

MEDIA RELEASE



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Safe and patient drivers are excellent drivers

The Australian Trucking Association had urged everyone to make an excellent decision and drive safely this Easter long weekend.

"I know that everyone has places that they need to be as you visit friends and family, but I urge everyone to drive safely, to take a break if necessary and plan well ahead for the trip," ATA CEO, Ben Maguire, said.

"There are an increased number of vehicles on the road, so make common sense and caution a priority. If you don't feel up to driving, if you're tired or feeling unwell take a break, or let another driver takeover," Mr Maguire said.

The ATA has developed a short animated video of the Volvo ATA Safety Truck that will be played on TV stations around Australia over the long weekend.

The video recommends a few simple tips for motorists to help make everyone's trips safer.

- **Stay out of truck blind spots.** If you sit in the blind spots immediately behind a truck or close to the left passenger door, the driver may not know you are there. Remember if you cannot see the truck's side mirror's while behind the truck, you're too close and the truck driver cannot see you! Cutting in front of a truck can also put you in the forward blind spot.
- **Don't cut in front of trucks** as they slow for traffic lights or when you're out on the highway. A truck needs a greater distance to stop than you expect, because they are much heavier than cars.
- **Don't overtake trucks when they are turning.** Trucks often need to turn from the centre lane at intersections and corners, so stay well back.
- **Stick to the speed limit and take regular rest breaks.**

Road users can watch the animated road safety video and download the full list of truckie's top tips at www.safetytruck.com.au

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About the Australian Trucking Association: The ATA is the peak body representing the trucking industry. Its members include state and sector trucking associations, major logistics companies and businesses with leading expertise in truck technology. The ATA represents many thousands of trucking businesses, ranging from owner-drivers to large fleets.

A safe, professional and viable trucking industry