

**GUIDELINES FOR MOVEMENT OVER
SOUTH CAROLINA HIGHWAYS OF
OVERSIZE AND OVERWEIGHT (OSOW) VEHICLES AND LOADS**

Statute Authority: SC Code of Law Section 56-5-4010 through 56-5-4230 and 57-3-130 through 57-3-190
The caption and/or section headings contained in these guidelines are not binding and are only used for reference purposes.

A. PARTIAL EXEMPTIONS FOR FIRE APPARATUS, ROAD MACHINERY OR IMPLEMENTS, FARM IMPLEMENTS, PRODUCTS OF HUSBANDRY, AND TIMBER EQUIPMENT: SC Code of Law 56-5-4020

(A) Except as provided in Section 56-5-4140(2), the provisions of this article governing size, weight, and load do not apply to fire apparatus, road machinery or implements, and products of husbandry including farm tractors, timber equipment, liquid fertilizer storage facilities, and vehicles or combinations of vehicles used to transport, store, or spread lime, nitrogen, or other soil improvement products for agricultural purposes moved upon the highways so as not to damage the highways nor unduly interfere with highway traffic, or to vehicles operated under terms of special permits issued pursuant to this chapter. The exemptions do not apply to Section 56-5-4230. With regard to vehicles or combinations of vehicles used to transport, store, or spread soil improvement products and to transport products of husbandry exempted pursuant to this section, the owners shall obtain an annual permit to operate the vehicle as provided in Section 57-3-130 which prescribes the specific conditions of the exemption.

(B) For purposes of this section, 'timber equipment' means implements of silviculture including, but not limited to, machinery used in establishing, tending, harvesting, and protecting forest crops such as tree shears, chippers, slashers, log loaders, skidders, and fellers.

(C) None of the vehicles or devices exempted by this section may exceed twelve feet in width, except farm implements which may not exceed sixteen feet in width, and they may be moved only in clear weather conditions during daylight hours.

B. DISCRETIONARY OS/OW PERMIT: The Department may exercise its discretion in issuing permits for transporting non-divisible loads and/or vehicles which exceed the legal size and weight limits, provided that:

- 1) The load carried thereon cannot be readily disassembled to reduce the size and/or gross weight to the legal limits except if separated into smaller loads or vehicles, would:
 - a) Compromise the intended use of the vehicle, i.e., make it unable to perform the function for which it was intended.
 - b) Destroy the value of the load or vehicle, i.e., make it unusable for its intended purpose; or
 - c) Require more than 8 hours to dismantle using appropriate equipment. The applicant has the burden of proof as to the number of work hours required to dismantle the load.
- 2) Every such movement shall be routed over highways having 12 foot wide or wider lanes whenever possible, except in emergencies or where there is good cause to show that such movement is in the public interest.
- 3) The Department may limit or prescribe conditions of operation of such vehicles.
- 4) The Department may require such insurance and/or other security as it deems necessary.
- 5) Such movement is made so as not to damage the highways nor interfere with highway traffic.
- 6) The permit must be carried in the vehicle or combination of vehicles to which it refers and must be open to inspection by a police officer or an authorized agent of the authority granting the permit. (SC Code of Law Section 57-3-130)

C. **REVOCAION OF PERMIT AND SUSPENSION OF SERVICE**: Failure to comply with the laws, regulations or guidelines may result in the immediate revocation of the permit. Violations include convictions under 56-5-4160 and from other state jurisdictions. Permits revoked shall not be reissued to the same transporting company.

- 1) Upon revocation of the permit, the party responsible is not eligible for an oversize/overweight permit for the movement of that load
- 2) If there is a second revocation, within 6 months of the first revocation, there is 1 year suspension.
- 3) If there is a third revocation, within 1 year of the second revocation, there is a 5 year suspension.
- 4) The fourth and subsequent revocation will result in a permanent suspension.

D. **APPLICATION FOR OS/OW SINGLE, PERMISSION & MULTIPLE TRIP PERMITS**:

All permits shall be secured from the South Carolina Department of Transportation; Oversize/Overweight Permit Office, Room G-12, 955 Park Street, Columbia, South Carolina, 29201. Telephone No (803) 737-OSOW. The Permit Office maintains hours between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. except Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

- 1) **Applying for Permits**: All permit requests must be submitted via the internet website at

<https://www.scdot.org/business/permits-osow.aspx>

- 2) **Account Set-up to Order Permits**: A company account must be set-up to access the online permitting system by clicking on the Apply *for Permits* tab, then clicking on the *Company Account Set-up* tab.

