SUBJECT: Temporary Increase to Steer Axle Weights for Specified Pre-Approved Logging Truck Configurations by General Authorization

Managers, Victoria
Regional CVSE Managers
Area Vehicle Inspectors
Deputy Director, CVSE
ADM, Highways Department

Passenger Transportation Board
Trucking Industry
Carrier Safety Inspectors
Government Agents
Law Enforcement Agencies

Commercial Transport Insp.
(Inspection Stations)
ICBC

PURPOSE OF CIRCULAR

To advise that effective February 6, 2017 the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is authorizing a temporary increase for steering axle weights and subsequent overall weights for pre-approved logging truck configurations involving pole trailers and full trailers, pending the results of an ongoing study. Tractor semi-trailer combinations, including B-Trains, are not included in this allowance.

Steering axles for these pre-approved configurations may now be up to 9,100 kg, with overall Gross Combination Vehicle Weight (GCVW) for specific combinations increasing accordingly. This authorization is valid until December 31, 2017, or until a more permanent decision is made, whichever occurs sooner.

It is important to note that tire loading is still limited to a maximum of 110 kg/cm of tire width, manufacturers’ ratings must not be exceeded, maximum weights for other axle groups are unchanged, and the gross combination vehicle weight (GCVW) must not exceed 63,500 kg. Winter and summer logging allowances from section 7.26 of the Commercial Transport Regulations still apply to other axle groups in the combinations.

BACKGROUND

In an effort to reduce confusion regarding maximum steering axle allowances for logging trucks, the Ministry is temporarily authorizing increased steering axle weights on a limited number of pre-approved configurations while awaiting the results of an ongoing study. The study is examining dynamic performance and will inform some more permanent decisions about weights on logging configurations.

This general authorization includes pre-approved full trailer, quad axle trailer and pole trailer combinations, but excludes tractor semi-trailer combinations, including B-Train's. The specific configurations granted increased steering axle limits under this temporary authority, as well as updated overall GCVW's, can be found on the attached “Logging Truck Configurations” poster.

Note: Industry should exercise caution when investing in new equipment during this allowance period. Steer axle weight allowances for affected vehicles on the attached poster are temporary and, pending the results of the ongoing study, may be reduced in the future.
This allowance is authorized pursuant to the general authority granted to the Director of Commercial Vehicle Safety under section 7.02(1) of the Commercial Transport Regulations.

Questions about the new authorizations may be directed to the Commercial Transport Program, at commercial.transport@gov.bc.ca, or Jan Lansing, Manager Commercial Transport, at jan.lansing@gov.bc.ca.

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Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

Attachment: 4291 – CVSE Truck Poster Temp02.pdf
PLEASE REFER TO THE BC COMMERCIAL TRANSPORT REGULATIONS FOR APPLICABLE WEIGHTS AND DIMENSIONS

Temporary Weight Limits

December 1, 2016 – April 30, 2017

Winter: December 1 to March 1

• combination – 2,500 kg
  • tandem/tridem – 1,500 kg

Summer: March 2 to November 30

• combination – 1,500 kg
  • tandem/tridem – 1,100 kg

Maximum tire loading limit of 110 kg/cm applies to all axles and manufacturer’s ratings must not be exceeded. GCVW of 63,500 kg including all allowances may not be exceeded by any combination.

pending results of an ongoing study. Maximum tire loading limit of 110 kg/cm previously listed in BC TR 7.26 will be increased to 115 kg/cm. This is a TEMPORARY MEASURE until December 31, 2017—or until a more permanent decision is made—whichever occurs sooner.

Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement

Please note: Maximum GCVW limits shown on the poster are for rental/lease or ‘purchased as is’ trailers only. Maximum GCVW listed in Circular 2015/02 on the commercially traded market are effective January 2017.

See Circular 02/15 at www.cvse.ca/whatsnew.html for information about potential future trailer weight reductions and the information on the poster may not apply.

LOGGING TRUCK CONFIGURATIONS

Maximum GCVW 63,500 KG

Temporary configurations shown on the poster.

Max. 24,000 KG

Winter and summer logging allowances apply to all logging configurations shown on the poster.