

OVERSIZE AND OVERWEIGHT VEHICLE TRAFFIC IN THE WINTER PERIOD

(replaces Bulletin N° 04.11.01 of November 21, 2001)

This bulletin has been designed to inform the holders of permits issued under the Regulation respecting special permits regarding the conditions for oversize and overweight vehicle traffic in the winter period.

Subparagraph 4 of section 11 of the Regulation respecting special permits stipulates that this permit prohibits driving an oversize or overweight vehicle when visibility does not extend to a distance of one kilometre or the roadway is not cleared of snow or ice in accordance with the maintenance conditions (standards) applicable to that highway.

The maintenance conditions applicable to a highway correspond to the results expected at the end of snow and ice clearing operations. These conditions depend on climatic, geographic and environmental restrictions and the number of vehicles traveling on a given road. This number, better known by the acronym AWDT (average winter daily traffic), is determined by the Department from its own vehicle counts or its winter statistical data. To determine more easily whether an oversize or overweight vehicle is authorized to travel on a given road, it has been agreed to use the new terminology to describe the roadway conditions.

Thus, when visibility is greater than 500 m (good visibility) and the basic maintenance conditions have been fulfilled, oversize and overweight vehicles are authorized to travel when certain specific conditions are observed. These conditions appear in the table on the second page of this document. If any of these specific conditions is not observed, traffic is prohibited in accordance with subparagraph 4 of Section 11 of the Regulation respecting special permits.

Urban road sections and road sections located within municipal limits are considered for the purposes of this trucking information to be roads with an AWDT of less than 500.

It is important to remember that vehicle speed must be reduced according to weather conditions and the roadway conditions to ensure the safety of road users. Moreover, when conditions do not allow oversize and overweight vehicle traffic, they must be parked in a safe location.

Attached is an explanatory document on the new terminology to describe the roadway conditions that may prevail in the winter period and a list of the territorial units of the ministère des Transports where information can be obtained on road conditions, weather conditions and traffic.

To obtain more information on the Regulation respecting special permits or any other information on vehicle load and dimension standards, you can simply contact *Info camionnage* at the telephone numbers appearing below.

**ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS ALLOWING THE OVERWEIGHT AND OVERSIZE VEHICLE
TRAFFIC IN THE WINTER PERIOD ***

| Roadway condition | DJMH \geq 2 500 | 500 \leq DJMH < 2500 | DJMH < 500 |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Clear | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Snow-covered in places or icy in places | 1, 2, 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Partially snow-covered or partially icy | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Snow-covered | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 | 1 |
| Icy | 1, 5, 8, 9 | 1, 5, 8, 9 | 1 |

AWDT (average winter daily traffic) = average number of vehicles per day circulating in the winter period

* Visibility must be at least 500 m and basic maintenance operations must have been performed.

Additional traffic conditions

- 0 No conditions
- 1 The parts of the driving surfaces that are icy or snow-covered at critical points (e.g.: slopes, curves and intersections) must be covered with abrasive.
- 2 The length and overhangs must not be greater than the limits of Class 1 General, the height must be less than 5 m and the loads must be within the limits of Class 5.
- 3 The width of the vehicle, load included, must not exceed 4.4 m.
- 4 A front escort vehicle is required if the width of the vehicle, load included, exceeds 3.1 m.
- 5 Transport must not be done within the following hourly periods: 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- 6 The width of the vehicle, load included, must not exceed 3.75 m and transport must not be done at night for vehicles exceeding 3.10 m in width, load included.
- 7 A rear escort vehicle is required when the total loaded mass of the vehicle exceeds 67,500 kg.
- 8 The width of the vehicle, load included, must not exceed 3.1 m, the height must be less than 5 m and overhangs must not exceed the limits of Class 1 General, the length must not exceed 27.5 m and the total loaded mass must not exceed 67,500 kg.
- 9 A front escort vehicle is necessary at night for vehicles with a width, load included, of between 2.6 m and 3.1 m.

- Notes**
- If any of these specific conditions is not observed, traffic is prohibited in accordance with subparagraph 4 of Section 11 of the Regulation respecting special permits.
 - Night is defined as the period between sunset and sunrise at a given location.

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