road Train Authorisation (Notice) 2015 (No. 1)</i> (or similar road train authorisation) Width: up to 2.5m Height: up to 4.3m Must comply with conditions of the road train network and the Notice.	Access to all roads under the <i>National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle Road Train Authorisation (Notice) 2015 (No. 1)</i> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> managed by participating road managers and on journeys carrying baled or rolled hay or straw to drought affected areas Width: up to 2.83m* Height: up to 4.6m Conditions of the Drought Notice and conditions of the road train Notice that do not specifically conflict with the Drought Notice (such as width, height and road access)

* The load on an eligible vehicle must not project more than 165mm from the outmost part of either side of the vehicle.

Additional New South Wales exemptions

In New South Wales, broader access is available under the New South Wales Class 3 Drought Assistance Dimension Exemption Notice 2018 (No.1).

Participating road managers and approved routes

Participating road managers that have approved routes are identified in Appendix 1 of the *National Class 3 Drought Relief Dimension Exemption Operators Guide* located at: www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201809-0905-info-sheet-nat-class-3-drought-assistance-dimension-exemption.pdf.

Participating road managers include those for all state and territory government controlled roads, as well as local government roads.

Operating conditions and warning devices

Vehicles that are over 2.6m wide must comply with the following requirements from Schedule 8 of the MDL Regulation:

- Section 2 Warning signs and flags
- Section 3 Warning lights and delineators if load projecting from vehicle
- Section 6 Headlights
- Section 8 No travelling if low visibility
- Section 9 Minimum following distance
- Section 11 Assessing routes.

More information

For more detailed information, please see the *National Class 3 Drought Relief Dimension Exemption Operators Guide* available at: www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201809-0905-info-sheet-nat-class-3-drought-assistance-dimension-exemption.pdf.

New South Wales

New South Wales Class 3 Baled Commodities Dimension Exemption Notice 2017

This Notice allows eligible heavy vehicles carrying baled commodities to operate up to a width of 2.7m and height of 4.6m.

Eligible vehicles

The following combination types can transport baled or rolled hay or straw under this Notice:

- rigid vehicle
- prime mover and semitrailer combination
- B-double
- road train
- truck and dog trailer combination
- truck and pig trailer combination.

Maximum dimensions

Eligible vehicles are exempt from width and height limits in Schedule 6 of the MDL Regulation.

Table 3 summarises the dimension exemptions under this Notice for eligible vehicles.

Table 3: Dimension exemptions

Dimension	Conditional exemption
Width	2.7m* and the load on the vehicle must not project more than 100mm from the outmost part of either side of the vehicle *The following combinations are restricted to 2.6m wide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> road train truck and dog trailer truck and pig trailer combinations.
Height	4.6m

Routes

An extensive list of routes and their associated travel restrictions, including the Limited Access Location or Zone, are located in Appendix 3 of the *New South Wales Baled Commodities Dimension Exemption Operator's Guide* at: www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201808-0509-operators-guide-nsw-class-3-baled-commodities-dimension-exemption.pdf.

An eligible vehicle must also comply with the specified route and area requirements in the Notices set out in Table 4.

Vehicles operating at a height over 4.3m must also operate on the 4.6m high network.

Table 4: Approved routes

Eligible vehicles	Approved route
Rigid vehicle/ prime mover and semitrailer	As outlined in the <i>New South Wales and Queensland Class 3 Heavy Vehicle 4.6m High Loaded Semitrailer Dimension Exemption (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)</i> and <i>4.6 Metre High Vehicle Notice 2013</i>

Eligible vehicles	Approved route
B-double	As outlined in the <i>National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation (Notice) 2014 (No. 2)</i> (or similar B-double authorisation) and <i>4.6 Metre High Vehicle Notice 2013</i>
Road train	As outlined in the <i>National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle Road Train Authorisation (Notice) 2015 (No. 1)</i> (or similar road train authorisation) and <i>4.6 Metre High Vehicle Notice 2013</i>
Rigid truck and dog trailer	As outlined in Schedule 2 of <i>National Class 3 Truck and Dog Trailer Mass Exemption Notice 2018 (No.2)</i> (or similar truck and dog authorisation) and <i>4.6 Metre High Vehicle Notice 2013</i>
Rigid truck and pig trailer	As outlined in the <i>4.6 Metre High Vehicle Notice 2013</i> Outside the NSW Urban Zone, as defined in Appendix 3 of the <i>New South Wales Class 3 Baled Commodities Dimension Exemption Operator's Guide</i> available at www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201808-0509-operators-guide-nsw-class-3-baled-commodities-dimension-exemption.pdf

Operating conditions and warning devices

Vehicles wider than 2.6m must not travel between sunset and sunrise or in periods of low visibility.

An eligible vehicle must comply with the requirements of Appendix 4 Drought Travel Routes and Conditions in the *New South Wales Class 3 Baled Commodities Dimension Exemption Operator's Guide* at: www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201808-0509-operators-guide-nsw-class-3-baled-commodities-dimension-exemption.pdf.

