



# Victoria Government Gazette

No. S 160 Monday 22 August 2005

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## Road Safety Act 1986

### ROAD SAFETY (VEHICLES) REGULATIONS 1999

#### Class 2 Notice as to Certain Vehicles built to carry Livestock

Regulation 510 of the Road Safety (Vehicles) Regulations 1999 provides that the Roads Corporation may by a notice published in the Government Gazette, exempt a category of class 2 vehicles from—

- (a) a mass or dimension limit, other than a limit that relates to a GVM, or a GCM or a manufacturer's limit; or
- (b) any other requirement —

set out in Schedule 2 to the Regulations.

In accordance with that regulation, I, Ted Vincent, delegate of the Roads Corporation, allow the prescribed vehicles carrying livestock that exceed the mass limits prescribed in Division 1 of Part 4 of the Regulations to travel on roads as described in Annexure 2 to this Notice if they comply with all the mass and dimension limits in Annexure 1 and the operating conditions in Annexure 3 to this Notice.

In this Notice —

- (a) the interpretations in Annexure 4 apply; and
- (b) expressions that are not defined in Annexure 4 have the same meaning as in the Regulations.

This Notice operates from the date of its publication in the Government Gazette until 30 June 2006.

Nothing in this Notice authorises the driving of a vehicle built to carry livestock to operate in a manner or in a condition or place that is otherwise prohibited by the Regulations or that would cause unreasonable risk to the safety of any person or property.

Dated 19 August 2005

TED VINCENT  
General Manager  
Traffic and Transport Integration  
Roads Corporation

**SPECIAL**

– INDEX –

Annexure 1	Mass and Dimension Limits
Annexure 2	Roads
Annexure 3	Operating Conditions
Annexure 4	Definitions

**ANNEXURE 1**  
**MASS AND DIMENSION LIMITS**

**Mass Controls**

- 1.1(1) This Notice controls the mass of vehicles carrying livestock through the following limiting factors:
- (a) maximum trailer length and height;
  - (b) the number of animals which can be loaded under animal welfare codes and regulations; and
  - (a) maximum vehicle tare mass.
- 1.1(2) Registered operators and drivers who comply in all respects with this Notice are exempted from vehicle mass limits, except for the manufacturer's ratings specified in Regulations 401, 402 (1), 402 (2) and clause 3.2 (3) of this Notice.

**Unladen Mass of Prime Movers**

- 1.2 The unladen mass of a prime mover must not exceed 11 tonnes.

**Unladen mass of Semi-trailers**

- 1.3 (1) The unladen mass of a semi-trailer must not exceed 12 tonnes.
- 1.3 (2) The total unladen mass of the prime mover and semi-trailer must not exceed 22 tonnes (note that this is less than sum of the unladen weights of the prime mover and the semi-trailer).
- 1.3 (3) Fuel tanks must not be fitted to semi-trailers, and any water carried on the semi-trailer must be in quantities for personal use only. The unladen mass is the mass of the empty vehicle with water for personal use only.

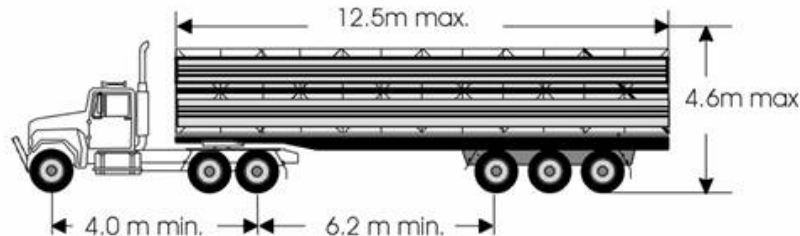
**Unladen mass of B-doubles**

- 1.4 (1) The unladen mass of the two semi-trailers in a B-double combination must not exceed 21 tonnes.
- 1.4 (2) The total unladen mass of the prime mover and two semi-trailers in a B-double combination must not exceed 32 tonnes.

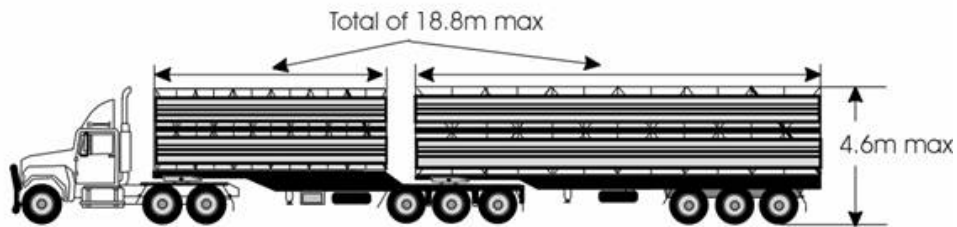
**Dimension Limits**

- 1.5 (1) The maximum loading space for livestock vehicles is:
- (a) 12.5 metres for semi-trailers; and
  - (c) a total of 18.8 metres for B-double trailers.

## 6 Axle Articulated Vehicle



## Tri-Tri B-Double



Complying with B-double axle spacings as specified in Division 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the Road Safety (Vehicles) Regulations 1999.

### Axle Spacings

1.6 To ensure that the mass of the livestock vehicles is appropriately distributed on bridges, livestock vehicles must have the following minimum axle spacings:

- (a) for prime mover and semi-trailer combinations:
  - (i) 4.0 metres between the centre of the steering axle to the centre of the rear axle of the prime mover; and
  - (ii) 6.2 metres from the centre of the rear axle of the prime mover to the centre of the first axle of the semi-trailer;
- (b) for B-doubles:
  - (i) the axle and axle group spacings as specified in Division 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the Regulations.

