

**Correct as at 14th May 2026. It may be superseded at any time.**

**Extract taken from:** In-service certification (WoF and CoF) > Heavy trailers > Load restraints > Log bolsters

## 10-3 Log bolsters

### Reasons for rejection

#### Mandatory requirement

1. A logging bolster attachment fitted to a vehicle that is required to be certified in Table 10-3-1 does not have evidence of certification.
  2. A logging bolster attachment fitted to a vehicle certified to the Bolster Attachment Code (issue 1 May 2001 and issue 2 November 2010) does not have evidence of certification, ie:
    - a) the attachment was fitted before the last CoF inspection and there is no LANDATA record of the certification, or
    - b) the attachment was fitted after the last CoF inspection and:
      - i. a valid LT400 form is not presented, or
      - ii. the HVS certifier was not of category HVEL or HMLD.
    - c) individual bolsters are not stamped, indelibly labelled or marked to clearly identify their serial numbers, or
    - d) individual bolster attachments are not stamped, indelibly labelled or marked to clearly identify their serial numbers, or
    - e) the vehicle is not fitted on the left-hand chassis rail with at least one tag clearly identifying the bolsters, bolster attachments, bolster rating, HVS certifier, bolster manufacturer, vehicle and expiry date.
  3. A logging bolster attachment fitted to a vehicle certified to the Bolster Attachment Code (issue 27 November 1998) does not have evidence of certification, ie:
    - a) there is no LANDATA record of the certification, or
    - b) individual bolsters are not stamped, indelibly labelled or marked to clearly identify the bolster manufacturer, bolster serial number and rated bolster load, or
    - c) the vehicle is not fitted on the left-hand chassis rail with at least one tag to clearly identify the bolsters, bolster attachment, vehicle and expiry date.
  4. A logging bolster attachment on a long log logging vehicle fitted with a convertible (sliding or folding) bolster does not have evidence of certification required in Table 10-3-1, ie there is no LANDATA record of the certification.
- #### Condition
5. A required certification label, plate or marking:
    - a) is illegible, or
    - b) is incorrect, eg serial numbers differ between the label and the bolsters, or
    - c) has expired.

6. A log bolster or log bolster mounting, including a component such as a load cell, weld and fastener:

- a) is missing, or
- b) is not securely attached, or
- c) is cracked or deformed, or
- d) has significant corrosion damage, or
- e) is worn beyond manufacturer's specifications, or
- f) has excessive wear between mating surfaces.

7. A sliding bolster locking device is:

- a) missing, or
- b) not effective, or
- c) of an unacceptable type, eg air or hydraulic slide cylinder or chain drives.

### **Modification and repair**

8. A modification or repair affects the log bolster or its attachment and:

- a) is not excluded from the requirements for HVS certification (Table 10-3-2), or
- b) is not for the purpose of law enforcement or the provision of emergency services, or
- c) is missing proof of HVS certification, ie the vehicle has been modified or repaired, and:
  - i. no LANDATA record has been entered, or
  - ii. no valid LT400 form from an HVS certifier of category HVEL or HMLD has been presented.

### **Note 1**

A convertible bolster is usually slid to a different position or dropped down to allow long logs to span two trailers.

### **Note 2**

**Logging bolster** means a vertically orientated member attached to a vehicle that is used to secure loads of timber logs.

**Table 10-3-1. Logging bolster attachment certification requirements**

<p><b>Fitted before 1 October 1999</b></p>	<p><b>Fitted 1 October 1999– 30 April 2001</b></p>	<p><b>Fitted from 1 May 2001– 30 September 2011</b></p>	<p><b>Fitted from 1 October 2011</b></p>
<p>No certification</p>	<p>Either Bolster Attachment Code (issue 27 November 1998), or Bolster Attachment Code (issue 1 May 2001), or optional for convertible bolsters on long-log logging vehicles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• certification that the same design of bolster attachments has successfully completed 250,000km of service on a single vehicle without indications of fatigue or failure.</li> </ul>	<p>All bolster attachments: Bolster Attachment Code (issue 1 May 2001), or optional for convertible bolsters on long-log logging vehicles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• certification that the same design of bolster attachments has successfully completed 250,000km of service on a single vehicle without indications of fatigue or failure.</li> </ul>	<p>All bolster attachments: Bolster Attachment Code (issue 2 November 2010), or optional for convertible bolsters on long-log logging vehicles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• certification that the same design of bolster attachments has successfully completed 250,000km of service on a single vehicle without indications of fatigue or failure.</li> </ul>

