



July 22, 2014

PRICING OF POLICE ESCORTS FOR TRANSPORT OF OUTSIZED LOADS (replaces the March 17, 2009 bulletin)

A vehicle is outsized when its weight or one of its dimensions exceeds the limits set out in the *Vehicle Load and Size Limits Regulation*. The *Highway Safety Code* (section 463) provides that owners and operators of an outsized vehicle may not travel with such a vehicle on the road network unless they hold a special permit issued for that purpose.

Outsized transport in Québec is mainly governed by the *Regulation respecting special permits*. By this regulation, the ministère des Transports has established weight and dimension limits, standards for warning signals, as well as traffic rules and conditions for a great many outsized vehicles. For the most extraordinary vehicles (that is, those requiring a Class 6 or 7 permit), the Regulation provides that the Ministère must conduct a specific feasibility study before the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec issues the permit.

In many cases, when specific feasibility studies are required, the Ministère stipulates that outsized vehicles be escorted by one or more police vehicles. In most cases, the Sûreté du Québec is responsible for escorting such vehicles.

Since April 1, 2009, the Sûreté du Québec has been charging a fee for all outsized vehicle escorts throughout the territory it serves. The purpose of this measure is to maximize the safety of all road users, improve service to carriers by ensuring a police presence with the same officers along the entire route, and facilitate logistics planning with the presence of the police escort. This hourly charge will apply to all local or foreign companies, which will have to sign a contract with the Sûreté du Québec.

For more information on the provisions applicable to pricing of police escorts, you can contact the outsized transport service by telephone at 514 596-3272 or by email at TransportsHorsNormes@surete.qc.ca.