



January 5, 2012

SPECIAL TRAVEL PERMITS
Verifications to be done
by special permit applicants and holders

The ministère des Transports du Québec (MTQ) reminds holders of special travel permits that it is their responsibility, under section 5(1)(2) of the *Regulation respecting special permits*, to verify that the highway system permits the movement of traffic for the dimensions and loads carried. Therefore, they must verify in advance that the intersections, ramps and curves on a chosen route offer sufficient clearance for their vehicles. They must not drive an overweight vehicle covered by a load permit or allow such vehicle to travel on a bridge where a sign prohibits the travel of overweight vehicles. If a vehicle is too high, they must ensure that there are no overhead obstacles preventing the vehicle from driving the entire route. In the case of roadwork, it is their responsibility to ensure that no restrictions hinder their trip.

To assist the operators, applicants and permit holders, the MTQ provides online tools indicating the location of posted bridges, bridge clearances and the main restrictions related to roadwork. Consulting these data and the maps that accompany them allows operators to plot road routes that bypass the obstacles.

BRIDGES SUBJECT TO WEIGHT LIMITS

The *Répertoire des limitations de poids* under the “Pons et Viaducs faisant l’objet de limitations de poids” section contains information on structures which may be an obstacle to the free flow of heavy vehicles due to their limited bearing capacity. The directory is available in French at the following address:

http://www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca/portal/page/portal/entreprises/camionnage/ponts_viaducs/limitation_poids

VERTICAL BRIDGE CLEARANCES

The data related to vertical clearances under bridges and viaducts have been gathered in a directory which is available to the public in French at the following address:

http://www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca/portal/page/portal/entreprises/camionnage/ponts_viaducs/hauteurs_libres.

These data are essential to ensure the safety of road network users, the preservation of structures and the movement of goods. The “Notes explicatives” section of the directory explains how to consult the directory and how vertical clearances were measured.

ROADWORK

A list of roadwork provides details on roadwork by region or by road. It is available at the following address:
<http://www.quebec511.gouv.qc.ca>

The ministère des Transports counts on the cooperation of operators of oversized vehicles to make sure, before departure, that they take routes where their vehicles can travel without restrictions.