



October 31, 2012

OUTSIZED VEHICLE TRAFFIC IN THE WINTER PERIOD
(replaces Bulletin No. 04.12.02 of December 5, 2002)

This bulletin has been designed to inform the holders of permits issued under the *Regulation respecting special permits* about the requirements regarding outsized vehicle traffic in the winter period.

Subparagraph 4 of section 11 of the *Regulation respecting special permits* stipulates that a special permit does not authorize an outsized vehicle to travel 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 weather, geographic and environmental constraints as well as on the number of vehicles traveling on a given road, which is often referred to as AWDT (acronym for average winter daily traffic). This number is determined by the Ministère based on its own vehicle counts or its winter statistical data. To help determine whether an outsized vehicle is authorized to travel on a given road, it has been agreed to use new definitions to describe the roadway conditions, so as to make them easier to understand.

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

For the purposes of this information bulletin, urban road segments and road segments located within the limits of a locality are considered to have an AWDT lower than 500.

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

Attached is a document explaining the new terminology for roadway conditions in the winter period and a list of the territorial units of the ministère des Transports which provide information on road conditions, weather conditions and traffic flow.

For more information on the *Regulation respecting special permits* or on load and size limits, you can simply contact Info camionnage at the telephone numbers indicated in the document attached.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS FOR OUTSIZED VEHICLE TRAFFIC IN THE WINTER PERIOD*

Roadway conditions	AWDT $\geq$ 2500	500 $\leq$ AWDT < 2500	AWDT < 500
Bare and Dry	0	0	0
Bare and Wet	0	0	0
Partly Snow Covered	1, 2, 3, 4.1, 5	1	1
Partly Snow Packed	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	1	1
Partly Ice Covered	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	1	1
Snow Covered	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	1
Snow Packed	1, 5, 8, 9	1, 5, 8, 9	1
Ice Covered	1, 5, 8, 9	1, 5, 8, 9	1

AWDT (average winter daily traffic) = daily average number of vehicles 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 covered with ice or snow 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.
4.1 A front escort vehicle is required if the width of the vehicle, load included, exceeds 3.5 m.
5. Transport must not be done within the following 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 met, 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.

NEW TERMINOLOGY FOR WINTER ROAD CONDITIONS

Bare and dry: All wheels of a vehicle are on a bare and dry surface over an important part of the road segment for which a condition is given.	
Bare and wet: All wheels of a vehicle are on a bare and wet surface over an important part of the road segment for which a condition is given.	
Partly snow covered: The wheels on one side of a vehicle are on a snow-covered surface over an important part of the road segment for which a condition is given, while the wheels on the other side of the vehicle are on a bare surface.	
Partly snow packed: The wheels on one side of a vehicle are on a snow-packed surface over an important part of the road segment for which a condition is given, while the wheels on the other side of the vehicle are on a bare surface.	
Partly ice covered: The wheels on one side of a vehicle are on an ice-covered surface over an important part of the road segment for which a condition is given, while the wheels on the other side of the vehicle are on a bare surface.	

NEW TERMINOLOGY FOR WINTER ROAD CONDITIONS

Snow covered: All wheels of a vehicle are on a snow-covered surface over an important part of the road segment for which a condition is given.	
Snow packed: All wheels of a vehicle are on a snow-packed surface over an important part of the road segment for which a condition is given.	
Ice covered: All wheels of a vehicle are on an ice-covered surface over an important part of the road segment for which a condition is given.	

**LIST OF THE TERRITORIAL UNITS
OF THE MINISTÈRE DES TRANSPORTS DU QUÉBEC**

DIRECTION DE L'ABITIBI-TÉMISCAMINGUE
80, avenue Québec
Rouyn-Noranda (Québec) J9X 6R1

Telephone: 819 763-3271
Fax: 819 763-3493
Email: datnq@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

DIRECTION DE LA CHAUDIÈRE-APPALACHES
1156, boulevard de la Rive-Sud
Saint-Romuald (Québec) G6W 5M6

Telephone: 418 839-5581
Fax: 418 834-7338
Email: dtca@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

DIRECTION DE L'ESTRIE
200, rue Belvédère Nord, bureau 2.02
Sherbrooke (Québec) J1H 4A9

Telephone: 819 820-3280
Fax: 819 820-3118
Email: dte@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

DIRECTION DE LAVAL-MILLE-ÎLES
1725, boulevard le Corbusier
Laval (Québec) H7S 2K7

Telephone: 450 680-6330
Fax: 450 973-4959
Email: dtlmi@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

DIRECTION DE L'EST-DE-LA-MONTÉRÉGIE
201, place Charles-LeMoyne, 5^e étage
Longueuil (Québec) J4K 2T5

Telephone: 450 677-3413
Fax: 450 442-1317
Email: dtem@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

DIRECTION DU BAS-SAINT-LAURENT-
GASPÉSIE-ÎLES-DE-LA-MADELEINE
92, 2e Rue Ouest, bureau 101
Rimouski (Québec) G5L 8E6

Telephone: 418 727-3674
Fax: 418 727-3673
Email: dtbgi@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

DIRECTION DE LA CÔTE-NORD
625, boulevard Laflèche, bureau 110
Baie-Comeau (Québec) G5C 1C5

Telephone: 418 295-4765
Fax: 418 295-4766
Email: cotenord@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

DIRECTION DES LAURENTIDES-LANAUDIÈRE
222, rue Saint-Georges, 2^e étage
Saint-Jérôme (Québec) J7Z 4Z9

Telephone: 450 569-3057
Fax: 450 569-3072
Email: dll@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

DIRECTION DE LA MAURICIE-CENTRE-DU-
QUÉBEC
100, rue Laviolette, 4^e étage
Trois-Rivières (Québec) G9A 5S9

Telephone: 819 371-6896
Fax: 819 371-6136
Email: dtmcq@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

DIRECTION DE L'OUEST-DE-LA-MONTÉRÉGIE
180, boulevard D'Anjou, bureau 200
Châteauguay (Québec) J6K 1C4

Telephone: 450 698-3400
Fax: 450 698-3452
Email: dtom@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

**LIST OF THE TERRITORIAL UNITS
OF THE MINISTÈRE DES TRANSPORTS DU QUÉBEC**

DIRECTION DE L'ÎLE-DE-MONTRÉAL
500, boulevard René-Lévesque Ouest, 12^e étage
Montréal (Québec) H2Z 1W7

Telephone: 514 873-7781
Fax: 514 864-3867
Email: dtim@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

DIRECTION DE LA CAPITALE-NATIONALE
Les cours de l'Atrium
475, boulevard de l'Atrium, 2^e étage
Québec (Québec) G1H 7H9

Telephone: 418 643-1911
Fax: 418 646-0003
Email: dtq@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

DIRECTION DE L'OUTAOUAIS
170, rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville, bureau 5.110
Gatineau (Québec) J8X 4C2

Telephone: 819 772-3107
Fax: 819 772-3338
Email: dto@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

DIRECTION DU SAGUENAY-LAC-SAINT-JEAN-
CHIBOUGAMAU
3950, boulevard Harvey, 1^{er} étage
Jonquière (Québec) G7X 8L6

Telephone: 418 695-7916
Fax: 418 695-7926
Email: dt.slsj@mtq.gouv.qc.ca