



SUBJECT: Increase to the Length of Aerodynamic Devices Fitted to the Rear of Trucks, Trailers and Semi-Trailers

Table with 3 columns: Managers, Victoria; Regional CVSE Managers; Area Vehicle Inspectors; Deputy Director, CVSE; ADM, Highways Department; Passenger Transportation Board; Trucking Industry; Carrier Safety Inspectors; Government Agents; Law Enforcement Agencies; Commercial Transport Insp. (Inspection Stations); ICBC

PURPOSE OF CIRCULAR

To advise owners and operators of trucks, trailers and semi-trailers that an increase to the dimensions of aerodynamic devices installed at the rear of the vehicle, up to 1.52 m, is available effective immediately through a change to section 7.08(2)(e) of the Commercial Transport Regulations. These devices are not to be included in vehicle length measurements.

The devices have been shown to improve fuel economy, and the allowance harmonizes BC policy with other provinces and territories and with the US.

BACKGROUND

In 2008, the Council of Ministers approved aerodynamic devices extending up to 0.61 m beyond the rear of the vehicle. After further research, the US moved to allow aerodynamic devices to extend up to five feet (1.52 m) because the extra length provided significant improvements in aerodynamic capacity.

Transport Canada assessed the increased length and did not identify any safety issues, and an amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding Respecting a Federal – Provincial – Territorial Agreement on Vehicle Weights and Dimensions was approved by the Council of Ministers in October 2014.

Current Provision (0.61 m) New Provision (up to 1.52 m)



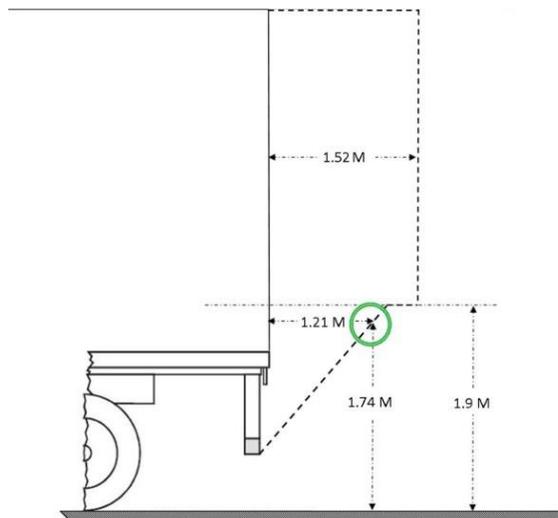
DETAILS OF THE NEW PROVISION:

Effective July 28, 2016 by Order in Council No. 591, Section 7.08(2)(e) of the Commercial Transport Regulations, B.C. Reg. 30/78, is repealed and the following substituted:

(2) A vehicle's overall length is to be determined for the purposes of subsection (1) without including the following as part of that length:

... (e) the following portions of an aerodynamic device that is not designed or used to carry cargo, is installed at the rear of a truck, trailer or semi-trailer and is capable of being folded to within 30.5 cm of the rear of the vehicle:

- (i) any portion of the deployed device more than 1.9 m above the ground that does not protrude more than 1.52 m beyond the rear of the vehicle;
- (ii) Any portion of the device within 1.9 m of the ground that does not protrude beyond a transverse plane that
 - (A) starts from the rear bottom edge of the rear impact guard of the vehicle or, if there is no rear impact guard, the lowest point at the rear of the vehicle, and
 - (B) intersects a point that is 1.74 m above the ground and 1.21 m behind the rear of the vehicle.



Note that "rear of vehicle" means the "rear extremity" as defined in Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (CMVSS) 223 exclusive of any aerodynamic devices. Vehicles fitted with aerodynamic devices must also comply with applicable CMVSS standards and provincial/territorial regulations regarding lighting and conspicuity.

If you have questions about these changes, please contact our Commercial Transport Program, at commercial.transport@gov.bc.ca, or Jan Lansing, A/Manager Commercial Transport, at jan.lansing@gov.bc.ca.

Steve Haywood

Director, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement Branch
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

Attachment: Order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council 591,
Approved and Ordered July 28, 2016

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ORDER OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL

Order in Council No. 591 , Approved and Ordered July 28, 2016


Lieutenant Governor

Executive Council Chambers, Victoria

On the recommendation of the undersigned, the Lieutenant Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, orders that the Commercial Transport Regulations, B.C. Reg. 30/78, are amended as set out in the attached Schedule.



Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure



Presiding Member of the Executive Council

(This part is for administrative purposes only and is not part of the Order.)

