

Kalari's driver simulator on the road

An update

It has been a busy few months for our new driver simulator. Since the last edition of The Whisper, the initial driver training packages have been developed and we have commenced the delivery of training at several of our sites across Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. The simulator training has been well received by the drivers, which is a credit to the driver trainers who have been involved. Some office based staff have also had the opportunity to experience the simulator, giving them an appreciation for what our drivers contend with on a daily basis.

In September, Orica, a client we transport ammonium nitrate for in Queensland, held a safety day. As a component of the day, Orica's customers and suppliers were asked to present their key safety initiatives for the next twelve months. Kalari was proud to showcase the driver simulator and Brad Bulow, Orica's Australia/Asia Supply Chain Manager, seemed impressed with the technology, as did representatives of the other companies in attendance.

In October, the driver simulator was taken to South Australia, where it was used in a road train safety awareness program at local schools in and around Ceduna. Check out our article on page 13 for more details.

Next year the simulator will travel to all Kalari sites so that our drivers, right around the country, can experience a range of driving scenarios in complete safety.

Driver simulator tour dates 2010

South Australia	Jan/Feb
Western Australia	Mar/Apr
Northern Territory	May
Queensland	Jun/Jul/Aug
New South Wales	Sep
Victoria	Oct/Nov/Dec



Peter Symonds, Kalari's Senior Driver Trainer, with the driver simulator



Brad Bulow, Orica's Australia/Asia Supply Chain Manager, tries out Kalari's driver simulator

Some of our drivers told us what they thought of the simulator...

"A real insight into slippery conditions."

"Being a new driver it will help in these situations if they ever come up."

"Overall I'm impressed by the simulator."

"I would like more time in the simulator to go through more of the programs."

"[It has taught me] the importance of truck positioning, and being aware of what is around you while you are behind the wheel."

Technical issue resolved

When the driver simulator was in Queensland, it was thought that a power surge at the Mackay depot may have damaged some of the simulator's circuitry and that a new part would be required. However it now appears that the issue may have simply been a loose connection. The simulator has been operating perfectly since it was taken apart and reassembled.

A cool change

A number of modifications have been made to the driver simulator, including a new air conditioning unit and a door to keep the cool air in. This should make the training experience more comfortable, particularly for our employees in hotter climates.

Submitted by Rob Tainton, General Manager – HSSE

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Kalari in the community

Road train safety program

The driver simulator in the community

Kalari was asked to participate in a road safety program for the school students in and around Ceduna on the 22 and 23 September in conjunction with the South Australian Police, Iluka, Coffey Natural Systems, and the Far West Road Safety Group.

Kalari was represented by: SAVNT Operations Manager, David Dunoon; Driver, Andrew Stewart, in the road train; Driver, Malcolm Doeke, in the simulator; and Driver Trainer, Trevor Dennert, who addressed the various groups with the safety information.

We took a double road train and the truck simulator to Ceduna and talked to the school groups about topics such as: the stopping distances of a road train, the room required to turn a triple road train, and the suction draught created by a road train passing a cyclist or pedestrian. The students then had the opportunity to sit in the road train so that they could see the visibility that the driver has and the areas that are blind spots. Students were also able to experience the driver simulator.

The presentation was made to the Ceduna Area School, the Crossways Lutheran School, the Ceduna Kindergarten Minyabunhii, the Koonibba Aboriginal School and the Penong Area School. In all, approximately 650 students were introduced to the road train safety awareness program over the two days, with ages ranging from prep to year 7.

Submitted by Trevor Dennert, Driver Trainer

TOP: The road train and students from the Koonibba Aboriginal School
LEFT: Andrew Stewart with students from the Penong Primary school
RIGHT: David Dunoon with students from the Ceduna Area School.



In the news

The road train safety awareness program received great coverage in the local community newspaper, the West Coast Sentinel.



Did you know?

There are about 165,000 businesses in the transport and logistics industry in Australia.

There are approximately 512,000 trucks in Australia.