



SUBJECT: Load Securement for Rectangular Hay Bales under Permit

Managers, Victoria
Regional CVSE Managers
Area Vehicle Inspectors
Deputy Director, CVSE
ADM, Highways Department

Passenger Transportation Board
Passenger Transportation Branch
Carrier Safety Inspectors
Government Agents
Law Enforcement Agencies

Commercial Transport Insp.
(Inspection Stations)
ICBC
Supt of Motor Vehicles
Trucking Industry

PURPOSE OF CIRCULAR

To advise that effective immediately:

1. Carriers transporting rectangular bales under permit are no longer required to use v-boards to secure the bales in the top tier of their loads. Instead, they may choose to use additional tiedowns or v-boards to ensure that each bale in the top tier is secured.
2. Where rectangular hay bales are restricted to maximum overall height of 4.3 m under permit, carriers may choose to secure rectangular hay bales using either the General Provisions of NSC Standard 10 or the standards set out in BC's policies for transport under permits. This includes all permits for small rectangular hay bales and large rectangular hay bales on Highway 1 west of Abbotsford, Highway 1 Revelstoke to Glacier National Parks inclusively, and Highway 3B.

BACKGROUND

Rectangular hay bales are required to be secured according to the General Provisions of NSC Standard 10 for transport up to maximum legal dimensions in BC. In order to exceed legal dimensions and transport rectangular bales under permit, carriers are required to use specific load security measures, currently set out on Form T-53.

1. Because of the small difference between maximum legal height (4.15 m) and maximum under permit when the maximum overall height for which permits are available is restricted to 4.3 m, carriers may now choose whether to use the General Provisions of NSC Standard 10 or the load security measures for hay bales under permit described in BC's policies.
2. One of the load security measures for transport of rectangular hay bales under permit in BC has been: "Tiedowns must run over v-boards that capture each bale in the top tier." The requirement to use v-boards is being changed based on feedback from industry that:
 - v-boards are difficult to place safely when one person is securing a load alone, and
 - when the tie-downs are held away from the bales by the width of the v-board, excessive rubbing of the tiedown against the bales can occur when in transit, which may contribute to breakage of the strings (or baler twine) that hold the bales together.

Under the new load security measures, carriers may choose to use either v-boards or additional transverse tiedowns (on top of the minimum number of tiedowns, determined by dividing the length of the load in metres by 1.8 and rounding up) to ensure that each bale in the top tier is secured.

The maximum dimensions for the transport of rectangular hay bales under permit are unchanged:

Dimensions & Limited Routes for Transporting Rectangular Hay Bales under Permit

Type of Bale	Height	Width	Additional Comments
Rectangular (small)	4.3 m	3.05 m	- See Note 2
Rectangular (large)	4.4 m (hiboy) 4.57 m (lowbed)	3.05 m	- See Notes 1 & 2

Note 1: Peace River area shall be permitted up to 4.8 metres in height or three bales high (lowbed only)

Note 2: Not valid over 4.3 metres in height on Highway 1 west of Abbotsford AND Highway 1 Revelstoke to Glacier National Parks inclusively, and Highway 3B. Further, where rectangular hay bales are limited to maximum 4.3 m, carriers may choose to secure rectangular hay bales using either the General Provisions of NSC Standard 10 or the standards set out in this section of policy.

[Form T-53](#) has been revised to reflect the changes described in this circular. For information about this notice, please contact Jeffrey Monty, Manager Commercial Transport, at 250-953-4017 or by email at Jeff.Monty@gov.bc.ca



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