More information

For more detailed information, please see the *New South Wales Class 3 Baled Commodities Dimension Exemption Operator's Guide* available at: www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201808-0509-operators-guide-nsw-class-3-baled-commodities-dimension-exemption.pdf.

New South Wales Class 3 Drought Assistance Dimension Exemption Notice 2018

This Notice allows eligible vehicles to operate up to a width of 2.83m and height of 4.6m when transporting baled or rolled hay to be used as fodder for consumption by livestock in declared drought affected regions in New South Wales.

Drought affected area

A drought affected area means a zone identified as 'Drought Affected, Drought and Intense Drought' on the Combined Drought Indicator Map published by the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) available at edis.dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Eligible vehicles

The following combination types can transport baled or rolled hay under this Notice:

- rigid vehicle
- prime mover and semitrailer combination
- prime mover and low loader combination
- B-double.

This Notice only applies to vehicles loaded with specified commodities, where the baled or rolled hay is:

- being transported to a drought affected area and
- baled or rolled hay is being consigned for use as fodder for consumption by livestock in declared drought affected areas.

Maximum dimensions

Eligible vehicles are exempt from Schedule 6 of the MDL Regulation.

Table 5 summarises the dimension exemptions under this Notice for eligible vehicles:

Table 5: Dimension exemptions

Dimension	Conditional exemption
Width	2.83m and the load on the vehicle must not project more than 165mm from the outmost part of either side of the vehicle
Height	4.6m

Routes

An eligible vehicle must comply with the specified route and area requirements set out in Table 6.

Vehicles operating at a height over 4.3m must operate on the 4.6m high network.

Table 6: Approved routes

Vehicle type (up to 4.6m high)	Approved route
Rigid vehicle/prime mover and semitrailer	As outlined in the <i>New South Wales and Queensland Class 3 Heavy Vehicle 4.6m High Loaded Semitrailer Dimension Exemption (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)</i> and <i>4.6 Metre High Vehicle Notice 2013</i>
Prime mover and low loader	As outlined in the <i>New South Wales Class 1 Load Carrying Vehicles Notice 2014</i> and <i>4.6 Metre High Vehicle Notice 2013</i>
B-double	<i>National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation (Notice) 2014 (No. 2)</i> (or similar B-double authorisation) and <i>4.6 Metre High Vehicle Notice 2013</i>

Operating conditions and warning devices

Vehicles wider than 2.6m must not travel between sunset and sunrise or in periods of low visibility.

An eligible vehicle must comply with the requirements of Appendix 5 Drought Travel Routes and Conditions, of the New South Wales Class 3 Baled Commodities Dimension Exemption Operator's Guide available at: www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201808-0509-operators-guide-nsw-class-3-baled-commodities-dimension-exemption.pdf.

New South Wales and Queensland Class 3 Heavy Vehicle 4.6m High Loaded Semitrailer Dimension Exemption (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)

This section is for the New South Wales component of this multi-state Notice and allows eligible vehicles to operate up to a height of 4.6m.

Eligible vehicles

This Notice applies to vehicle combinations that have a semitrailer component, where the semitrailer used in that combination together with its load is higher than 4.3m but not higher than 4.6m.

This Notice does not apply to a semitrailer constructed or used to carry livestock or vehicles, or a class 1 heavy vehicle.

The following types of combinations types can transport baled or rolled hay or straw with a semitrailer up to 4.6m height:

- prime mover and semitrailer
- B-double
- road train.

Maximum dimensions

Eligible vehicles are exempt from Schedule 6 of the MDL Regulation. Table 7 summarises the dimension exemptions under this Notice for eligible vehicles:

Table 7: Dimension exemptions

Dimension	Conditional exemption
Height	4.6m

Routes

An eligible vehicle must comply with the specified route and area requirements set out in Table 8.

Vehicles operating at a height over 4.3m must also operate on the [4.6m high network](#).

Table 8: Approved routes

Eligible vehicles	Approved route
Prime mover and semitrailer	As outlined in the <i>4.6 Metre High Vehicle Notice 2013</i>
B-double	As outlined in the <i>National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation (Notice) 2014 (No. 2)</i> (or similar B-double authorisation) and <i>4.6 Metre High Vehicle Notice 2013</i>
Road train	As outlined in the <i>National Class 2 heavy vehicle road train authorisation (notice) 2015 (no. 1)</i> (or similar road train authorisation) and <i>4.6 Metre High Vehicle Notice 2013</i>

Queensland

New South Wales and Queensland Class 3 Heavy Vehicle 4.6m High Loaded Semitrailer Dimension Exemption (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)

This section is for the Queensland component of this multi-state notice, which allows eligible vehicles to operate up to a height of 4.6m.

Eligible vehicles

This Notice applies to vehicle combinations that have a semitrailer component, where the semitrailer used in that combination—together with its load—is higher than 4.3m but not higher than 4.6m.

This Notice does not apply to a semitrailer constructed or used to carry livestock or vehicles, or a Class 1 heavy vehicle.

The following combination types can transport baled or rolled hay or straw with a semitrailer up to a height of 4.6m:

- prime mover and semitrailer
- B-double.

