

Bulletin number: 03.11.01

Date: November 26, 2001

**SPECIAL PROVISIONS IN THE REGULATIONS
RESPECTING THE LOAD LIMITS OF CERTAIN VEHICLES,
APPLICABLE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2002**

Bulk transport and snow removal

The *Vehicle Load and Size Limits Regulation* was amended in 1998 in order to eliminate, on January 1, 2000, all load increases provided for in regard to certain axle groups and the total loaded mass of certain vehicles. The Regulation was again amended in December 1999 to postpone until January 1, 2002 the load reductions for the following vehicles:

- single unit road vehicles equipped with a non-detachable dumping mechanism carrying sand, earth, gravel, stone, sodium chloride, snow, ice or hot mix asphalt;
- back loading refuse-compacting trucks;
- single unit road vehicles assigned to snow removal and de-icing on public highways; and
- single unit road vehicles assigned to maintenance of public highways when the vehicle model year is prior to 1992.

For these vehicles, as of January 1, 2002, the maximum load on the rear tandem axle (class B.21) will be reduced from 20 000 kg to 18 000 kg. Consequently, the maximum total loaded mass for these vehicles, with the exception of vehicles assigned to snow removal and de-icing on public highways, will be as follows as of January 1, 2002:

- 25 250 kg for 10-wheel vehicles;
- 32 000 kg for 12-wheel vehicles equipped with a front tandem axle (class A.3);
- 31 000 kg for 12-wheel vehicles equipped with a front multiple axle (class A.3);
- 31 000 kg for 12-wheel vehicles equipped with a front tandem axle (class A.4); and
- 30 000 kg for 12-wheel vehicles equipped with a front multiple axle (class A.4).

As for vehicles assigned to snow removal and de-icing on public highways, the limit of 7250 kg on the front axle, used to establish the total loaded mass, will be replaced by a maximum load on the front axle in order to take into account the special snow removal equipment at the front of the vehicle, which, in most cases, slides on the pavement. Beginning on January 1, 2002, the maximum total loaded mass will be established by adding the maximum loads of each of the axle categories, without exceeding 19 000 kg for that type of 6-wheel vehicle and 27 000 kg for that type of 10-wheel vehicle.

Special permits were issued to the owners of 12-wheel vehicles of a model year prior to 1992 who could not benefit from the load increases provided for in the Regulation. Those special permits will not be extended beyond December 31, 2001.

With regard to the exemption from control of the load per axle, which was to end on December 31, 2001 in the case of certain vehicles of model years prior to 1992 that did not undergo any changes after October 1, 1991 to increase the axle capacity, the exemption will be extended until December 31, 2004. That exemption applies to single unit road vehicles equipped with a non-detachable dumping mechanism carrying sand, earth, gravel, stone, sodium chloride, snow, ice, hot mix asphalt or roller compacted concrete, as well as back loading refuse-compacting trucks and single unit road vehicles assigned to maintenance of public highways. These vehicles of model years prior to 1992 will not be subject to the control of the load per axle before January 1, 2005.

Some of these measures will eventually be accompanied by regulatory changes that will come into effect later on. The changes in this bulletin will come into effect on January 1, 2002.

For additional information about vehicle load and size limits, consult our Website, at www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca, or call *Info camionnage* at the telephone numbers given at the bottom on the front of this bulletin.

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