### ANNEXURE 2

#### ROADS

- 2.1(1) For prime mover and semi-trailer combinations, travel is permitted on all roads.
- 2.1(2) For B-doubles, travel is allowed on approved B-double routes as specified by gazette notice under clause 11 of Schedule 2 to the Regulations and a Roads Corporation permit for a B-double operation.

**ANNEXURE 3  
OPERATING CONDITIONS**

**Safe Travel**

- 3.1 The registered operator and driver of the livestock vehicle are responsible for planning any journey to ensure that the vehicle crosses bridges and negotiates curves in a safe manner, bearing in mind that some roads and intersections may not be capable of accommodating vehicles at the dimensions allowed by this Notice.

**Minimum ratings**

- 3.2(1) The prime mover must have manufacturer's ratings of at least:
- |                              |      |             |
|------------------------------|------|-------------|
| (a) steer axle               | 6.0  | tonnes;     |
| (b) drive axle group         | 17.3 | tonnes;     |
| (c) GVM                      | 23.3 | tonnes;     |
| (d) GCM (single articulated) | 46.3 | tonnes; and |
| (e) GCM (B-double)           | 68.0 | tonnes.     |
- 3.2(2) Semi-trailers must have a manufacturer's tri-axle rating of at least 25 tonnes.
- 3.2(3) The manufacturer's ratings for the vehicle and components must not be exceeded including vehicle GVM, GCM, GTM, and ratings for axles, wheels and tyres.
- 3.2(4) Vehicles must be equipped with dual tyres on all non-steering axles to minimise road wear.

**Vehicle Stability**

- 3.3 To maintain vehicle stability, the following criteria apply:
- (a) this Notice only covers 6 axle articulated vehicles and 9 axle B-doubles;
  - (b) an approved air suspension system will be required on prime movers and semi-trailers that are registered in Australia for the first time after 1 January 1998; and
  - (c) a road friendly suspension will be required on prime movers and semi-trailers that are registered in Australia for the first time after 1 January 2000.

**Loading And Operating**

- 3.4(1) The number of decks used to transport livestock must not exceed:
- (a) 2 for cattle;
  - (b) 3 for pigs; or
  - (c) 4 for sheep.
- 3.4(2) No freight apart from livestock may be carried when operating under this Notice.
- 3.4(3) Registered operators and drivers must ensure that the provisions of Victorian law and codes of practice for animal welfare during road transport, including the **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986**, the Code of Accepted Farming Practice for the Welfare of Farm Animals During Transportation November 1985 Order No. 3436-85, are complied with, particularly in relation to use of pens to separate livestock.

**Driver Training**

- 3.5(1) The driver of the vehicle must have received training from a VicRoads' Accredited Provider in accordance with this clause.
- 3.5(2) The driver must have satisfied the trainer that he or she:
- (a) has a good understanding of animal welfare codes and regulations;
  - (b) understands the appropriate techniques for loading and unloading livestock vehicles;
  - (c) understands the legal requirements for operating under this Notice;
  - (d) understands the techniques of driving high vehicles and negotiating adverse road conditions;

- (e) can use the VicRoads' publication Height Clearance on Roads to plan a route to avoid low bridges; and
- (f) can drive a high livestock vehicle in a safe manner.

**Carrying Documents**

- 3.6 The driver must carry the following documents in the driving compartment and must produce them when requested by a VicRoads Officer or a Police Officer:
- (a) a copy of a certificate from the driver training provider of the successful completion of the training described in clause 3.5(2);
  - (b) a copy of the Victorian Livestock Loading Scheme Certificate approved by VicRoads showing vehicle ratings, unladen vehicle mass and semi-trailer loading space; and
  - (c) a copy of the current edition of the VicRoads' booklet entitled Height Clearance on Roads;

**Evidence of Compliance**

- 3.7 All prime movers and semi-trailers are required to display a VicRoads' approved VLLS plate signifying participation in the Victorian Livestock Loading Scheme provided for by this Notice. The plate is to be affixed in the vicinity of the registration plates on the front of prime movers and at the rear of semi-trailers.



**Interstate Registered Vehicles**

- 3.8 (1) Vehicles registered in another State or Territory are eligible to apply for participation in the Victorian Livestock Loading Scheme.
- 3.8 (2) An operator of an interstate registered livestock vehicle participating in a livestock loading scheme in another State or Territory is eligible to operate in the Victorian Livestock Loading Scheme if:
- (a) the vehicle meets the required vehicle manufacturer's ratings in clause 3.2;
  - (b) the unladen mass of the vehicle is within the Victorian limits in clauses 1.2; 1.3 and 1.4; and
  - (c) a copy of relevant documents relating to the Livestock Loading Scheme in the other State or Territory is carried, including individual weighbridge dockets showing the unladen mass of the prime mover and semi-trailer(s).

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**ANNEXURE 4**  
**DEFINITIONS**

4.1 In this notice:

**“Livestock”** means cattle, sheep or pigs;

**“Loading space”** means the length available for the loading of livestock measured from the inside of the front wall or door to the inside of the rear wall or door of the semi-trailer, with intervening partitions being disregarded.

**“road friendly suspension”** means—

- (a) in the case of a vehicle manufactured on or after 1 January 2000 or fitted with a new suspension system on or after that date – a suspension system of a type that has been certified by the Land Transport Division of the Department of Transport and Regional Services (formerly the Federal Office of Road Safety) as a road friendly suspension; and
  - (b) in any other case – an approved air suspension system that has effective dampening characteristics on each axle.
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