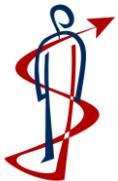


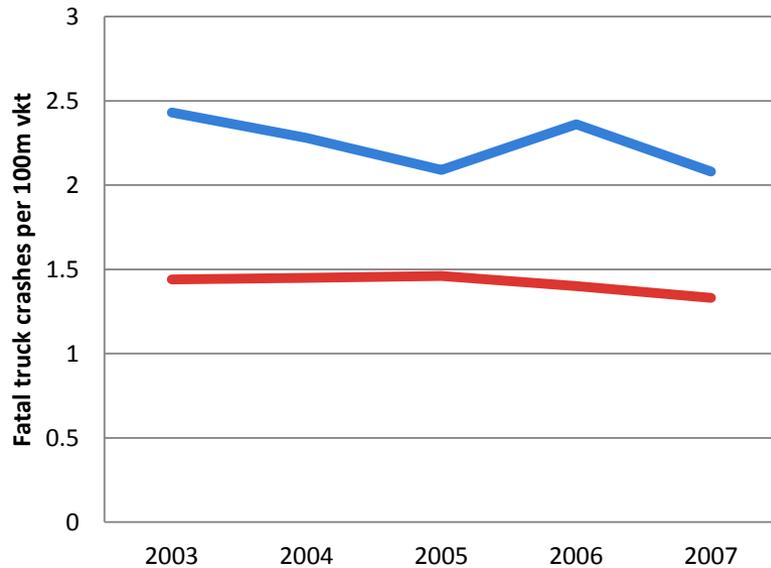
# Comparing heavy vehicle safety management in Australia and the United States



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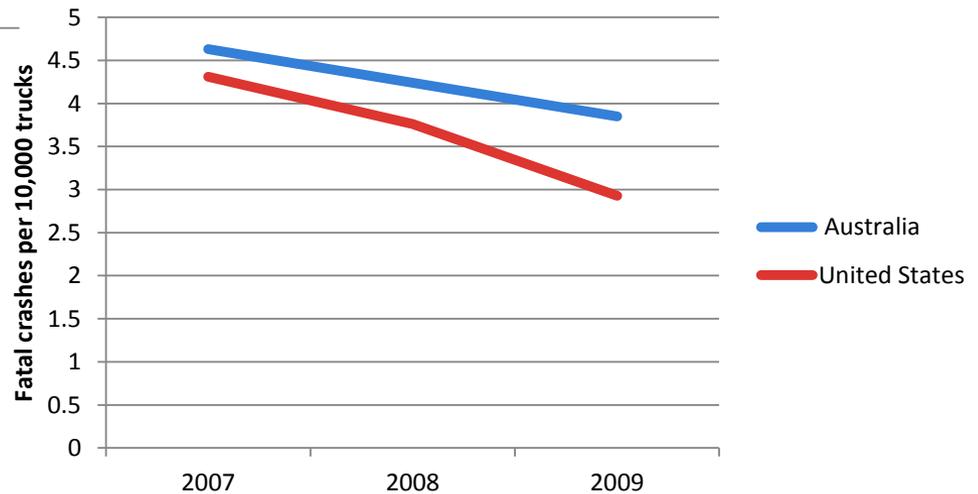
# Comparisons in safety results



## Comparisons by travel exposure

— Australia  
— United States

## Comparisons by numbers of trucks



# Australian and US Regulations

	USA	Australia
Commercial driver licence	Yes	Yes
Pre-employment screening information for companies	Yes	No
Registration of trucks	Yes	Yes
Registration of transport companies	Yes	No
Compulsory regulatory audit	Yes	No
Safety performance reporting	Yes	No
Compulsory GPS monitoring by authorities	No	Under consideration
Chain of responsibility	No	Yes
Logistics safety code	No	Yes
Alternative compliance scheme	ISO 9000 only	NHVAS & Trucksafe
Regulatory concessions	No	NHVAS Yes
Insurance incentives	Some for monitoring	Some for Trucksafe
Hours of service limits	Yes	Yes
Speed limiter requirements	Under consideration	Yes
Drug and alcohol testing	Companies required	Companies not required





# Key differences



- Companies that operate heavy vehicles in the US are **required to be licensed** AND **compliance audits** are required
- US transport companies undergo regular **safety assessments** AND results of assessment are **publically obtainable**
- Truck driver **crash and infringement records** are also **publically obtainable**

# Australian efforts and shortcomings

- Australian industry groups are promoting **voluntary safety auditing** and transparency, but the **uptake is low**
- There is **little incentive** for companies to participate in TruckSafe and other schemes
- NHVAS accreditation **does not assure safe** transport operations



# Discussion

- **Chain of responsibility** might be more effective if safety audit results were available throughout the chain
  - But more **rigor in audits** is needed
- There are Australian transport companies that **breach safety** regulations in serious ways
  - So **enforcement** is the primary safety measure
- Unless compliance with safety requirements are complemented by **safety culture** results may be sub-optimal
  - **Industry leaders** are promoting this



# Conclusions

- US and Australian regulatory systems are similar but the US system is more prescriptive and transparent
- It is not clear why US safety results are better
- More data and research is needed to determine whether Australia should adopt some US practices in tighter regulation

