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REGULATION AMENDING THE Vehicle Load and Size Limits Regulation

The gouvernement du Québec adopted the *Regulation amending the Vehicle Load and Size Limits Regulation*, which was published in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* on January 30, 2013. The provisions of this regulation will come into force 15 days after the publication date.

These amendments favour, for example, the use of vehicles that are more efficient in terms of road safety and protection of the road network, while helping to maintain competitiveness between carriers and shippers. In addition, for harmonization purposes, the amendments take into account recent modifications to the memorandum of understanding regarding a federal-provincial-territorial agreement on vehicle load and size limits regulation. These amendments were subject to consultations with the stakeholders concerned, including stakeholders in Québec's road transportation industry. The main amendments are aimed at:

- 1) integrating, in the Regulation, the rules regarding certain special permits issued under section 633 of the *Highway Safety Code*;
- 2) taking into account modifications made to the federal-provincial-territorial memorandum of understanding;
- 3) providing for a time period before certain statements of offence can be issued;
- 4) establishing exemptions regarding the maximum length for articulated buses, the addition of aerodynamic systems on certain vehicles, and the authorized overload for certain auxiliary equipment that do not increase the load volume of the road vehicle; and
- 5) authorizing a new type of self-steering axle.

For more information on the load and size of vehicles, you can consult the website of the ministère des Transports du Québec at www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca or you can contact us.