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Policy & Process for Transporting Divisible Loads on an Oversize or Overmass Vehicle

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1	07/03/2023	Full review and reformat of original versions (D11#219764 and D12#32486).	All

1 PURPOSE

Main Roads Heavy Vehicle Services (HVS) issues permits to Restricted Access Vehicles (RAVs) that provide mass and dimension modifications. This policy outlines when HVS will provide mass and dimension modifications to vehicles transporting divisible loads, which includes multiple indivisible loads and other items carried with an indivisible load.

2 POLICY

- 2.1 Providing mass modifications has an adverse effect on the road infrastructure. As such, mass modifications should only be granted if:
- a) The load is indivisible, i.e. cannot be divided without extreme effort or cost; or
 - b) The load is divisible, however allowing the mass modification will result in a significant reduction in vehicle movements, without compromising road safety or causing unreasonable wear to the road infrastructure; and
 - c) A more appropriate vehicle is not able to be used that will negate or reduce the need for the mass modification.
- 2.2 Providing dimension modifications can have an adverse effect on road safety and vehicle safety performance. As such, dimension modifications should only be granted if:
- a) The load is indivisible, i.e. cannot be divided without extreme effort or cost;
 - b) The load is divisible, however allowing the dimension modification will result in a significant reduction in vehicle movements, without compromising road safety.
 - c) A more appropriate vehicle is not able to be used that will negate or reduce the need for the dimension modification.
 - d) A more appropriate loading method is not available that will negate or reduce the need for the dimension modification.
- 2.3 Providing a modification to width requirements increases the risk to other road users, therefore width modifications should only be provided if length and height modifications are not viable alternatives.

3 PROCESS

- 3.1 All modifications to dimension limits must be assessed as safe, considering operating conditions that can be applied to mitigate safety risks.
- 3.2 Mass modifications must be within the limits accepted by Main Roads Structures Engineering Branch and Materials Engineering Branch.
- 3.3 HVS will develop transparent period permit products where multiple loading of divisible products is allowed.
- 3.4 HVS will maintain guidelines that will be available to permit assessors and transport operators detailing when divisible loads can be transported on a vehicle while exceeding mass and/or dimension limits.

4 RELATED DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Document Title
D17#306203	Guidelines for Transporting Multiple Items on an Oversize or Overmass Vehicle
D10#77018	Oversize Divisible Products Prime Mover, Trailer Combinations Period Permit Operating Conditions
D10#77023	Oversize Divisible Products Truck, Trailer Combinations Period Permit Operating Conditions