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Safety Fitness Certificates

The Federal Motor Carrier Transport Act was amended effective January 1, 2006. As a result, all motor carriers will require a safety fitness certificate (SFC) in order to operate on Canadian roads.

Key points you should know:

- New Brunswick is one of the provinces that has not yet issued a SFC. However, a carrier's National Safety Code number printed on the registration certificate is considered equivalent to having an SFC.
- You will no longer have a separate safety rating in Ontario or Quebec as of Jan. 1, 2006.
- Violations that previously occurred in either Quebec or Ontario have always been applied to the carrier profile in N.B. Therefore, your safety rating will not suddenly change as of Jan. 1.
- Violation you receive outside your home province will now only affect your carrier rating in your home province. You will not be penalized in two provinces for one violation.
- Other provinces cannot suspend out-of-province carriers, only your home province will have that ability

For additional information please visit http://www.tc.gc.ca/mediaroom/backgro unders/b03-R040.htm, or contact National Safety Code, N.B. Dept. of Public Safety (506) 453-5376.

Spring weight restrictions

Spring weight restrictions for trucks are imposed each year in an effort to protect highway infrastructure from damage during the spring thaw.

Weight restrictions on New Brunswick highways are now in effect and will continue until May 21 at midnight. These dates are dependent upon weather conditions, and are therefore subject to change. For current information and a detailed listing of affected highways refer to the New Brunswick Department of Transportation Web site at <u>http://www.gnb.ca</u>, Keyword: Transportation.

Should weather conditions warrant, district engineers are authorized to close roads to trucks or to impose weight restrictions on highways or portions of highways at any time to protect highway infrastructure.

Weigh-in-motion systems operational

Two new high-speed weigh-in-motion (WIM) systems are now operational on the Trans-Canada Highway in New Brunswick.

Both systems are located in the westbound lanes of Route 2, one at the weigh facility in Salisbury near Moncton and the other at Deerwood near Fredericton.

New Brunswick's first highspeed weigh-in-motion system was installed on the eastbound lanes of the Trans-Canada Highway at Longs Creek in 2001. An evaluation of the Longs Creek site indicates that approximately \$600,000 per



Weigh-in-motion system near Longs Creek

year is saved by the commercial trucking industry as the number of trucks required to report to the scales has been reduced by approximately 55 per cent.

Weigh-in-motion systems register a vehicle's weight and axle configuration, as well as other information, as it travels over the system's scale at highway speed. Vehicles that are not compliant with provincial regulations are signalled to exit the highway and report to the roadside weigh stations for enforcement purposes, while compliant vehicles are permitted to continue. The system also allows Commercial Vehicle Enforcement staff to direct any number of vehicles to report to the roadside weigh station, even if they are weight or dimension compliant, for other enforcement inspection work that the officers deem appropriate.

For more information, please see the Department of Transportation web site at: <u>http://www.gnb.ca/0113/its/wim-e.asp</u>

Copy That! is a joint publication of the New Brunswick Departments of Transportation and Public Safety. This newsletter is provided as a free information service to the trucking industry.