

Bus Breakdown Safety Project Successful

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A BusNSW project to improve road safety has been selected as one of twenty-six projects aimed at saving lives and reducing road trauma under Round 5 of the Australian Government's Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative (HVSI).

BusNSW Executive Director, Matt Threlkeld, said that it was very pleasing to have a project selected as part of this important program aimed at delivering safety benefits to the heavy vehicle industry, other road users and the community.

"The funding and support administered by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator provides a great opportunity for the bus and coach industry to promote road safety, particularly in regard to heavy vehicles", Threlkeld said.

"One of the most common hazards in the bus and coach industry arises from on-road safety risks that result from a bus breakdown", Threlkeld said.

"While breakdowns can occur in all motor vehicles, the hazards associated with bus breakdowns, where the vehicle is usually carrying public passengers and often schoolchildren, can be significant", he said.

"The aim of the project is to address risks by producing practical guidance material for all parties in the supply chain associated with bus breakdowns, specifically bus drivers, operators, maintenance staff, emergency assistance providers and replacement bus drivers", Threlkeld said.

"While BusNSW will be the lead agency responsible for developing the guidance material, the project will provide regional, cross-jurisdictional and national safety benefits for the industry", Threlkeld said.

"The guidelines will be developed in close consultation with the Bus Industry Confederation and other state associations, who are members of the Bus Australia Network", Threlkeld said.

"They will be available to all members which means they will assist approximately 3,500 bus operators and over 50,000 bus drivers throughout Australia", he said.