

STANDARD PERMIT CONDITIONS

Documentation

1. a The original or certified copy of the permit, with a copy of the application form, which forms part of the permit, shall be carried in the abnormal vehicle at all times, and shown on demand to any authorized officer.
1. b Copies of the abnormal vehicle registration certificates shall be carried in the abnormal vehicle at all times, and shown on demand to any authorised officer.
2. The person in charge (who may be the driver) accompanying the abnormal vehicle/load, shall complete the control certificate overleaf before the journey is commenced.
3. All dimensions, mass or other information as mentioned in the application shall be correct.
4. The abnormal vehicle shall be taken to the nearest mass meter and the mass load of each axle unit of the loaded vehicle shall be determined. The mass meter tickets shall be kept in the vehicle while the abnormal load remains on it. Thereafter a copy of this permit and the tickets shall be forwarded to the issuing office.
5. The abnormal vehicle shall be fitted with a tachograph giving a visual record of the road speed and distance traveled in relation to time. The tachograph shall be maintained in good condition and shall be in operation while the abnormal vehicle is in use. The records shall be shown on demand to an authorized officer at any time.

Movement Restrictions

6. Abnormal vehicle(s) shall not be allowed to obstruct or endanger any other traffic and shall, where necessary, be pulled off the road to allow other traffic to pass. The safety and convenience of other road users shall always receive precedence over that of the abnormal vehicle(s) traveling under permit.
7. The height of every overhead obstruction crossing the roadway shall be determined before the abnormal vehicle(s) or its load(s) pass(es) thereunder. If the height of any overhead wire is insufficient for the abnormal vehicle(s) or its load(s) to clear it, arrangements shall be made with the owner of the wire to have it raised to enable the abnormal vehicle(s) or load(s) to pass. Under no circumstances shall the holder of this permit endeavour to raise any wires, except under the supervision of the owner.

8. While crossing any bridge, the abnormal vehicle shall travel at a uniform speed not exceeding that specified on the permit. The abnormal vehicle shall not be accelerated on the bridge, neither shall the brakes be applied, nor the gears be changed. The centre of the load shall not be more than 1,0m (one metre) from the centerline of the bridge roadway.
9. a The abnormal vehicle(s) shall not be used on a public road on Saturdays, Sundays, public holidays or any other dates mentioned in the permit, unless otherwise specified on the permit.
9. b The abnormal vehicle(s) shall not be used on a public road during the times when lights are required in terms of regulation 289 of the Road Traffic Act, 1989 (Act 29 of 1989), unless otherwise specified on the permit.

Warnings

10. Headlamps emitting dipped beams shall be kept burning on all escort vehicles and on the front vehicle of any abnormal vehicle combination requiring warning boards.
11. The extremities of the abnormal load/vehicle shall be marked by the display of bright red flags to indicate the overall length and width of the abnormal vehicle or load. Each flag shall be securely attached to a staff, and measure at least 600mm x 600mm and shall be clean and free to flutter.
12. a Warning boards attached to both the front and rear of the abnormal vehicle or load must be displayed. In the case of mobile cranes, a warning board must be displayed at the rear only. The warning boards shall be at least 2 000mm wide, 300mm high and painted white. The words ABNORMAL on the one end and ABNORMAL on the other end of the abnormal vehicle, shall appear on the warning board(s) in red retro reflective material in letters of the modified E at least 200mm high.

Alternatively, a warning board or boards complying with an SABS-approved specification shall be displayed.

12. b A speed restriction sign, indicating the maximum speed allowed in terms of item 5 of the permit, shall be fitted above the rear warning board, as required in condition 12.a. The sign must be at least 450mm in diameter with the allowable speed in black letters of modified series E alphabet, at least 150mm high, on a white background with a red border 37 mm wide (see Appendix D).

Alternatively, a sign complying with a SABS-approved specification may be fitted.

13. a An amber flashing light shall be fitted on top of the cab of the hauling vehicle, or of the front hauler if there is more than one. This light shall be in operation at all times when the abnormal vehicle is used on a public road.
13. b An amber flashing light shall be fitted to the foremost end of the front overhang of a mobile crane so as to be visible from all sides, and a second amber flashing light shall be fitted to the rear of the mobile crane.
14. The extremities of length, width and height of abnormal loads/vehicles shall be indicated by marker lamps and retro-reflectors. Front-facing lamps shall be green and retro-reflectors shall be white. Rear-facing lamps and retro-reflectors shall be red and side-facing lamps and retro-reflectors shall be amber. The marker lamps shall be switched on at times specified in regulation 289 of the Road Traffic Act, 1989 (Act 29 of 1989), and shall remain on during the stipulated periods, unless the abnormal load/vehicle is parked entirely off a public road.

The marker lamps and retro-reflectors referred to herein are in addition to the lamps and retro-reflectors specified in regulations 319-325 of the Road Traffic Regulations in terms of the Road Traffic Act, 1989 (Act 29 of 1989).