- 3) **Payment with Escrow Account**: The SC Department of Transportation may accept an advance deposit in any amount to establish an escrow account.

- a) Escrow accounts may be replenished by check, money order or monies transferred from a credit card. ****Please note when transferring monies from a credit card to an escrow account an additional fee is charged by the credit card authorizer.**
- b) Escrow payments and permits can be viewed by clicking on the Manage Company Profile under the Management Tab. The Account Activity Report can be viewed and printed from the Management tab.

- 4) **Payment with Credit Card**: Permits may be purchased with a Credit Card. Permits will not be shown on Monthly Escrow Account Statement.

E. **Permit Types**:

- 1) **Single Trip**: A single trip, route specific, permit may be issued for a non-divisible load, mobile home or containerized cargo.

- Permit is valid for 7 days to allow for a one-time/one trip move.
- A defined route of travel is specified on the permit.
- Permit is truck/tractor and trailer specific. The towing vehicle's complete vehicle identification number and license tag number and the license tag number for the trailer are required for each permit issued.

- 2) **Permission**: A permit may be issued to transport Road Machinery or Implements (not construction equipment), Products of Husbandry, Farm Implements, Fire Apparatus, and Timber Equipment. (SC Code of Law 56-5-4020).

- 3) **Multiple Trip:** A multiple trip permit may be auto issued, 24 hours 7 days a week for the movement of Non-Divisible Loads, Mobile Homes or Containerized Cargo with the following maximum default allowances:
- a) **Non-Divisible loads:** up to 14 wide, 13'6 high and up to 100,000 lbs. gross weight on 5 or more axles.
 - b) **Mobile Homes:** up to 14 wide, 13'6 high and legal weight.
 - c) **Containerized Cargo:** up to 8'6 wide, 13'6 high and 100,000 on 5 or more axles.
 - Permit is truck/tractor specific. The complete vehicle identification number and license tag number for the towing vehicle is required for each permit issued.
 - Permit is valid for one (1) year from the date of issuance.
 - Maximum gross weight up to **90,000 lbs.** not to exceed 40,000 lbs. on a tandem grouping on 5 or more axles shall travel all US, SC and Interstate routes (unless posted for load). Secondary routes are prohibited.
 - Maximum gross weight up to **100,000 lbs.** not to exceed 48,000 lbs. on a tandem grouping and/or 55,000 lbs. on a triaxle grouping on 5 or more axles on a minimum 40 foot trailer. Shall only travel on routes defined on the Oversize Truck Route Map (see below). Secondary routes are prohibited.
 - Travel on secondary routes is prohibited on all Multiple Trip Permits with weight over legal allowance. To travel on secondary routes, an additional, route specific permit may be applied for review.
- 4) **Multiple Trip - Route Specific:** A multiple trip, route specific permit may be requested and submitted for permit office review to transport Non-Divisible Loads, Containerized Cargo including Open Top Containers and Mobile Homes with the below maximum weight and dimensions.
- a) **Non-Divisible Loads:** A maximum height of 15 feet and/or up to a gross weight of 130,000 lbs. See Section L-6 for the maximum weight(s) allowed per axle groupings.
 - b) **Mobile Homes:** A maximum height of 15 feet. Must be legal weight.
 - c) **Containerized Cargo and Open Top Containers:** A maximum height of 15 feet and/or up to a gross weight of 100,000 lbs.
- 5) **Multiple Trip - OSOW Truck Route Map:** A Non-Divisible or Containerized Cargo Permit allows up to 100,000 lbs., gross weight and shall be used in conjunction with the SC Overweight Truck Route Map.
- The maximum weight allowance shall not exceed 20,000 lbs. on a single axle and up to 48,000 lbs. on a tandem axle grouping.
 - The map defines designated routes of travel using only US, SC and Interstate routes that accommodate heavier axle weights. Not all US and SC routes are allowed for travel.
 - The map must be attached to the permit and carried in the vehicle at all times.
- 6) **Containerized Cargo Single or Multiple Trip Permits:**
- To transport with a SCDOT Containerized Cargo Overweight Permit, the container must be an International Shipping Container, bound to or from a seaport being, or having been, transported by marine shipment and possess an International Bill of Lading or Carrier Interchange.
 - A 20 ft. shipping container on a 20 ft. chassis/trailer shall not exceed a tandem weight of 40,000 lbs.
 - A 20 ft. shipping container must be center mounted on a minimum 40 ft. chassis/trailer when tandem or tri axles exceed 40,000 lbs.