Authority under which Order is made:

Act and section: *Commercial Transport Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 58, ss. 4 and 11;
Motor Vehicle Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 318, s. 210

Other: O.C. 27/78

June 21, 2016

R/498/2016/50

SCHEDULE

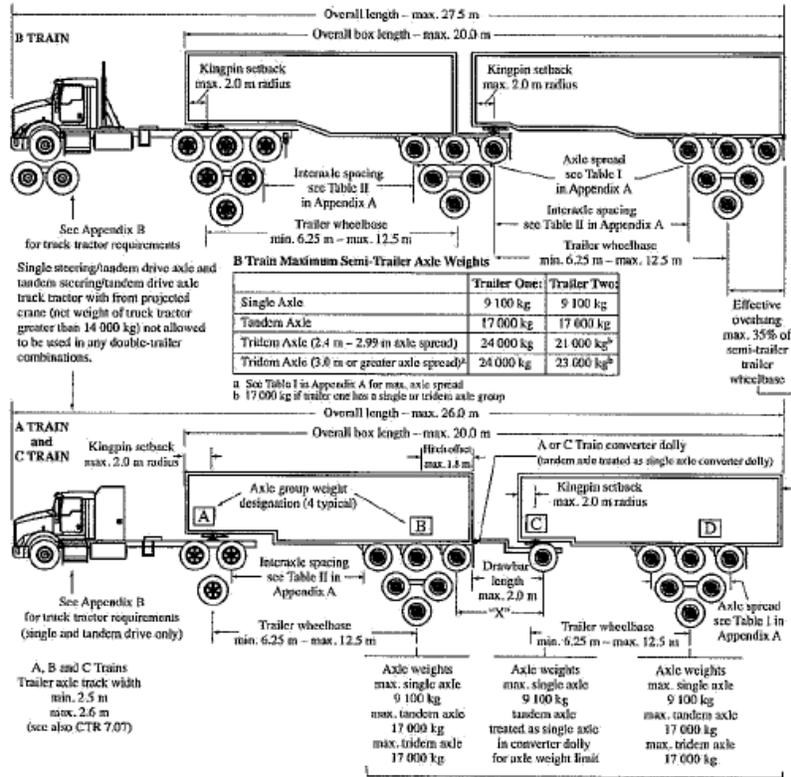
1 *Section 7.08 (2) (e) of the Commercial Transport Regulations, B.C. Reg. 30/78, is repealed and the following substituted:*

- (e) the following portions of an aerodynamic device that is not designed or used to carry cargo, is installed at the rear of a truck, trailer or semi-trailer and is capable of being folded to within 30.5 cm of the rear of the vehicle:
 - (i) any portion of the device more than 1.9 m above the ground that does not protrude more than 1.52 m beyond the rear of the vehicle;
 - (ii) any portion of the device within 1.9 m of the ground that does not protrude beyond a transverse plane that
 - (A) starts from the rear bottom edge of the rear impact guard of the vehicle or, if there is no rear impact guard, the lowest point at the rear of the vehicle, and
 - (B) intersects a point that is 1.74 m above the ground and 1.21 m behind the rear of the vehicle.

2 *Appendix G of Division 7 is repealed and the following substituted:*

APPENDIX G

A TRAINS, B TRAINS AND C TRAINS



A and C Trains: For a group of axles composed of [B] + [C], if the interaxle spacing "X" is less than 3.0 m, max. 17 000 kg for a total of two axles, or max. 23 000 kg for a total of three/four axles, i.e. combined [B] + [C] if the specific interaxle group spacing "X" is less than 3.0 m.

A and C Trains: Sum of the total axle weight of truck tractor drive axles plus the weight of the first trailer axle unit must be greater than the sum of dolly and second trailer axle weights, i.e. ([A] + [B]) > ([C] + [D]).

Maximum Gross Combination Vehicle Weight (GCVW)
 A Train – max. 53 500 kg B Train – max. 63 500 kg C Train – max. 60 500 kg
 A, B and C Trains – max. 38 000 kg for combinations with a single drive axle

- Notes:
1. A maximum of 100 kg/cm tire width is applicable to all tires.
 2. A maximum of 3 850 kg/super single tire and 3 000 kg/tire for all others is applicable to all tires except tires in the steering axle(s).
 3. B Train's second fifth wheel must be placed within the first semi-trailer axle spread or up to 30 cm behind the rearmost axle of the first semi-trailer. For single axle semi-trailers, the second fifth wheel must be placed within 30 cm in front or behind the single axle of the first semi-trailer.