

Bulletin number: 03-03-99

Date: April 7, 1999

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR COMBINATION VEHICLES OVER 4.15 METRES HIGH (4.30 M MAX.) USED TO TRANSPORT CONTAINERS 2.9 METRES HIGH

(replaces Bulletin no. 30.17.01.15 of August 1994)

Combination vehicles transporting containers 2.9 metres high (9 feet 6 inches) must not exceed the height limit of 4.15 metres stipulated in the *Vehicle Load and Size Limits Regulation*.

To comply with this height limit, a semi-trailer specially designed for the transport of these containers (single-drop frame gooseneck chassis) is required in most cases. It is possible that in some situations, for example, when the container is empty and the rear suspension of the trailer has not been sufficiently compressed by the weight of the container, the height of the combination vehicle may exceed the 4.15 m. limit. In such cases, a special permit is required.

Carriers who cannot comply with the height standard (4.15 m) when transporting containers 2.9 metres high must hold a special permit to drive on Québec roads. This permit, issued free of charge to transportation firms, authorizes the holder to operate combination vehicles whose height exceeds 4.15 metres, but is not greater than 4.30 m. This permit is valid only when used for the transport of containers 2.9 metres high on a semi-trailer which is specially designed to transport them (See figure 1).

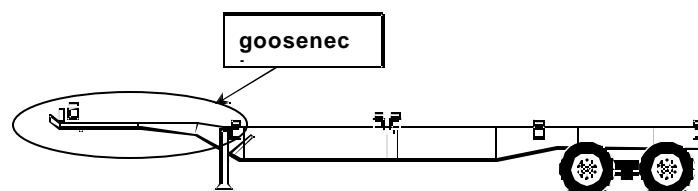


Fig. 1 : single-drop frame gooseneck chassis

The use of a platform semi-trailer (see figure 2) to transport containers which results in an overall height in excess of 4.15 m has not been allowed since January 1, 1996.



Fig. 2: platform semi-trailer

To obtain this special permit, carriers must send a written request to:

**Ministère des Transports du Québec
Service de la sécurité en transport routier et ferroviaire
700, boulevard René-Lévesque Est, 22^e étage
Québec (Québec)
G1R 5H1**

In addition to the usual data (firm name, address and name of a contact and telephone number), the registration plate number of the semi-trailers being used to transport the containers must be entered on the application. The carrier is responsible for ensuring that the vertical clearance under bridges and overpasses is sufficient for these non-standard semi-trailers. Drivers of non-standard combination vehicles must have a legible copy of their permit to show at road checks. The name and address of the firm on the permit must be the same as those on the registration certificate of the vehicle transporting the 2.9-metre-high container.

For further information please call the telephone number at the bottom of the first page of this bulletin.