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| Title | Drive a heavy vehicle in an off-road environment | | |
| Level | 4 | Credits | 3 |

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| Purpose | People credited with this unit standard are able to: assess the suitability of terrain for off-road driving of a heavy vehicle and identify a route; prepare a heavy vehicle for off-road driving; drive a heavy vehicle in an off-road environment; stop a heavy vehicle in an off-road environment; and return a heavy vehicle to on-road condition following off-road driving. |
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| Classification | Commercial Road Transport > Commercial Road Transport Skills |
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| Available grade | Achieved |
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| Prerequisites | Candidates must hold a minimum of the class of licence required for the vehicle being driven and comply with the requirements of the Land Transport (Driver Licensing) Rule 1999. |
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Guidance Information

- 1 Acts, regulations, and Rules to be complied with include:
Land Transport Act 1998;
Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004;
Land Transport (Driver Licensing) Rule 1999;
Health and Safety at Work 2015.
- 2 Any new, amended, or replacement Acts, regulations, Rules, standards, codes of practice, or Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency requirements or conditions affecting this unit standard will take precedence for assessment purposes, pending review of this unit standard.
- 3 Definitions
Drive includes to manoeuvre.
Off-road means a surface other than a sealed or unsealed, formed road or track and includes but is not limited to bush tracks, beaches, riverbeds and open paddocks.
On-road means a sealed or unsealed, formed road or track.
Organisational requirements include any legal requirements, standards, codes of practice, organisational and/or site policies and procedures, industry best practice, and manufacturers' instructions. These must be available to candidates, providers, and assessors.
Terrain means a piece of ground having specific characteristics such as sloping, hilly, or undulating.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Assess the suitability of terrain for off-road driving of a heavy vehicle and identify a route.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 An on-foot assessment is carried out in accordance with organisational requirements.
- 1.2 Potential hazards in the terrain are identified.
- 1.3 Vehicle capabilities in relation to the terrain, and driving techniques required to exploit these capabilities are assessed.
- 1.4 A route that is consistent with the terrain and vehicle capabilities, fuel usage, minimum wear and tear on the vehicle, and the driver's ability is chosen.

Outcome 2

Prepare a heavy vehicle for off-road driving.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Equipment is confirmed as in serviceable condition and any defects are remedied or equipment replaced.
- 2.2 Vehicle components are adjusted to allow access to all controls.

Range vehicle components may include – mirrors, seats, steering wheel, seat belts.
- 2.3 Tyre pressures are adjusted in accordance with organisational requirements.
- 2.4 Where the journey requires that the vehicle is driven through water, actions are taken to prevent water entering the air cleaner, drive train components and engine.
- 2.5 Equipment, load (if loaded) and any loose items in the cab are secured in accordance with organisational requirements.

Outcome 3

Drive a heavy vehicle in an off-road environment.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 When gauges and warning systems indicate load and stress on the vehicle, actions are taken that return the vehicle to within normal operating range.

- 3.2 Obstacles are negotiated smoothly with controlled use of the accelerator, brake, and traction devices.
- 3.3 Driving techniques are employed to suit the nature of the terrain and obstacles encountered.
- 3.4 Wheel spin is managed so that the vehicle returns to a position from which it can be moved safely.

Outcome 4

Stop a heavy vehicle in an off-road environment.

Range uphill, downhill, on level ground.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Vehicle is stopped in accordance with organisational requirements.
- 4.2 Vehicle is stopped in a position from which it can move off again.

Outcome 5

Return a heavy vehicle to on-road condition following off-road driving.

Performance criteria

- 5.1 Any damage to the vehicle is identified and recorded in accordance with organisational requirements.

Range bodywork, steering, brakes, suspension, sump, gearbox and differential housing, tyres and rims, vehicle panels.

- 5.2 Vehicle components are cleared of debris to allow inspection and operation.

- 5.3 Tyre pressures are adjusted to on-road use pressures.

- 5.4 Vehicle components are readjusted to on-road position.

Range vehicle components may include – mirrors, seats, steering wheel, seat belts.

- 5.5 Brakes are checked, and action is taken to restore braking efficiency.

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| Planned review date | 31 December 2025 |
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

| Process | Version | Date | Last Date for Assessment |
|--------------|---------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Registration | 1 | 9 April 1996 | 31 December 2022 |
| Review | 2 | 25 May 1999 | 31 December 2022 |
| Revision | 3 | 18 August 2000 | 31 December 2022 |
| Review | 4 | 22 March 2005 | 31 December 2022 |
| Review | 5 | 29 April 2021 | N/A |

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference

0014

This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact MITO New Zealand Incorporated info@mito.org.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.