



Victoria Government Gazette

No. S 66 Friday 30 June 1995
By Authority L. V. North, Government Printer Melbourne

SPECIAL

ROAD SAFETY (VEHICLES) REGULATIONS 1988

General Permit for Vehicle Dimensions

Regulation 724 of the Road Safety (Vehicles) Regulations 1988 authorises the Roads Corporation, by notice in the Victoria Government Gazette, to allow vehicles which exceed mass or dimension limits prescribed in the Regulations to be used on roads.

Under Regulation 724, I, Tony Fry, delegate of the Roads Corporation, allow vehicles and combinations which, together with any load, exceed a dimension limit prescribed in Division 3, Part 7 of the Road Safety (Vehicles) Regulations 1988 to travel on roads as described in Part 2 if they comply with all the dimension limits in Part 1 and the operating conditions in Part 3.

This notice is effective from 1 July 1995 until 31 December 1999. However, if any of the conditions in this notice are breached, the notice is invalid in relation to the vehicle the subject of the breach, and (depending on what the breach is), the owner and the driver of the vehicle or vehicle combination and any person who caused or permitted it to be used on a road, may be prosecuted for exceeding normal mass or dimension limits.

Dated 30 June 1995

TONY FRY
General Manager
Traffic and Road Use Management
Roads Corporation

INDEX

- Part 1—Vehicle and Combination Dimensions
- Part 2—Roads
- Part 3—Operating Conditions
- Part 4—Definitions

PART 1

Vehicle and Combination Dimensions

Length of single motor vehicles

1.1 (1) A motor vehicle, (other than an articulated bus) must not be more than 12.5 m long.

1.1 (2) An articulated bus must not be more than 18 m long.

Length of trailers

1.2 (1) On a semi-trailer or a dog trailer:

(a) the distance between the point of articulation at the front and the rear overhang line must not be more than 9.5 m; and

(b) the distance between the point of articulation at the front and the rear of the trailer must not be more than 12.3 m.

1.2 (2) A projection forward of the point of articulation at the front of a semi-trailer must be contained within a radius of 1.9 m from the point of articulation.

1.2 (3) If a semi-trailer has more than one point of articulation at the front, it must meet the requirements of subclauses (1) and (2) when measured at one of the points.

1.2 (4) In addition to meeting the other requirements of this clause, a trailer built to carry cattle, sheep, pigs or horses must not have more than 12.5 m of its length available for the carriage of those animals.

1.2 (5) The length of a pig trailer must not be more than 12.2 m plus the amount the body of the drawbar coupling projects forward beyond the centre-line of the drawbar coupling.

Length of a combination

1.3 (1) A combination must not be more than 19 m long.

Rear overhang

1.4 (1) The rear overhang of a semi-trailer, or a dog trailer consisting of a semi-trailer and converter dolly, must not exceed the lesser of:

- (a) 60% of the distance between the point of articulation at the front and the rear overhang line; and
- (b) 3.7 m.

1.4 (2) Where a semi-trailer has more than one point of articulation at the front, that articulation point used to comply with subclauses 1.2 (1) and 1.2 (2) must be the same articulation point used in 1.4 (1).

1.4 (3) The rear overhang of a pig trailer must not exceed the lesser of:

- (a) the length of the load carrying area, or body, ahead of the rear overhang line; and
- (b) 3.7 m.

1.4 (4) The rear overhang of a vehicle not described in subclause (1) or (3) must not exceed the lesser of:

- (a) 60% of the distance between the centre of the front axle and the rear overhang line; and
- (b) 3.7 m.

Trailer drawbar length

1.5 (1) The distance between the centre-line of the coupling pivot point on the drawbar of a dog trailer and the centre-line of the front axle group or the centre-line of the front single axle of the trailer must not exceed 5 m.

1.5 (2) The distance between the centre-line of the coupling pivot point on the drawbar of a pig trailer and the centre-line of the axle group or the centre-line of the single axle of the trailer must not exceed 8.5 m.

