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WAKA KOTAHI MONITORING

Purpose

The purpose of this Advisory is to bring you up-to-date with one of the new ways of engagement resulting from the Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi) compliance strategy. Regardless of whether you have been contacted by Waka Kotahi for one of these new engagement sessions or not, this Advisory provides information suggesting operators give consideration to how they are meeting compliance requirements and safety outcomes.

Waka Kotahi's new approach

Previously, if operators have had contact from Waka Kotahi's Safer Commercial Transport team it has generally meant that Waka Kotahi were following up on something that had been reported to it. Waka Kotahi's new "Proactive, Portfolio and Monitoring" work means it will be engaging operators more often and not necessarily following up on reported non-compliance.

Waka Kotahi's aim is to get ahead of non-compliance and prevent it from happening in the first place, rather than simply responding when things happen. It also aims to get a better understanding of the compliance level across industry, or whether or not its regulatory activities are having any effect on safety outcomes.

The Monitoring prong involves Safer Commercial Transport randomly selecting a statistically appropriate number of Transport Service Licence (TSL) holders to carry out an on-site, systems-level verification of compliance against requirements and safety outcomes.

Our advice to operators

We do not know how Waka Kotahi will carry out its on-site, systems-level verification of compliance against requirements and safety outcomes. We also do not know the scope of

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how Waka Kotahi is distinguishing or differentiating between “requirements” and “safety outcomes” and we will be engaging them further on that.

However, we know there are explicit regulatory requirements covered in Land Transport Rules, for example, but not limited to, work time hours, weight limits, truck size limits etc.

To demonstrate our suggestions to operators, take one of the areas above, for example work time hours, and ask yourselves:

- How do I ensure my drivers are complying with work time hours?
- Do I plan their working day taking into consideration the previous day’s work?
- Do I monitor their working hours and have records to give that assurance they are complying with work time hours?
- If I monitor working hours, and there are cases of non-compliance, can I show evidence of how I have intervened or mitigated risk?

We believe if you can answer the above positively for all compliance areas, it will help with any future engagement with Waka Kotahi.

If your business is involved in a Waka Kotahi monitoring session and you have any concerns or insights you believe would be useful to other members and our industry, please let us know.

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