- 7) **Cotton Modular Vehicle:** An Annual/Multiple Trip Permit may be issued for a Cotton Modular Vehicle. This vehicle is defined as a single motor vehicle used only to transport seed cotton modules, cotton, or equipment used in the transporting or processing of cotton. The permit shall be issued annually to allow continuous travel on all highways EXCEPT the Interstate. The vehicle identification number and license tag number is required. Cotton modular vehicles may not exceed a width of 110 inches and may not exceed a length of 50 feet extreme overall dimensions, inclusive of front and rear bumpers and load. (SC Code of Law 57-3-160)
- 8) **Sheet Tobacco:** An Annual/Multiple Trip permit may be issued for a Sheet Tobacco Truck. This vehicle is defined as a vehicle used to transport tobacco in sheets, which do not exceed 96 inches in width at the truck bed and 9 feet, 6 inches at the widest part of the load above the truck bed. The permit shall be issued annually and allows continuous travel on all highways. The vehicle identification number and license tag number is required. (SC Code of Law 57-3-140)
- 9) **Culvert Pipe:** An Annual/Multiple Trip permit may be issued for vehicles transporting culvert pipe not exceeding a width of 106 inches. The vehicle identification number and license tag number is required. (SC Code of Law 56-5-4035).
- 10) **Bulk Agricultural:** A permit may be issued to transport products of husbandry. This permit authorizes the operation of vehicles transporting bulk agricultural products, including unprocessed forest products and wood chips, irrespective of processing timeline or market destination, provided the product remains in a bulk, unpackaged, non-consumer finished state.
- The permit allows for continuous travel (24 hours 7 days a week).
 - The permit is defined by the truck's license tag number and vehicle identification number.
 - The permit expires when the vehicle is no longer operational or vehicle is out of service.
 - A change in company, license tag or VIN would require a new permit.
 - The maximum permitted dimensions are 8'6" wide, 13'6" high.
 - The maximum gross weight (truck, trailer and load being transported), shall not exceed 90,000 lbs. Individual axle weights shall not exceed 23,000 lbs.
 - The trailer shall be a minimum of 40' long with 5 or more axles.
 - Travel is allowed on all US and SC routes only. Interstate and secondary routes are prohibited.
 - To travel on secondary routes, a route-specific permit shall be obtained.
- 11) **Superload:** Any non-divisible load exceeding 130,000 pounds and/or any single axle weight that exceeds 20,000 lbs. will require additional routing analysis. This process may take from 3 to 5 business days.
- A load **exceeding 180,000 lbs.** must be submitted with a Certificate of Insurance or have a Certificate of Insurance form on file with the SC Permit office.
 - A load **exceeding 300,000 lbs.** must be submitted with the manufacturer's documentation providing the weight and dimensions of the load being transported along with documentation on the empty weight of the truck and trailer used to transport the load.
 - A load **exceeding 500,000 lbs.** will be assessed an additional mega load impact fee on the entire gross vehicle weight on a pounds per mile basis. See permit fee schedule.
 - **All loads exceeding 300,000** lbs. may require the carrier to provide an independent structural analysis performed by a licensed/registered engineer.
- 12) **House Moving Permit:** See Section R

- F. **Permit Payment:** Payment permits shall be made by escrow account, cash, check or money order upon application submittal. The permit fee accompanying any application that is denied shall be returned to the person or company named on the application, except for a superload non-refundable application fee.
- G. **Permit Delivery:** Permits may be picked up in person, e-mailed or mailed by US Postal Service. The permittee shall advise the permit office on delivery method.
- H. **Permit Certification:** The permit shall be signed by the permittee upon receipt in order to be valid and carried in the towing vehicle during movement.
- I. **Permit Transfer:** Multiple trip permits may be transferred to another vehicle if one of the following applies:
 - a) The vehicle is wrecked and no longer operable; provide documentation from insurance company or
 - b) The vehicle is junked; provide junk title or documentation from insurance company or
 - c) The vehicle is sold; provide Bill of Sale or
 - d) The vehicle is stolen; provide documentation from insurance company.
- J. **Permit Amendment:** An OS/OW Amendment Request Form shall be submitted to the permit office detailing the reason for the amendment. A new permit, instead of an amendment, shall be required when changes are made to the routes, escorts and/or times of travel.