Height

1.6 (1) A vehicle must not be more than 4.3 m high.

1.6 (2) In spite of subclause (1), the height of a double-deck bus must not be more than 4.4 m.

Width

1.7 (1) A vehicle must not be more than 2.5 m wide.

1.7 (2) For the purposes of subclause (1), the width of a vehicle is measured without taking into account rear-vision mirrors, lights or reflectors that:

- (a) are mounted on either side of the vehicle; and
- (b) comply with the standards for registration.

Side projections

1.8 (1) A load on a vehicle must not project more than 150 millimetres from the outermost part of either side of it.

PART 2

Roads

2.1 (1) Travel is permitted on any roads that have been declared under Schedule 5 of the **Transport Act 1983**.

2.1 (2) Travel is allowed on any road that has not been declared under Schedule 5 of the **Transport Act 1983** if the road is along the most direct and practical route between the point of pick-up and delivery, and a road that has been declared under Schedule 5 of the **Transport Act 1983**.

2.1 (3) In spite of subclauses (1) and (2), a vehicle or combination must not travel on a road, bridge or structure where any posted dimension or mass limit would be exceeded.

PART 3

Operating Conditions

Assessing routes

3.1 (1) The owner and driver and operator of the vehicle or combination must make sure that the clearance between its highest point, and any overhead structures, cables, wires and trees, is at least 200 mm.

3.1 (2) It is the responsibility of the owner and driver and operator of a vehicle or combination to safely cross bridges and negotiate curves and intersections in a safe manner bearing in mind that not all roads and intersections are capable of accommodating vehicles at the dimensions allowed in this notice.

3.1 (3) Any trip hereby permitted is made at the vehicle owner's and driver's risk absolutely. No representation is made by the Roads Corporation that any road, bridge, culvert, causeway or grid is capable of withstanding the vehicle or combination, that there is sufficient clearance under wires, structures, trees and suitable ground clearance at rail level crossings.

PART 4

Definitions

4.1 (1) In this notice:

"axle" means one or more shafts positioned in a line across a vehicle, on which one or more wheels intended to support the vehicle turn;

“axle group” means a single axle group, tandem axle group, twin steer axle group, tri-axle group or quad-axle group.

“centre of an axle group” means:

- (a) a line located midway between the centre-lines of the outermost axles of the group; or
- (b) if the group consists of 2 axles, one of which is fitted with twice the number of tyres as the other axle—a line located one third of the way from the centre-line of the axle with more tyres towards the centre-line of the axle with fewer tyres.

“combination” means a motor vehicle connected to a trailer.

“converter dolly” means a trailer with one axle group or single axle and a fifth wheel coupling designed to convert a semi-trailer into a dog trailer.

“dog trailer” means a trailer (including a trailer consisting of a semi-trailer and converter dolly) with:

- (a) one axle group or single axle at the front that is steered by connection to the towing vehicle by a drawbar; and
- (b) one axle group or single axle at the rear.

“drawbar” means a part of a trailer (other than a semi-trailer) that connects the trailer body to a coupling for towing purposes.

“fifth wheel coupling” means a device, other than the upper rotating element and the kingpin (which are parts of a semi-trailer), used with a prime mover, semi-trailer or a converter dolly to permit quick coupling and uncoupling and to provide for articulation.

“load”, in relation to a vehicle, includes anything that is normally removed from the vehicle when the vehicle is not in use.

“m” means metres.

“operator” means a person who controls or directs the operations of a combination, or a motor vehicle not forming part of a combination, or who is otherwise responsible for it.

“overhang line” means:

- (a) in the case of:
 - (i) a vehicle with a single axle towards its rear; and
 - (ii) a trailer with one axle—the centre line of that axle; and

(b) in the case of—

- (i) a vehicle with a tandem axle group towards its rear; and
- (ii) a trailer with one tandem axle group—a line parallel to those axles and—
- (iii) if both axles are fitted with the same number of tyres—midway between the axles; or
- (iv) if one axle is fitted with more tyres—one third of the distance between the axles nearer to the axle with the most tyres; and

(c) in the case of—

- (i) a vehicle with a tri-axle group towards its rear; and
- (ii) a trailer with one tri-axle group—a line midway between and parallel to the outside axles of the group.