A 4.6m high loaded semitrailer cannot be used as a component of a road train.

Maximum dimensions

Eligible vehicles are exempt from Schedule 6 of the MDL Regulation.

Table 9 summarises the dimension exemptions under this Notice for eligible vehicles.

Table 9: Dimension exemptions

Dimension	Conditional exemption
Height	4.6m

Operating conditions

A 4.6m high loaded semitrailer must comply with the following mass limits:

- For a combination consisting of a prime mover and semitrailer, the mass of the combination must not be more than 90% of the prescribed mass requirements in Schedule 1 of the MDL Regulation.

For example, a 4.6m prime mover and semitrailer combination that is not normally permitted to operate at 42.5 tonnes at general mass limits must not exceed a mass limit of 38.5 tonnes (90% of 42.5 tonnes).
- For a combination consisting of a B-double, the mass of the combination must be the lesser mass of:
 - 90% of the prescribed mass requirements in Schedule 1 of the MDL Regulation
 - the mass limits specified under a permit (e.g. B-double permit), if the permit conditions operation at a lesser mass limit.

For example, a 4.6m high prime mover and B-double combination that is normally permitted to operate at 62.5t at

general mass limits must not exceed a mass limit of 56.25t (90% of 62.5t). However, if the B-double is operating under a permit that conditions the maximum operating mass to be 55.0t, the B-double must operate at this lower mass (rather than 62.5t) to be covered by this Notice

- The deck height of a 4.6m high loaded semitrailer must not exceed 1.2m for at least 50% of its deck length.
- A 4.6m high loaded semitrailer must have an air suspension system with effective dampers fitted to the vehicle.

Routes

An eligible vehicle must comply with the specified route and area requirements set out in Table 10.

If transporting between New South Wales and Queensland, vehicles operating at a height over 4.3m must also operate on the 4.6m high network for travel in New South Wales.

Table 10: Approved routes

Eligible vehicles	Approved route
Prime mover and semitrailer	Can use all roads in Queensland except where there is insufficient height clearance
B-double	As outlined in the <i>National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation (Notice) 2014 (No. 2)</i> (or similar B-double authorisation) and where there is insufficient height clearance

Victoria

Tasmania and Victoria Consolidated National Heavy Vehicle Mass and Dimension Exemption (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)

Schedule 10 of this Notice is the *Tasmania and Victoria Class 3 Heavy Vehicle Baled Hay Dimension Exemption (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)*.

This section refers to the Victorian section of this multi-state Notice.

Eligible vehicles carrying baled hay or straw can operate up to a width of 3.0m and a height of 4.6m.

Eligible vehicles

The following combination types can transport baled hay or straw:

- rigid truck
- prime mover towing a semitrailer
- B-double
- rigid truck towing a dog trailer
- rigid truck towing a pig trailer.

Maximum dimensions

Eligible vehicles are exempt from Schedule 6 of the MDL Regulation. Table 11 summarises the dimension exemptions under this Notice.

Table 11: Dimension exemptions

Eligible vehicles	Requirements	Width limit (m)	Height limit (m)
Rigid truck	Tandem axle: 8 tyres	2.7	4.6
Semitrailer	-	2.5	4.6
	Tandem axle: 8 tyres Tri axle: 12 tyres	2.7	4.6
Prime mover with a single steer axle and tandem tri-axle, towing a tri-axle semitrailer	At least 50% of its load carrying deck is no more than 1.2m above ground level and carrying round bales of hay	3.0	4.6
B-double	-	2.5	4.6
Prime mover with a single steer axle and tandem tri-axle, towing two tri-axle semitrailers	Tandem axle: 8 tyres	2.7	4.6
	Tri axle: 12 tyres		
A rigid truck towing a dog trailer	-	3.0	4.6
A rigid truck towing a pig trailer	-	3.0	4.6

Routes

An eligible baled hay vehicle under this Notice that is not a B-double can use all roads in Victoria.

A baled hay vehicle that is a B-double can use approved routes in the *National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)*.

Operating conditions

B-doubles comply with all conditions outlined in the *National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)*.

Operators must carry a copy of the information bulletin titled "Height Clearance on Roads", published by VicRoads at www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/business-and-industry/heavy-vehicle-industry/heavy-vehicle-road-safety/height-clearance-on-roads

Warning devices

All combinations under this Notice are exempt from warning devices for daytime travel only.

For travel between sunset and sunrise, all eligible vehicles carrying a load of baled hay or straw that is wider than 2.5m, must display warning signs, warning flags and warning lights, as per the Notice conditions in Schedule 2, Section 13 to 16 of the *Tasmania and Victoria Class 3 Heavy Vehicle Baled Hay Dimension Exemption (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)*.

The warning device requirements are also located on page 4 of the VicRoads *Hay Trucks: Arrangements for the transport of baled hay and straw* information bulletin, available at www.massmanagement.com.au/pdfs/vic/Vic%20Hay%20Trucks%20gazette%202012.pdf.

