



## ARTSA Matters

April 2003

This is a regular bulletin to ARTSA members and others on issues happening in and around ARTSA. ARTSA Matters bulletins will also be accessible from the ARTSA web site at [www.artsa.com.au](http://www.artsa.com.au)

### **B Double Update**

The 26 metre concept is close to sign off with the NRTC process and is currently out for comment with each State jurisdiction. No guarantee, but the end of the year is looking a prospect. If you want a refresher on the issues go to <http://www.artsa.com.au> and download the ARTSA B Double and Load Restraint Issues.

### **PBS Dictionary**

Ever felt that PBS was too technical and needed a translation? Do you know the PBS terms, what they mean and what it means to pass or fail a measure? ARTSA has been working on this and will soon publish a PBS Dictionary. Authored by Ian Wright and sponsored by the NRTC it will be available free via the ARTSA website. It is in final draft stage and looking good for a launch around mid year. A draft will be tabled at the May ARTSA meeting.

### **Tyre wear – answers to an old problem**

The ARTSA RMIT student project on tyre wear proved to be one of the most popular sessions at last November's Technical and Maintenance Conference. The work has established that non-uniform wear is strongly linked to irregularities produced in the manufacturing process. It's a short answer to a long standing question. The presentation from the TMC as well as a slide show of the RMIT students thesis can be downloaded from <http://www.artsa.com.au>.

### **Regenerative braking – our next student project**

Following the success of the 2002 student project, ARTSA has awarded its 2003 project to Paul Matheson of Monash University to study the potential savings from the use of "Permadrive" regenerative braking system. Details are at <http://www.artsa.com.au/mediareleases>

Our ARTSA committee is confident that this will provide some real insights into the opportunities that these kinds of energy saving systems offer.

### **Out for comment – NRTC driven reforms**

Two amongst many that are worthy of comment:

**Spray Suppression paper** – now closed for comment but likely to result in the removal of spray suppression from B Doubles.

**ABS Braking requirements** – part of the Prime Mover Ratings project. This is pushing for ABS on all prime movers and has major implications for smaller prime movers.

Those wishing to discuss either proposed reform should either contact the NRTC (Barry Hendry [hendryb@nrtc.gov.au](mailto:hendryb@nrtc.gov.au)) or speak to ARTSA Chairman Peter Sweatman ([peter@roaduser.com.au](mailto:peter@roaduser.com.au)) or Deputy Chairman Simon Humphries ([simon.humphries@igm.com.au](mailto:simon.humphries@igm.com.au))

### **ARTSA Elections**

The 2003 AGM saw some new faces at ARTSA with an Executive that includes:

Chairman	Peter Sweatman, RoadUser Systems
Deputy Chairman	Simon Humphries, Isuzu General Motors
Executive members	Ian Bushby, DECA John Williamson, Marshall Lethlean Ian Lawrie, York Transport Equipment
Executive Officer	Rob Perkins

Contact details for the Executive are at <http://www.artsa.com.au/executive>

### **A new look web site**

Our web site at [www.artsa.com.au](http://www.artsa.com.au) has gradually grown in terms of the information contained within the site. Soon you will see a completely new look home page with the ARTSA Matters column and also hot links to our download publications which include the Air Suspension Code, the soon to be released PBS Dictionary and also later in 2003, the Load Restraint Code for curtain-sided vehicles.

### **Christmas Function – take your partners!**

The AGM also saw the decision to introduce a Christmas function with partners. Scheduled for Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December, bookmark your calendar now. It will be a special night. More news on this will follow.

### **Next meeting**

Currently scheduled for 2pm on the 14<sup>th</sup> May in Brisbane. Members will be polled by a separate email to see if this timing is not too close to the Brisbane Truck Show that opens the next morning. Stay tuned.

Our meeting schedule can be found at <http://www.artsa.com.au/meetings>

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