

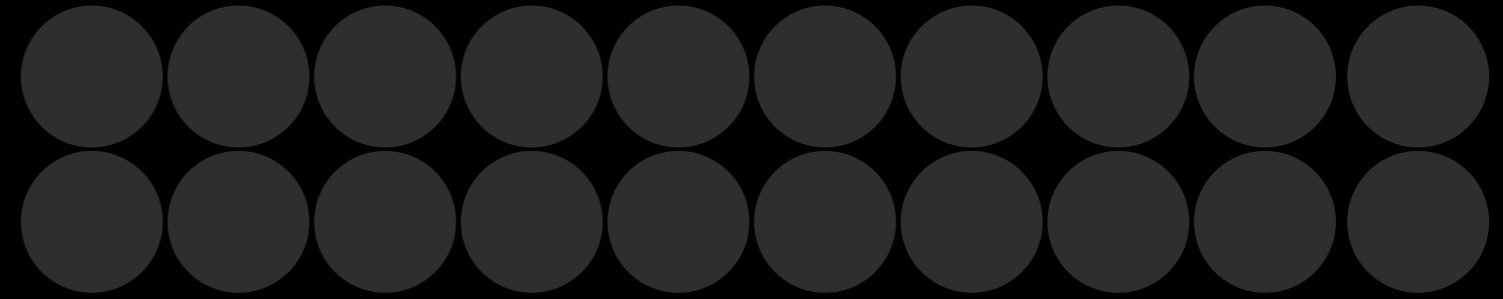
# ACCREDITED BUS OPERATOR NUMBER PLATES POLICY

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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## REQUIREMENT FOR ACCREDITED BUS OPERATORS TO DISPLAY NUMBER PLATES

**THIS POLICY SETS OUT THE FORM OF NUMBER PLATES THE DIRECTOR, TRANSPORT SAFETY (SAFETY DIRECTOR), AUTHORISES AS ACCREDITED BUS OPERATOR NUMBER PLATES. THESE PLATES MUST BE DISPLAYED BY AN ACCREDITED BUS OPERATOR ON EACH BUS THAT IS REGISTERED BY VICROADS IN VICTORIA.**

This policy applies to all operators who are accredited under Part 4 of the *Bus Safety Act 2009* (Vic) (BSA) to operate a commercial bus service or a local bus service as defined in section 3 of the BSA, in Victoria.

### ACCREDITED BUS OPERATORS TO DISPLAY ACCREDITED BUS OPERATOR NUMBER PLATES

Regulation 10 of the *Bus Safety Regulations 2010* (Vic) (BSR) requires an accredited bus operator to display accredited bus operator number plates on each of the operator's buses registered in Victoria. The term accredited bus operator number plates is defined under regulation four of the BSR as:

number plates authorised by the Safety Director and issued by VicRoads for display on a bus used by an accredited bus operator.

### ACCREDITED BUS OPERATOR NUMBER PLATES AS AUTHORISED BY THE SAFETY DIRECTOR

For the purpose of regulation four of the BSR, the Safety Director has authorised the following number plates to be accredited bus operator number plates:

number plates that are issued by VicRoads and display the words -

- "accredited bus" and have four numerals followed with a suffix of AO, or
- "accredited bus service" and have a prefix of two letters followed by two numerals and a suffix of two letters.



### TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

Transitional arrangements apply in relation to accredited bus operators who were accredited under the *Public Transport Competition Act 1995* (Vic) and subsequently deemed accredited under the BSA on 31 December 2010.

#### PERSONALISED NUMBER PLATES

Accredited bus operators whose buses display personalised number plates may continue to display personalised number plates on those buses until they become accredited under the BSA or 31 December 2015, whichever occurs first.

#### 'AC' AND 'SO' NUMBER PLATES

Accredited bus operators whose buses display accredited bus number plates with the suffix of 'AC' or 'SO' may continue to display these number plates until the bus is decommissioned. 'AC' and 'SO' number plates must not be transferred to a different bus.

### CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE ACCREDITED BUS OPERATOR NUMBER PLATES ARE NOT REQUIRED

Accredited bus operators are not required to display accredited bus operator number plates on:

- (a) buses registered in another state or territory; or
- (b) buses registered in Victoria under the *Interstate Road Transport Act 1985* (Cth) that display federal interstate number plates.

Accredited bus operators who are not required to display accredited bus operator number plates must however display their Victorian accreditation number on each bus in accordance with the general condition of accreditation declared by the Safety Director under Section 34(2) of the BSA on 8 June 2011.

A copy of the general condition can be viewed at the following link:

<http://www.gazette.vic.gov.au/gazette/Gazettes2011/GG2011G024.pdf>

### OFFENCE TO DISPLAY ACCREDITED BUS OPERATOR NUMBER PLATES IF NOT ACCREDITED

A person must not display accredited bus operator number plates on a bus unless that person is accredited under Part 4 of the BSA to operate a commercial bus service or a local bus service.