More information

For more information, please see the VicRoads *Hay Trucks: Arrangements for the transport of baled hay and straw* information bulletin, available at www.massmanagement.com.au/pdfs/vic/Vic%20Hay%20Trucks%20gazette%202012.pdf.

Tasmania

Tasmania and Victoria Consolidated National Heavy Vehicle Mass and Dimension Exemption (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)

Schedule 10 of this Notice is the *Tasmania and Victoria Class 3 Heavy Vehicle Baled Hay Dimension Exemption (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)*.

This section refers to the Tasmanian section of this multi-state Notice.

Eligible vehicles carrying baled hay or straw can operate up to a width of 3.0m and a height of 4.6m.

Eligible vehicles

The following combinations types can transport baled hay or straw:

- rigid truck
- prime mover towing a semitrailer
- B-double
- rigid truck towing a dog trailer
- rigid truck towing a pig trailer.

Maximum dimensions

Eligible vehicles are exempt from Schedule 6 of the MDL Regulation. Table 12 summarises the dimension exemptions under this Notice for eligible vehicles.

Table 12: Dimension exemptions

Eligible vehicles	Width limit (m)	Height limit (m)
Prime mover towing a tri-axle semitrailer	2.5	4.6
Prime mover towing a tri-axle semitrailer with a stepdeck or dropwell with a lower loading deck up to 1.2m high	3.0	4.6
All other combinations	3.0	4.6

Routes

A baled hay vehicle that is not a B-double can use all roads in Tasmania except for:

- Tasman Bridge, if the vehicle is over 4.3m high
- Bridgewater Bridge, if the vehicle is over 4.3m high or wider than 2.5m.

A baled hay vehicle that is a B-double can use approved routes in the *National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation (Notice) 2014 (No. 2)*.

Operating conditions

Eligible vehicles must not be operated if:

- visibility is less than 250m in the daytime or
- the headlights of a vehicle approaching within 250m could not be seen at night.

Warning devices

An eligible vehicle that is wider than 2.5m must display warning signs and warning flags. If travelling at night, the vehicle must also have warning lights, as per the Notice conditions in Schedule 1, Section 9 of the *Tasmania and Victoria Class 3 Heavy Vehicle Baled Hay Dimension Exemption (Notice) 2014 (No. 1)*.

Australian Capital Territory

Road Transport (Mass, Dimensions and Loading) 4.6m High Vehicle Exemption Notice 2010 (No 1)

This Notice allows eligible heavy vehicles to operate up to a width of 2.7m and height of 4.6m. This includes vehicles carrying baled hay and straw.

Eligible vehicles

This Notice works by allowing a vehicle that already has access to the road network (either general access or restricted access under a Notice) to operate at higher dimensions.

Maximum dimensions

Eligible vehicles are exempt from Schedule 6 of the MDL Regulation. Table 13 summarises the dimension exemptions under this Notice for eligible vehicles.

Table 13: Dimension exemptions

Dimension	Conditional exemption
Height	4.6m

Routes

An eligible vehicle must comply with the specified route and area requirements set out in Table 14.

Table 14: Approved routes

Eligible vehicles	Approved route
All general access vehicles	Access to roads listed in Schedule 1 of the <i>Road Transport (Mass, Dimensions and Loading) 4.6m High Vehicle Exemption Notice 2010 (No 1)</i>
B-doubles	As outlined in the <i>National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation (Notice) 2014 (No. 2)</i> (or similar B-double authorisation); and roads listed in Schedule 1 of the <i>Road Transport (Mass, Dimensions and Loading) 4.6m High Vehicle Exemption Notice 2010 (No 1)</i>

Travel restrictions and conditions

B-doubles must comply with normal access conditions as per the *National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation (Notice) 2014 (No. 2)* (or similar B-double authorisation).

South Australia

Instruments

South Australia has four Notices that cover the transport of baled hay or straw:

- *Operation of B-double Vehicles carting rectangular Baled Hay loaded to a Height of 4.6 metres*
- *Exemption for the Transport of Baled Wool and/or Baled Hay to Exceed a Width of 2.5 metres*
- *Exemption for the Transport of Sheaved Hay to Exceed a Width of 2.5 metres*
- *Transport of Large Rectangular Baled Hay.*

Eligible vehicles

Table 15 summarises the eligible vehicles that can transport baled hay or straw under each Notice.

Table 15: Eligible vehicles

Notice	Eligible vehicles
<i>Operation of B-double Vehicles carting rectangular Baled Hay loaded to a Height of 4.6 metres</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A B-double that is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – up to 26m long – 4.6m high • B-double trailers must be fitted with tri-axle groups and with a deck height of 1.0m or less on the main load space of the trailer • Must only carry one size bale in any load on the load space of the trailer when the deck height does not exceed 1.0m
<i>Exemption for the Transport of Baled Wool and/or Baled Hay to Exceed a Width of 2.5 metres</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rigid motor vehicles • Rigid motor vehicles towing one trailer • Prime mover towing a semitrailer • Carrying a load consisting solely of baled wool and/or baled hay
<i>Exemption for the Transport of Sheaved Hay to Exceed a Width of 2.5 metres</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial motor vehicles and trailers • Carrying a load consisting solely of sheaved hay
<i>Transport of Large Rectangular Baled Hay</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prime mover and tri-axle semitrailer • Part of the semitrailer must have a deck height of 1.0m or less • Large rectangular baled hay refers to a hay bale that is at least 2.4m x 1.2m x 1.2m in dimension