K. Permit Fees:

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| Single Trip Permit | \$30.00 |
| Excessive width over 16' | \$35.00 |
| Excessive width over 18' | \$40.00 |
| Excessive width over 20' | \$45.00 |
| Excessive width over 22' | \$50.00 |
| Multiple Trip Permit (Annual) | \$100.00 |
| House Moving License (Annual) | \$100.00 |
| Annual Permit Transfer Fee for Wrecked, Stolen or Sold trucks being replaced | \$10.00 |
| Road Machinery Administrative Fee | \$10.00 |
| Superload Application Fee (Non-refundable) | \$100.00 |
| Superload Engineering Analysis over 130,000 lbs | \$100.00 |
| Superload Engineering Analysis over 200,000 lbs | \$200.00 |
| Superload Engineering Analysis over 300,000 lbs | \$350.00 |
| Superload Impact Fee over 130,000 lbs | \$3.00/per 1,000 lbs. |
| Sheet Tobacco Truck Permit (Annual) | \$15.00 |
| Cotton Modular Vehicle Permit (Annual) | \$50.00 |
| Culvert Pipe Permit (Annual) | \$15.00 |
| Additional Megaload Impact Fee for loads over 500,000 pounds gross weight | \$.05/1000 lbs. /mile |

L. MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE SIZES AND WEIGHTS GRANTED BY PERMIT: Any exceptions to the maximum limits shall be submitted to the Department with the appropriate drawings, pictures, requested route and reasons for the move. The request shall be submitted no less than 5 days minimum of the proposed move date for approval or disapproval. Any approval shall be at the discretion of the Department.

1) Overall Length:

- a) Non-Divisible Loads: The maximum overall length shall be 125 feet.
- b) Mobile Homes: The maximum overall length shall be 110 feet (mobile home 80 feet or less).
- c) Structural Material: A pole, pipe, log or other structural material exceeding 80 feet in length may not be transported unless a permit is obtained. The load must be non-divisible. (See SC Code of Law 56-5-4090 for legal dimensions.)

2) Overhang:

- a) Permits may be issued for a non-divisible load with a maximum rear overhang of 15 feet on a trailer that is LESS than 48 feet. A maximum rear overhang of 10 feet is allowed on a 48 foot or 53-foot trailer. Flags and a rotating amber beacon or strobe light must be on the rear of the load OR flags on the rear of the load and a rear civilian escort with such warning devices required by the Department.
- b) A maximum of 3 feet front overhang is allowed on all trailers.
- c) In all cases, loads on expandable or pole trailers with more than a 6 feet rear overhang shall be equipped with flags and a rotating amber beacon or strobe light on the rear of the load OR flags and a rear escort with such warning devices required by the Department.

3) Overall Height:

- a) The maximum overall height of any permitted load must be at least 3 inches less than any overhead structures on a route granted by the permit.
- b) The transporter shall be responsible for checking all overhead vertical clearances and shall make all provisions for raising or removing overhead wires, cables, traffic signals, etc., sufficiently in advance and no less than a minimum of 3 working days prior to the move, to eliminate delays to the highway traffic.
- c) Route Survey: ALL loads 16 feet in height and above must provide a department approved route survey prior to permit issuance. A front escort vehicle with a height pole shall be required during the entire move.

4) Overall Width:

- a) Mobile homes - 16 feet maximum
- b) Non Divisible Loads - 16 feet maximum

5) Gross Weights:

- a) Two axle single unit vehicle 40,000 lbs.
- b) Three axle single unit vehicle 50,000 lbs.
- c) Four or more axle single unit vehicle 65,000 lbs.
- d) Combination of vehicles with three axles 55,000 lbs.
- e) Combination of vehicles with four axles 70,000 lbs.
- f) Combination of vehicles with five axles 90,000 lbs.
- g) Combination of vehicles with six axles 110,000 lbs.
- h) Combination of vehicles with seven axles 130,000 lbs.

L. MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE SIZES AND WEIGHTS GRANTED BY PERMIT: (continued)

6) Gross Tandem Weights:

- a) Single axle 20,000 lbs.
- b) Tandem axle 40,000 lbs.
- c) Tridem or Quad axle 60,000 lbs.