**Table 10-3-2. Requirements for HVS certification**

HVS certification is required	HVS certification is not required
<p>1. Any repairs to the bolster attachments.</p>	<p>1. Where a fastener fails the inspection, the CoF inspector must request a written report from an HVS certifier of category HVEL, HVML or HVIL who will disassemble the fasteners and confirm that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) movable parts such as lock pins have been checked for proper operation and engagement, and</li> <li>b) mating parts seat correctly, and</li> <li>c) fasteners have been fitted to manufacturer’s specifications and bolt torques are correct, and</li> <li>d) any other manufacturer’s requirements have been complied with.</li> </ul> <p>2. Any modification or repair likely to have been carried out before 1 January 1997 (modifications and repairs before this date generally required certification but for inspection purposes no evidence of this is required).</p> <p>3. Any repair or modification not listed in the left-hand column unless the vehicle inspector considers that certification is required because the modification or repair has affected the vehicle’s safety performance (a second opinion from an expert may be needed, eg the manufacturer’s representative, or a reputable workshop).</p>

## Summary of legislation

### Applicable legislation

- [Land Transport Rule: Heavy Vehicles 2004](#)
- Bolster Attachment Code, issue 27 November 1998
- Bolster Attachment Code, issue 1 May 2001
- Bolster Attachment Code, issue 2 November 2010
- New Zealand Gazette, 14 January 1999, issue 1, page 64
- New Zealand Gazette, 27 May 1999, issue 60, page 1431
- New Zealand Gazette, 26 April 2001, issue 43, page 957.

### Mandatory requirement

1. A logging bolster attachment fitted to a vehicle must comply with the requirements in Table 10-3-1.
2. Certification of a logging bolster attachment must be certified by an HVS certifier of category HVEL or **HMLD**.

### Mandatory equipment

#### Bolster Attachment Code, issue 27 November 1998

3. Individual bolsters must be stamped, indelibly labelled or marked to clearly identify the:

- a) bolster manufacturer, and
- b) bolster serial number, and
- c) rated bolster load.

4. The vehicle must be fitted, on the left-hand side chassis rail as far as is practicable in line with the front of the coaming rail, with at least one tag identifying the:

- a) bolsters, and
- b) bolster attachment, and
- c) vehicle, and
- d) expiry date.

#### **Bolster Attachment Code (issue 1 May 2001 and issue 2 November 2010)**

5. Individual bolsters must be stamped, indelibly labelled or marked to clearly identify their serial number.

6. Individual bolster mounts must be stamped, indelibly labelled or marked to clearly identify their serial number.

7. The vehicle must be fitted with at least one tag identifying the bolsters, bolster attachments, bolster rating, the HVS certifier, the bolster manufacturer, the vehicle and the expiry date.

#### **Condition**

8. Load-securing equipment that is fitted to a vehicle must be constructed to ensure that the load can be securely contained on the vehicle under all conditions of loading and operation for which the vehicle was constructed.

9. A load-bearing structure must be of adequate strength for all conditions and loading for which the vehicle was constructed.

#### **Modification and repair**

10. A modification or repair that affects a log bolster attachment must be inspected and certified by an HVS certifier of category HVEL or **HMLD** unless the vehicle:

- a) is excluded from the requirement for HVS certification (Table 10-3-2), and
- b) has been inspected in accordance with the requirements in this manual, including those for equipment, condition and performance.

Page amended **1 April 2023** (see [amendment details](#)).