Maximum dimensions

Eligible vehicles are exempt from Schedule 6 of the MDL Regulation. Table 16 summarises the dimension exemptions under each Notice:

Table 16: Dimension exemption

Notice	Width limit (m)	Length limit (m)	Height limit (m)
<i>Operation of B-double Vehicles carting rectangular Baled Hay loaded to a Height of 4.6 metres</i>	2.5	26.0	4.6
<i>Exemption for the Transport of Baled Wool and/or Baled Hay to Exceed a Width of 2.5 metres</i>	2.75 ^{1,2}	19.0	4.3
<i>Exemption for the Transport of Sheaved Hay to Exceed a Width of 2.5 metres</i>	3.41 ^{1,2}	19.0	4.3
<i>Transport of Large Rectangular Baled Hay</i>	2.7 ²	19.0	4.6

Routes

Table 17 summarises the routes available under each Notice for eligible vehicles.

Table 17: Routes

Notice	Routes
<i>Operation of B-double Vehicles carting rectangular Baled Hay loaded to a Height of 4.6 metres</i>	Approved routes for general mass limits and commodity hay for B-doubles
<i>Exemption for the Transport of Baled Wool and/or Baled Hay to Exceed a Width of 2.5 metres</i>	All roads unless signposted otherwise
<i>Exemption for the Transport of Sheaved Hay to Exceed a Width of 2.5 metres</i>	Travel only permitted within 40km from where the hay is produced
<i>Transport of Large Rectangular Baled Hay</i>	All roads, except those excluded by the <i>Code of Practice for the Transport of Large Rectangular Baled Hay (April 2010)</i> , and unless signposted otherwise

Travel restrictions and conditions

Due to the variety of Notices in South Australia, it is recommended that operators refer directly to these to ensure their vehicle and load comply with prescribed travel restrictions and conditions.

Operation of B-double vehicles carting rectangular Baled Hay loaded to a Height of 4.6 metres

- A legible copy of the Notice must be carried by the driver at all times in hard copy or electronic format.
- Only travel on the approved routes for general mass limits and commodity hay for B-doubles. Available on the South Australia RAVnet maps at maps.sa.gov.au/ravnet.

¹ The overall width of all axles or axle groups of the vehicle carrying the load, excluding the front axle or front axle group, when measured between two vertical parallel planes located at the outer extremities of the tyre, shall not be less than 2.1m.
² The constructed width of the vehicle or any trailer attached shall not exceed 2.5m.

Exemption for the Transport of Baled Wool and/or Baled Hay to Exceed a Width of 2.5 Metres

- A legible copy of the Notice must be carried by the driver at all times.
- Vehicles must not travel between sunset and sunrise or in periods of low visibility. A period of low visibility means any time when people or vehicles on a road cannot see 250 metres due to weather conditions or insufficient daylight.
- Vehicles must not travel in the Adelaide Area (Metropolitan), between the hours of 7:00am to 9:00am and 4:00pm to 6:00pm Monday to Friday inclusive.

Exemption for the Transport of Sheaved Hay to Exceed a Width of 2.5 metres

- A legible copy of the Notice must be carried by the driver at all times in hard copy or electronic format.
- Travel is not permitted through:
 - Port Germein Gorge on the road between Port Germein and Murray Town
 - Horrocks Pass on the road between Stirling North and Wilmington
 - Pichi Richi Pass on the road between Stirling North and Quorn.
- Travel is not permitted in the Adelaide Area (metropolitan) and the Adelaide Hills Area.
- Vehicles must not travel between sunset and sunrise or in periods of low visibility. A period of low visibility means any time when, owing to insufficient daylight or unfavourable conditions, persons or vehicles on a road are not clearly visible at a distance of 250 metres to a person of normal vision.

Transport of Large Rectangular Baled Hay

- A legible copy of the Notice must be carried by the driver at all times in hard copy or electronic format.
- A legible copy of the *Code of Practice for the Transport of Large Rectangular Baled Hay* (April 2010) (the Code) issued by the Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure must be carried by the driver at all times in hard copy or electronic format.
- As per the Code, vehicles must travel only between the hours of sunrise and sunset as specified in the *Proof of Sunrise and Sunset Act 1923*.
- As per the Code, vehicles must not travel in the Adelaide Area (Metropolitan), between the hours of 7:00am to 9:00am and 4:00pm to 6:00pm Monday to Friday inclusive.
- As per the Code, vehicles must not travel on the following roads and structures:
 - the section of Park Terrace, Salisbury between the intersections of Commercial Road/Park Terrace and Salisbury Highway/Waterloo Corner Road/Park Terrace
 - St Vincent Street and Nelson Street, including Birkenhead Bridge, Port Adelaide
 - River Murray Ferries
 - through the Port Germein Gorge on the road between Port Germein and Murray Town.
- As per the Code, vehicles must not travel under bridges identified in Table 18.

