

RIORDAN GRAIN SERVICES

Local transport operator Riordan Grain Services gets big efficiency gains thanks to the Intelligent Access Program (IAP).

THE TRANSPORT OPERATOR

Riordan Grain Services, which was established in 1996, and is based at Lara, near Geelong, has a fleet of 10 company owned B-Doubles. Another 30 sub-contractors are engaged by the company, 10 on a permanent basis and 20 as casuals. All sub-contractors also operate B-Doubles.

Aside from the transport of grain and fertiliser in bulk, Riordan Grain Services has a fully integrated business involving silo and shed storage and treatment, containerised grain exports and a grain trading business.

THE TRANSPORT OPERATION

Riordan Grain Services operates throughout Victoria and New South Wales. Although it is a Victorian-based company, Transport Manager, Mr Joe Strawford says that about 25% of its business is conducted in NSW where IAP is required to gain Higher Mass Limits (HML) access.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR RIORDAN GRAIN SERVICES?

Mr Strawford said IAP has proven to be a commercially viable proposition even though it is only required in a quarter of the company's total transport task.

Riordan Grain Services has been able to achieve this by gaining HML access to its storage facility at Lake Cargelligo as well as to a range of grain receival sites owned and operated by Australian Wheat Board (AWB) and Graincorp in the NSW grain belt. The company has also secured access to three sites in Sydney and six in the Newcastle region which has enabled the company to operate at HML between customers' premises located in these two cities.



Mr Strawford said that, 'because grain is a dense product there were significant advantages to be gained by acquiring HML access. The gains grew as we acquired access to a greater number of sites, meaning a higher proportion of truck trips in NSW could be undertaken under HML.'

Riordan Grain Services has been using GPS tracking for about six years and Mr Strawford said that, 'for us the decision to enrol in the IAP was purely commercial because of the attractiveness of operating HML in NSW.'

'Moving onto the IAP involved fitting new hardware to the trucks as the GPS tracking system we had was not IAP compatible. While this led to interruptions to our business we were able to improve both our back office systems and our existing fleet management systems. The gains we were able to achieve from the installation of IAP made this commercially viable.'

THE BENEFITS OF IAP

Riordan Grain Services has been able to generate a range of benefits for its business and for its customers.

'We have been able to increase our payload by about 10% across that part of our interstate and intrastate operations in NSW where HML access is allowed at origin and destination,' Mr Strawford said.

According to Mr Strawford, this has led to a 10% reduction in truck trips as well as a 10% reduction of emissions per tonne-kilometre. Mr Strawford said productivity per vehicle and per employee has also improved.

Mr Strawford also believes there are benefits for customers of Riordan Grain Services. 'IAP gives our company and our customers greater levels of compliance assurance as well as simplified vehicle scheduling arrangements.'

'This means the IAP has been a catalyst in enabling Riordan Grain Services to achieve bottom line improvements to company operations as well as improved levels of customer service,' Mr Strawford said.

IAP What's In It For Me?



MEMBERS OF THE LIVESTOCK AND BULK CARRIERS ASSOCIATION OF NSW

Riordan Grain Services are members of the Livestock and Bulk Carriers Association of NSW which is also working to achieve positive access outcomes for their industry.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, visit the TCA website at www.tca.gov.au

AT A GLANCE

- Riordan Grain Services has been able to increase payload by about 10%
- This has led to a 10% reduction in truck trips as well as a 10% reduction of emissions per tonne-kilometre for Riordan Grain Services
- IAP has been a catalyst in enabling Riordan Grain Services to achieve bottom line improvements to company operations as well as improved levels of customer service
- IAP gives Riordan Grain Services and its customers greater levels of compliance assurance as well as simplified vehicle scheduling arrangements



The information contained in this case study is intended to convey the experiences of the transport operator/s concerned. The benefits of IAP mentioned in this case study may not be true for all transport operators. Transport operators should consider the appropriateness of IAP to their business operations, objectives and circumstances before enrolling in IAP.

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October 2010