“owner”, in relation to a vehicle, means:

- (a) if the vehicle:
 - (i) is registered—a person in whose name the vehicle is registered under a Commonwealth, State or Territory Act; or
 - (ii) is not registered—a person to whom a mark, plate, or permit has been issued to allow the vehicle to be used; and
- (b) a person who, according to the vehicle registration authority’s records, has acquired the vehicle from the person in whose name the vehicle is registered under the relevant law; and
- (c) a person who is entitled to the possession of the vehicle.

“pig trailer” means a trailer with one axle group or single axle near the middle of its load-carrying surface, and connected to the towing vehicle by a drawbar.

“prime mover” means a motor vehicle built to tow a semi-trailer.

“quad axle group” means a group of 4 axles, in which the horizontal distance between the centre-lines of the outermost axles is more than 3.2 m but not more than 4.9 m.

“rear overhang line” means:

- (a) if there is a single axle at the rear of the vehicle—the centre-line of the axle; or
- (b) if there is an axle group at the rear of the vehicle—the centre of the axle group, determined without regard to

the presence of any steerable axle in the group unless all axles in the group are steerable.

“road” means:

- (a) an area that is open to or used by the public and is developed for, or has as one of its uses, the driving or riding of motor vehicles; and
- (b) includes “highway” as defined in the **Road Safety Act 1986**.

“semi-trailer” means a trailer that has:

- (a) one axle group or single axle towards the rear; and
- (b) a means of attachment to a prime mover that would result in some of the load being imposed on the prime mover.

“single axle” means an axle not forming part of an axle group.

“single axle group” means a group of 2 or more axles, in which the horizontal distance between the centre-lines of the outermost axles is less than 1 metre.

“trailer” means a vehicle without its own motive power which is capable of being drawn by a motor vehicle.

“vehicle” includes the vehicle’s equipment and any substances that the vehicle is carrying that are essential for its operation.







Gazette Services

The *Victoria Government Gazette* (VGG) is published by THE LAW PRINTER (PPSV) for the State of Victoria and is produced in three editions.

VGG General is published each Thursday and provides information regarding Acts of Parliament and their effective date of operation; Government notices; requests for tenders; as well as contracts accepted. Private notices are also published.

VGG Special is published any day when required for urgent or special Government notices. VGG Special is made available automatically to subscribers of VGG General.

VGG Periodical is published on Monday when required and includes specialised information eg. Medical, Dental, Pharmacist's Registers, etc.

Subscriptions

VGG is available by three subscription services:

General and Special—\$165.00 each year

General, Special and Periodical—\$220.00 each year

Periodical—\$110.00 each year

Subscriptions are payable in advance and accepted for a period of one year. All subscriptions are on a firm basis and refunds for cancellations will not be given.

All payments should be made payable to THE LAW PRINTER.

Subscription inquiries (03) 242 4606

Fax (03) 242 4699

A Printing and Publishing Services Victoria Publication

Published by Law Press

Printed by The Law Printer

a business unit of

Printing and Publishing Services Victoria (PPSV)

Melbourne Victoria Australia

© State of Victoria 1995

ISSN 0819—548X

This publication is copyright. No parts may be reproduced by any process except in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright Act.

Address all inquiries to the Government Printer for the State of Victoria

PO Box 292 South Melbourne 3205 Victoria Australia

L. V. North, Government Printer Melbourne

Wholesale Sales

Law Press

PO Box 292 South Melbourne 3205

Telephone inquiries (03) 242 4600

Fax (03) 242 4699

Subscriptions

Law Press

PO Box 292 South Melbourne 3205

Telephone inquiries (03) 242 4606

Fax (03) 242 4699

Retail Sales

Information Victoria Bookshop

318 Little Bourke Street Melbourne 3000

Telephone inquiries (03) 651 4100

Price Code A