Table 18: Restricted access structures

Structure	Clearance height (m)
Railway bridge over Rosetta Street, West Croydon	3.0
Railway bridge over Chief Street, Brompton	3.2
Railway bridge over Mount Barker Road, Aldgate	4.4
Pedestrian bridge over Main North Road and Malinya Drive when travelling along Malinya Drive, Salisbury Park	4.5
Pedestrian bridge over South Terrace, Adelaide	4.5
Road bridge over Bald Hills Road, Mount Barker	4.5
Road bridge over St Andrews, Wilunga	4.5

Loading requirements

Due to the variety of Notices in South Australia, it is recommended that operators refer directly to these to ensure their vehicle and load comply with prescribed loading requirements.

Operation of B-double Vehicles carting rectangular Baled Hay loaded to a Height of 4.6 metres

Vehicles travelling under this Notice must be loaded in accordance with section 4.3 of the Notice. The required stacking arrangements in this Notice are summarised in Table 19.

Table 19: Load stacking arrangements

Bale size (m)	Maximum rows loaded on a semitrailer
2.4m x 1.2m x 1.2m	Three layers high
2.4m x 1.2m x 0.9m	Four layers high
2.4m x 1.2m x 0.7m	Five layers high

Transport of Large Rectangular Baled Hay

- Vehicles travelling under this Notice must only carry one bale size, with a maximum of three rows loaded on the semitrailer.
- Loads must be symmetrically positioned across the tray of the vehicle.
- Only the portion of the trailer with a deck height of 1.0m or less shall be loaded with large rectangular baled hay to 4.6m high.
- The side projection of a load must not exceed 0.1m on either side of the tray of the vehicle.

Exemption for the Transport of Baled Wool and/or Baled Hay to Exceed a Width of 2.5 metres

Vehicles operating under this Notice must comply with the following condition:

- The load shall be placed on the load carrying area of the vehicle so that the projection of the load is the same on both sides of the vehicle (e.g. the load cannot project from one side by 0.1m and the other side by 0.3m. The load must project equally on both sides at 0.2m).

Warning devices

Depending on the vehicle, load and width, the different South Australian Notices have varying warning device requirements. These are summarised in Table 20.

Due to the variety of Notices in South Australia, it is recommended that operators refer directly to these to ensure their vehicle and load comply with prescribed warning device requirements.

Table 20: Warning devices

Instrument	Warning lights	Warning signs	Warning flags	Strip plates
<i>Operation of B-double Vehicles carting rectangular Baled Hay loaded to a Height of 4.6 metres</i>				
<i>Exemption for the Transport of Baled Wool and/or Baled Hay to Exceed a Width of 2.5 metres</i>				
<i>Exemption for the Transport of Sheaved Hay to Exceed a Width of 2.5 metres</i>		✓	✓	
<i>Transport of Large Rectangular Baled Hay</i>	✓	✓		✓

Securing loads for safe travel

This information bulletin describes a number of example methods to restrain common loads of baled or rolled hay and straw to meet the safety requirements of the MDL Regulation.

The MDL Regulation prescribes heavy vehicle dimensions, mass and loading requirements. The MDL Regulation was amended on 1 October 2018 to incorporate, among other things, the load restraint performance standards. A load restraint system is legally required to be able to withstand forces specified in the performance standards.

The *Load Restraint Guide 2018* developed by the National Transport Commission (NTC) provides examples of how to restrain loads to meet those forces. It provides drivers, owners, operators, freight consigners, vehicle manufacturers, equipment manufacturers and suppliers with the basic safety principles that should be followed when designing a load restraint system to ensure the safe and efficient transportation of loads.

The *Load Restraint Guide 2018* is located at [www.ntc.gov.au/Media/Reports/\(9E12B22A-6156-41B0-F382-136A34520AF8\).pdf](http://www.ntc.gov.au/Media/Reports/(9E12B22A-6156-41B0-F382-136A34520AF8).pdf).

Please note the *Load Restraint Guide 2018* is not a legal document—it just provides guidance on how you may meet the performance standards.

Operators may restrain loads using other methods; however, it is recommended that alternative methods are certified by an engineer.

Organisations like the Australian Fodder Industry Association (AFIA), as well as the NTC, can also be contacted for assistance in meeting loading requirements under the MDL Regulation.

Example load configurations

The load configurations on the following pages are examples of what is recommended in the *Load Restraint Guide 2018* or various Notices.

Where possible, bales should be stacked in interlocking patterns (similar to a brick bond) to provide better stability and spread the clamping forces from the tie-down lashings through to the lower bales.

Where possible, bales should be loaded on a drop deck trailer to lower the centre of gravity height.

For more information, general tips and specific details on load configurations, please refer to the *Load Restraint Guide 2018*.