A Quad axle greater than 60,000 lbs. must be reviewed and approved by engineering

7) Overhang on Straight Trucks:

- a) A maximum of 10 feet rear overhang is only allowed on a straight truck that is 40 feet in length from bumper to bumper. Allowing a 50-foot overall dimension.
- b) Overhang must be legal on a straight truck that is less than 40 feet from bumper to bumper.

8) Permit Denial/Recall: In all cases, the Department reserves the right to recall or not issue permits in accordance with the above limitations if there is an abuse of the permit or such a permit would cause an unnecessary amount of disruption in the normal traffic flow.

M. GENERAL GUIDELINES: The following are general provisions applicable to all oversize and/or overweight loads:

- 1) **Laws:** All vehicles shall meet the requirements of all applicable laws and regulations.
- 2) **Signed Permits:** An Oversize/Overweight Permit is not valid until signed by an authorized representative of the permittee.
- 3) **Road Selection:** Oversized loads or mobile homes shall be moved over sections of highways selected by the Department.
- 4) **Insurance:** The Department may require the vehicle owner, operator or mover to furnish a bond or insurance prior to the move in an amount to be determined by the Department as a guarantee that the provisions of the permit will be carried out and to reimburse the Department for any damage that may be done to the highway or structures by reason of the movement. This will also pay the cost of any expenses for inspection of the move by the Department. If no damage is done and the Department does not have any expense as a result of the move, the bond will be reimbursed. A minimum coverage of one (1) million dollar Automobile and one (1) million dollar General Liability is required.
- 5) **Insurance for Super loads:** Proof of insurance must be provided with application submittal when the gross vehicle weight is 180,000 lbs. or greater and/or the overall width is 16 feet or greater. The insurance must be submitted to the permit office on an ACCORD form or other acceptable form approved by the OSOW Permit Director. The SCDOT - Oversize/Overweight Permit Office, PO Box 191, Columbia, SC 29202 shall be named as the Certificate Holder.
- 6) **Weight Ticket:** The Department may, if deemed necessary, require the applicant to furnish a "weight ticket" on each axle and the gross weight of the vehicle or vehicle combination and may require the weighing in the presence of a representative of the Department at a State approved scale.
- 7) **Registered Weight Requirement:** An overweight permit *shall not* be granted for the movement of a vehicle or vehicle and load that is not licensed and registered to its full limit.

M. GENERAL GUIDELINES (continued)

- 8) **No Weight Waivers**: The granting of a permit shall not be construed as waiving of any weight limitation that has been or may be established on any highway or any bridge thereon.
- 9) **Pneumatic Tires**: A permit shall not be granted for the movement of any vehicle or combination of vehicles exceeding the legal weight limitation, with or without load, which is not equipped with pneumatic tires
- 10) **Width of Load**: A load shall be so transported by a vehicle or combination of vehicles so that the least width or length dimension becomes the width of the load. Multiple pieces shall not be loaded side by side or end to end, that when transported would create overhang on the rear or over the side(s) of the vehicle or combination of vehicles.
- 11) **Width of Load over Centerline**: The load shall be transported such that no part of it shall extend across the centerline of the road except when necessary to avoid a collision with objects located near the edge of the road.
- 12) **Permit Extensions**: The Department may, at its discretion, grant an extension of time to the permittee where the same is made necessary because of weather, road conditions or other circumstances that are beyond the control of the vehicle operator.
- 13) **Mobile Home Brakes**: A mobile/modular unit shall be equipped with a minimum of two (2) braking axles, in good working condition, controlled and operated from inside the towing unit. All wheels on the braking axle shall be equipped with operable brakes. The trailer of mobile homes shall be equipped with satisfactory electric or air brakes.
- 14) **Mobile Home Length**: The mobile home shall not exceed 80 feet in length as measured from the center of the ball cup on the trailer hitch to the extreme end of the mobile home. The maximum overall length cannot exceed 110.
- 15) **Mobile Home Components**: An Oversize Permit shall be issued to allow multiple pieces to be transported for modular home sections and the components used to assemble the modular home. This is to include, but not limited to, shingles, dormers, trusses and gable end walls, provided that the multiple sections and components do not exceed limits set forth on the permit for overall width, length, height or weight. Multiple pieces shall not be transported side by side or end to end, creating overhang on the rear or over the side of the vehicle or combination of vehicles
- 16) **Obstructing Traffic Flow**: The driver shall remove the towing vehicle along with the load or mobile home from the traveled way to allow any closely following traffic (5 vehicles maximum) to pass and proceed.

N. TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS:

1) Travel Times For All Loads:

- **Up to 12 Feet wide:** All loads or mobile homes up to 12 feet wide are allowed to travel from sunrise to sunset Monday through Sunday.
- **Over 12 feet wide up to 15 feet wide:** All loads over 12 feet wide up to and including 14 feet box width (plus a maximum 12 inches top overhang for mobile homes) are allowed to be transported from sunrise to sunset Monday through Sunday EXCEPT; travel prohibited in close proximity of large urban areas between 7AM-9AM all weekdays and 3PM-6PM on school days and 4:30-6PM on non-school days.
- **Over 15 feet wide:** All loads over 15 feet wide and mobile homes over 14 feet box width up to and including 16 feet wide shall be transported Monday through Sunday only between the hours of 9AM and 3PM during school days and 9AM and 4 PM other days.

2) **Continuous Travel:** Loads grossing up to 130,000 lbs. gross weight shall have continuous travel upon request. All other dimensions shall be legal, unless approved and authorized by the SCDOT Permit Director prior to movement.

3) **Inclement Weather:** No movement shall be allowed during inclement weather such as heavy rain or fog when visibility is restricted to less than 500 feet. Movement shall also be prohibited during periods of high winds or when highways are slippery or hazardous due to ice, snow or sleet. The South Carolina Department of Public Safety Transport Police or Highway Patrol may direct or escort a vehicle off the highway to a place of safety.

4) **Speed Limit:** Pursuant to SC Code of Law 57-3-130(B)(3)(c), it is the responsibility of the carrier to comply with all Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations and applicable State and Federal Laws to determine the allowable speed.

5) **Speed Limits for Mobile Homes:** The maximum speed on the **Interstate** highways for a **new** mobile home shall be 10 MPH **less** than posted speed limit, not to exceed 55 MPH. All other mobile homes shall not exceed 45 MPH. The maximum speed on **non-interstate** highways for a new or used mobile home shall not exceed 45 MPH.

6) **Prohibited Routes During Summer:** Movement is prohibited on Saturday and Sunday, East of I-95, from Memorial Day through Labor Day over routes including, but not limited to, US-378, SC-327, US-76, SC-576, US-501, SC-22, SC-31 and SC-9 in the Myrtle Beach area and on US-17 from the North Carolina line to points South of Myrtle Beach (Georgetown) and on any other routes in the Myrtle Beach vicinity.

7) **Holiday Travel Restrictions:** NO travel shall be allowed on New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. The Permit Director has the authority to restrict travel from 12:00 noon the day before a holiday until 12:00 noon the day after a holiday based on the route and dimensions of the load being transported.

8) **Highway Lane Restrictions:** All loads and mobile homes over 14 feet wide up to and including 16 feet wide shall travel on four-lane highways. Where possible, travel on two-lane highways shall be restricted to 12-foot wide or wider lane widths.

N. TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS: (continued):

- 9) **Bridge Restrictions:** All loads or mobile homes over 14 feet wide up to and including 16 feet wide shall be the only vehicle on any bridge that is 18 feet wide or less.
- 10) **Convoy:** Multiple permitted loads shall NOT travel in a convoy. The loads and escort(s) must be at least 2 miles apart. Exceptions will be considered upon written request to the OSOW Permit Director while traveling under police escorts.

O. TOWING VEHICLE REQUIRMENTS:

- 1) The towing vehicle for all loads or mobile homes shall be at least a three-quarter (3/4) ton or larger pickup truck or truck tractor.
- 2) The towing vehicle for loads up to 16 feet wide must be in compliance with all recommendations by the manufacturer for the load being hauled and the trailer being utilized. This includes all recommended equipment on the towing vehicle and the trailer.
- 3) The hauler must be in compliance with all applicable State and Federal laws relative to commercial carriers.

