

## REGULATION RESPECTING FOREST TRANSPORT CONTRACTS

### Remuneration of shippers in regard to vehicles for which special permits have been issued

The *Regulation respecting forest transport contracts*, made by the Québec government on June 7, 2000, establishes a standard contract for the transport of timber from public forests.

The Regulation provides, among other things, that remuneration will be based on the real mass of transported material provided the mass of the transported material does not exceed the load limit set down in the regulation,\* while keeping road safety and network preservation in mind.

Since the making of the regulation, a number of carriers have applied for and obtained special permits, a situation that had not been taken into account in the remuneration provisions (section 19). With a view to correcting this situation, there have been meetings between the various stakeholders in the trucking industry.

It has been agreed to recommend to carriers and shippers an addition to Schedule 8 of the forest contract specifying the following points:

- In the case of a vehicle in respect of which a special permit has been issued, remuneration is based on the real mass of material transported provided the total loaded mass limits entered on the special permit are complied with for each delivery.
- The amount by which the total loaded mass exceeds the amount specified in the special permit will not be taken into consideration for remuneration purposes.
- Where the total loaded mass exceeds that authorized under the special permit, remuneration will be in accordance with the limit prescribed in the permit.

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\* The *Regulation respecting forest transport contracts* allows these limits to be exceeded by 1500 kg.

It is important to note that the excess amount of 1500 kg mentioned in paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 19 of the Regulation is not authorized when a total loaded mass above the regulatory limits has already been authorized under a special permit, which must be complied with rigorously.

If there are no amendments to Schedule 8 of the forest transport contract, the remuneration could be based on the weight limits set out in the Regulation.

The next time the Regulation is amended, section 19 could, at the request of the associations that prepared the standard contract, be changed in order to take this situation into account.