Figure 1: Example loading configurations

Bale size (m)	Load configuration (m)
2.5 x 0.9 x 0.9	
2.5 x 1.2 x 0.9	
2.5 x 1.2 x 1.2	

Bale size (m)	Load configuration (m)
2.4 x 1.2 x 1.2	
2.4 x 1.2 x 0.7	 Maximum 5 layers of 0.7m bale height size
2.4 x 1.2 x 0.9	 Maximum 4 layers of 0.9m bale height size
2.4 x 1.2 x 1.2	 Maximum 3 layers of 1.2m bale height size
1.2 diameter round	

Please note:

Vehicles travelling under the *Operation of B-double Vehicles carting rectangular Baled Hay loaded to a Height of 4.6 metres* must be loaded in accordance with section 4.3 of the Notice.

Required stacking arrangements in this Notice are illustrated to the left.

Example load restraints

The below load restraints are examples recommended in the *Load Restraint Guide 2018* or in the various Notices.

Bales can be restrained by containment, blocking and/or tie-down methods.

For more information, general tips and specific details on load restraints, please refer to the *Load Restraint Guide*.

Figure 2: Example containment methods

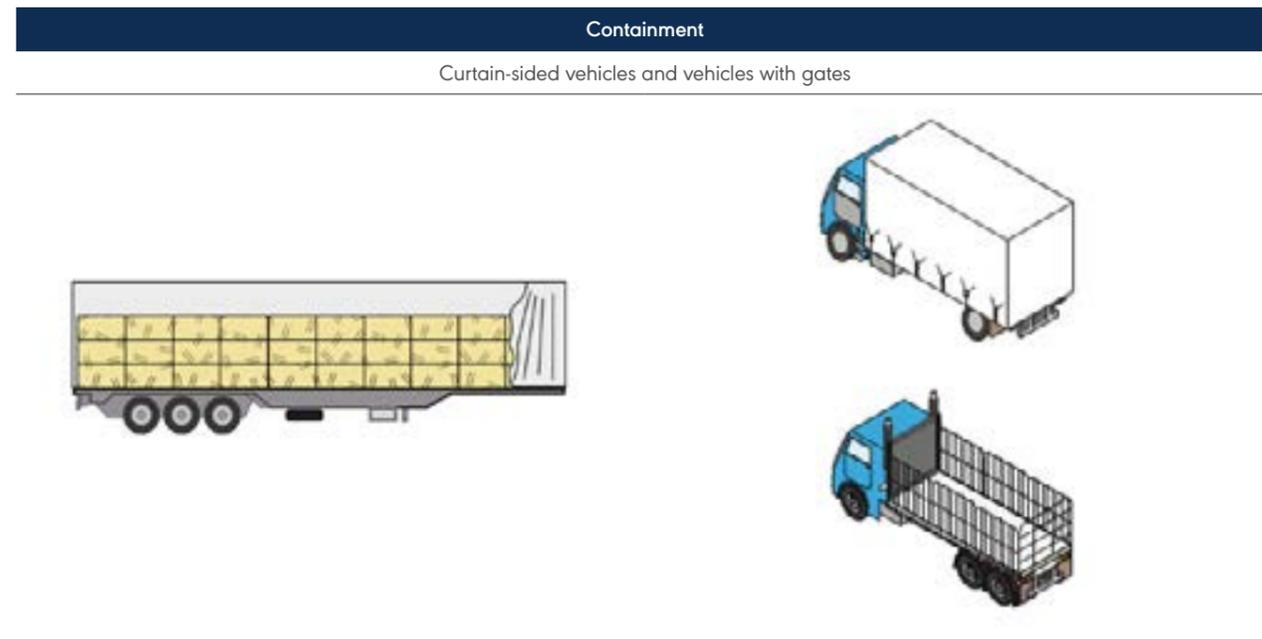


Figure 3: Example blocking methods

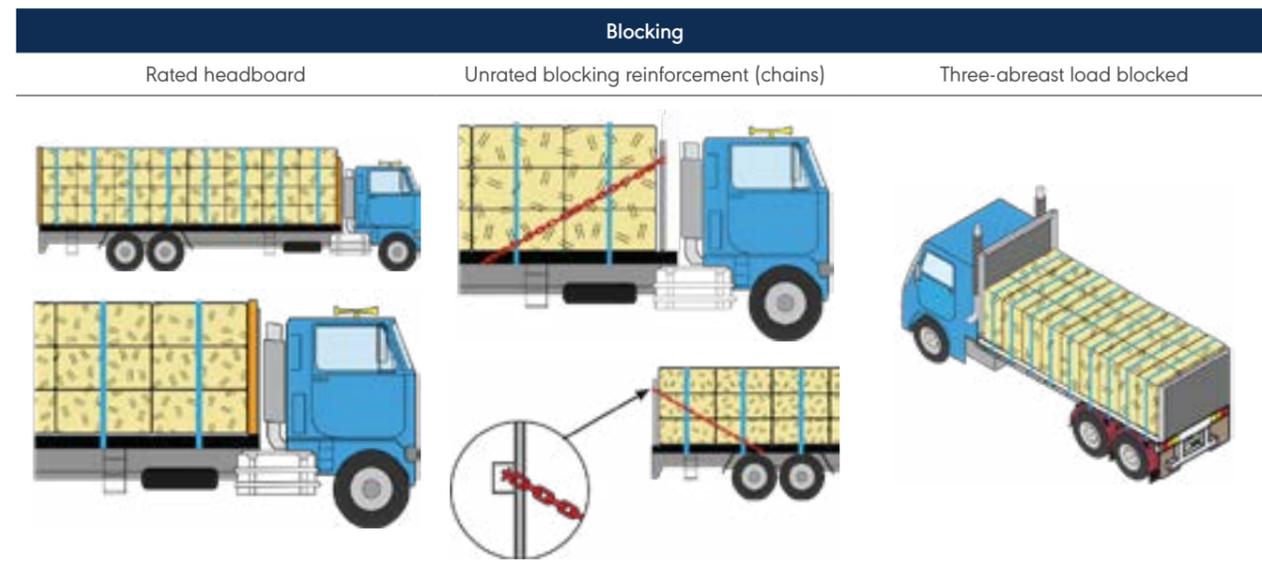
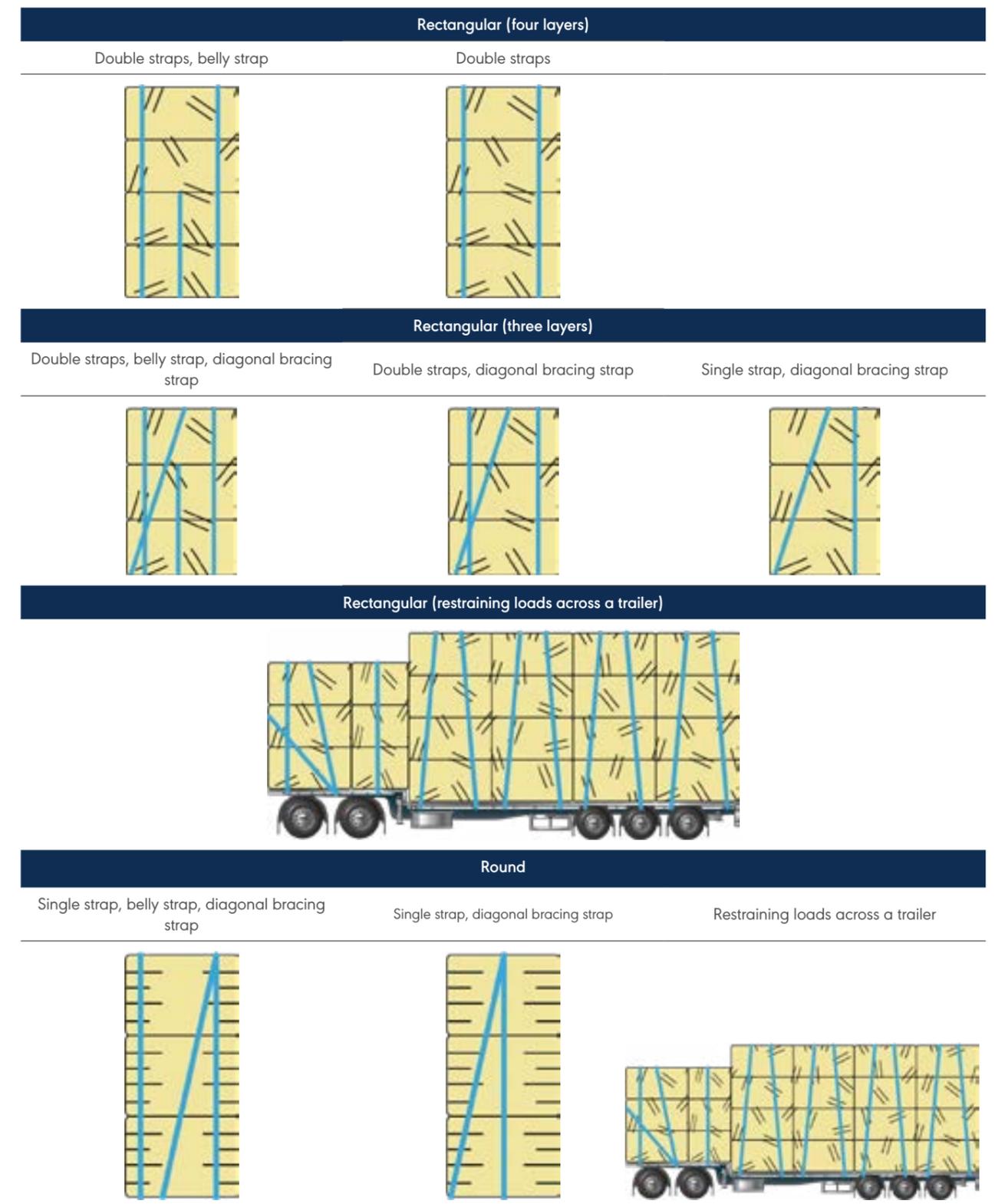


Figure 4: Example tie-down methods





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