P. SIGN, FLAG & LIGHT REQUIREMENTS FOR LOADS BEING TRANSPORTED:

- 1) **Signs or Banners:** All loads and mobile homes 12 feet wide or wider are required to display signs or banners on both the front of the transporting vehicle and on the rear of the transporting vehicle or on the rear of the load. The sign shall be displayed as to be clearly visible and legible by oncoming traffic at all times. The sign or banner shall be at least 12 inches high x 7 feet wide. The sign or banner must read OVERSIZE LOAD or WIDE LOAD with black letters 10 inches high x 1.5” wide on yellow background. The sign/banner shall not conceal the license plate or lights.
- 2) **Flags:** All loads and mobile homes 12 feet wide or wider are required to display 18 inch square flags at each outer four corners of the load. Florescent red or florescent orange in color, transport number and location pursuant to Title 49 CFR 393.87 standard. Turn signals and brake lights must be displayed in working order. Any motor vehicle having a load or vehicle component which extends beyond the sides more than 4 inches or 4 feet or more beyond the rear shall have the extremities of the load marked with a red flag, not less than 18 inches square.
- 3) **Warning Lights**
 - **A load width greater than 12 feet up to and including 14 feet:** shall provide a flashing or strobe amber light on the rear of the load visible for 500 feet at 360 degrees.
 - **A load width in excess of 14 feet up to and including 16 feet:** shall provide flashing or strobe amber lights on each outer rear corners visible for 500 feet at 360 degrees.

Q. **ESCORT REQUIREMENTS:** The Department reserves the right to require escorts where it is deemed necessary for safety purposes. A vehicle transporting a load shall not also serve as an escort vehicle.

- **Width exceeding 12 feet up to and including 14 feet:** One front escort is required when traveling on a two-lane highway; the Department reserves the right to require a rear escort where it is deemed necessary for safety purposes.
 - **Width exceeding 14 feet up to and including 16 feet:** One front and one rear escort required on all roadways.
 - **Width exceeding 16 feet:** One front and one rear civilian escort **AND** one front and one rear police escort is required on all roadways, (exceptions can be made upon written approval from the Department's Permit Director). The front escort is to be a reasonable distance ahead of the move to alert oncoming traffic in sufficient time of the impending hazard ahead. Additional police escorts may be required by the escorting officers (local, county, city, Highway Patrol or State Transport Police).
 - **Height 16 feet and greater:** One front escort with a height measuring device is required during entire movement on all roadways. A route survey, certified as correct by the applicant, shall also be provided to the permit office prior to permit issuance.
 - **Overall length of 125 feet up to and including 150 feet:** One rear civilian escort is required on all roadways.
 - **Overall length greater than 150 feet:** One front **and** one rear civilian escort is required on all roadways.
 - **Overhang greater than 15 feet:** All loads with overhang exceeding 15 feet up to 25 feet over the rear of the trailer are required to have a red flag, not less than 18 inches square, at the end of the load **AND** one rear escort during entire movement over all highways.
- 1) **Escort Spacing:** Positioning the escort vehicle with the over-dimensional load must be relative to give the traveling public maximum warning and to give the load driver timely and sufficient information to safely maneuver the load.
 - **Rear Escort:** 3-4 seconds distance between the escort and the load.
 - **Front Escort:** Do not extend the spacing between the escort and the load beyond one-half mile.
 - 2) **Escort Warning Lights:** A minimum of one (1) flashing amber, strobe amber or rotating amber light must be mounted on top of all escort vehicles. Lights shall be operational during movement with a minimum 500 feet visibility at 360 degrees. Vehicle lights cannot be used or substituted for warning lights. Headlights shall be on at all times while escorting.
 - 3) **Escort Signs:** Signs or banners are required on the front and rear of the escort vehicle or above the roofline of the escort vehicle visible from front and rear. The sign or banner shall be at least 12 inches high x 7 feet wide. The sign or banner must read OVERSIZE LOAD or WIDE LOAD with black letters 10-inch-high and 1.5" wide on yellow background. The sign shall be displayed as to be clearly legible and readable by oncoming traffic at all times and shall not conceal the license plate or lights.
 - 4) **Radio Contact between Escorts:** There shall be direct two-way radio communication between the escorting vehicle and the towing vehicle at all times. An escorting vehicle shall not escort or communicate with more than one towing vehicle at a time.