15. a If escorting is required and the abnormal vehicle has to travel through a municipal area, excluding any by-pass which does not offer direct access to adjoining properties, the chief municipal officer shall be informed, at least two hours beforehand, of the arrival of the vehicle. Details of the abnormality as well as the expected time of arrival must be furnished. The instructions of the chief traffic officer must be strictly adhered to.
15. b Warning to oncoming traffic shall be given when the abnormal vehicle enters a junction and persons with red flags (600 x 600mm) shall stand approximately 100m from both sides of the junction.
16. a The holder of this permit shall provide an approved escort vehicle with an amber flashing light fitted to the roof so as to be visible from all directions. Warning boards at least 1 200 wide and 400mm high, and bearing red retro-reflective letters of the modified series E alphabet at least 120mm high on a white background with the wording ABNORMAL LOAD AHEAD – on the one side and ABNORMALE VRAG VOOR – on the other side of the warning board shall also be fitted so as not to obscure the amber flashing light.

Alternatively a warning board complying with a SABS-approved specification may be displayed.

The escort vehicle shall also carry, but not normally displayed, two bright red flags measuring not less than 600mm x 600mm to be used where necessary to warn other traffic of the presence of the abnormal load. The escort vehicle shall travel approximately 250m behind the abnormal vehicle, or at such a distance as

is directed by the traffic officer. The duty of the driver of the escort vehicle is to give timely warning to traffic of the presence of the abnormal load/vehicle.

16. b Over and above the escort vehicle mentioned in 16.a. the holder of this permit shall provide a second similarly equipped escorting vehicle. This escort vehicle shall drive approximately 250m ahead of the abnormal vehicle or at such a distance as is directed by a traffic officer.
16. c The abnormal vehicle(s) is/are to be escorted by traffic officers whose instructions shall be obeyed, unless such instructions are in conflict with the conditions laid down in the permit. The traffic officer in charge as specified on the permit shall be advised at least 72 hours before commencement of the journey, and all arrangements regarding the escort must be made with this officer. On completion of the journey, the permit shall be handed over to the traffic officer.
16. d The holder of the permit shall provide an escort vehicle which drives ahead of the abnormal load/vehicle and on which a height gauge made of non-conductive material is fitted, with a height of 100mm more than the maximum height of the abnormal load/vehicle.
17. All warning boards and flags shall be removed or otherwise obscured and flashing lights, etc., shall be extinguished on all vehicles not operating under a permit requiring the use thereof.

Compliance with existing legislation

18. This permit does not exempt the holder thereof from complying with any legal requirements other than certain provisions of the Road Traffic Act, 1989 (Act 29 of 1989), and the regulations promulgated there under, as implied in the granting of this permit.
19. Each vehicle in the combination shall have a valid roadworthy certificate issued by a class A test centre which shall be kept in the vehicle at all times.

Responsibility

20. The holder of this permit or his representative shall ensure that:
 - (i) the driver of the abnormal vehicle is competent to drive the vehicle;
 - (ii) the driver, the person in charge and any self escort are fully aware of their duties; and
 - (iii) the standard permit conditions and any other conditions of the permit are adhered to.

21. The holder of this permit shall appoint a person in charge (who may be the driver), who shall remain in attendance at all times during which the abnormal load/vehicle is operated on public road. The person in charge must be a person who has received training in the duties and responsibilities entrusted to him, and shall be the representative and sole agent of the operating body in whose name the permit has been issued for the full period during which the abnormal load/vehicle is on a public road. This person alone shall be in charge of the abnormal load/vehicle, and shall be responsible for compliance with the standard permit conditions and any other conditions of this permit. He must be satisfied that the abnormal vehicle(s) and their load/thereon are in accordance with the details embodied in the permit, particularly in respect of mass and dimensions.
22. The holder of this permit shall be responsible for:
- (i) the costs incurred in respect of any visible damage caused as a result of the operation on the road of the abnormal vehicle(s) or load(s), including the escort vehicle(s). For instance, an abnormal vehicle or load shall not operate on any public road with a tarred surface when such a surface is "bleeding" as a result of hot weather conditions;
 - (ii) the speedy removal of the abnormal vehicle whenever it causes an obstruction on any public road as well as for the expenses incurred to have the abnormal vehicle(s) or load(s) removed;
 - (iii) costs incurred for any reason resulting directly or indirectly from the presence of the abnormal of the abnormal vehicle(s) or load(s) on any public road as defined in section 1 of the Road Traffic Act, 1989 (Act 29 of 1989).
23. Operation of any abnormal vehicle(s) and/or load(s) under this permit shall signify that the holder of this permit indemnifies the Provincial Administration against any claims for damage which may arise from the presence of the abnormal vehicle(s) or load(s) on any public road.
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