R. FRAME BUILDINGS OR OTHER LOADS OF SIMILAR SIZE

- 1) An application for a permit to move a building or load in excess of 16 feet in width shall be made with the Resident Maintenance Engineer in each county the load is to be transported or with the Oversize/Overweight (OS/OW) permit office in Columbia, South Carolina. The OS/OW Permit office will fax the request to each county for approval.
 - a) The application shall be submitted to SCDOT along with an 8x10 portion or portions of a DOT map specifically marked to clearly show each road involved.
 - b) The application shall be signed by the Resident Maintenance Engineer (RME) signifying Departmental approval or disapproval of the requested route of travel. The RME and/or the OS/OW Permit office may select alternate routes of travel and include special provisions or conditions to be observed during movement.
 - c) The RME's office shall fax the application to the OS/OW Permit office within 5 working days. The transporter will not be able to fax or deliver the approved application to the OS/OW Permit office.
 - d) The OS/OW Permit office shall issue a valid SC OS/OW Permit to the transporter and forward a copy to the RME's Office.
- 2) The maximum travel distance for a frame building or load in excess of 16 feet is thirty 30 miles providing the overall dimensions and highway conditions are favorable.
- 3) Travel shall only be allowed between the hours of 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Night and weekend movement will be allowed at the discretion of the Resident Maintenance Engineer and the OS/OW Permit office. There will be no movement on holidays, major public events, high volume tourism periods or any other dates that are set at the discretion of the SCDOT.
- 4) For moves taking place in hours of darkness, sufficient lighting to alert traffic shall be placed on the transporter, building and/or load.
- 5) A permit shall not be issued for the movement of a frame building or load of any width across a bridge unless the width of subject load is 24 inches less than the distance between the guard rails of the bridge, or if the subject load is loaded such that it will clear the top of the rails by at least 12 inches.
- 6) The transporter shall be responsible for checking all overhead vertical clearances and shall make all provisions for raising or removal of overhead wires, cables, traffic signals, etc. This shall be done no less than a minimum of 3 working days prior to the move, to eliminate delays to the highway traffic.
- 7) A minimum of 4 escorts are required for ALL moves over 16 feet wide, 2 in front and 2 in rear. The transporter is responsible for providing sufficient flagmen and/or escort vehicles to warn approaching traffic of move.
 - a) Escorts shall be a minimum of one front and one rear police (local, county, city, Highway Patrol or State Transport Police) and one front and one rear civilian escort.
 - b) The foremost escorts are to be a reasonable distance ahead of the load to alert oncoming traffic in sufficient time of the impending hazard.
 - c) Radio contact must be maintained between the escorts and the towing vehicle during entire move.

R. FRAME BUILDINGS OR OTHER LOADS OF SIMILAR SIZE: (continued):

- 8) Proof of valid insurance pursuant to SC Code of Law 56-27-40 shall be provided to the OS/OW Permit office prior to movement (See Section L). Insurance requirements shall be submitted on an Accord Form with SCDOT Oversize/Overweight Permits, PO Box 191, Columbia, SC, 29202 listed as the Certificate Holder.
- 9) The transporter will be responsible for contacting the local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Fire Department at least 24 hours prior to movement in each town or city that the load will be traveling through. At no time shall a road be blocked for more than 5 minutes where there is only 1 passage or where no detour is available.
- 10) The transporter will be responsible for notifying each county Resident Maintenance Engineer one day prior to actual movement of load.

SC Code of Law; Chapter 27; PROFESSIONAL HOUSEMOVING:

56-27-10. Definitions. As used in this chapter:

- a) "Person" means an individual, corporation, partnership, association, or any other business entity.
- b) "House" means a dwelling, building, or other structure in excess of 14 feet in width.

56-27-20. License required.

All persons who engage in the profession of housemoving on roads and highways of this State must be licensed by the SCDOT.

56-27-30. Term of license; renewal; fee.

A license issued under the provisions of this chapter is effective for a period of one year from the date of issuance and is renewable on an annual basis. The annual and renewal fee for the license is \$100.00 dollars. All persons issued licenses under the provisions of this chapter are required to carry the license on their persons at all times when engaged in the profession of housemoving on the roads and highways of this State.

56-27-40. Insurance.

a) No license may be issued or renewed pursuant to this chapter unless the applicant presents to the Department of Transportation a certificate of insurance from an insurance company licensed to do business in this State providing:

(1) Motor vehicle insurance with minimum coverage of one hundred thousand dollars for bodily injury to or death of one person in any one accident, three hundred thousand dollars for bodily injury to or death of two or more persons in any one accident, and fifty thousand dollars for injury to or destruction of property of others in any one accident.

(2) Comprehensive general liability insurance with a minimum coverage of two hundred fifty thousand dollars combined single limit of liability.

(3) Workers' Compensation insurance that complies with Title 42 if the person licensed as a professional housemover is not exempt from the provisions of that title. The certificate shall provide for continuous coverage during the effective period of the license issued pursuant to this chapter.

b) The certificate shall provide for continuous coverage during the effective period of the license issued pursuant to this chapter.

56-27-50. Violations; penalties.

Any person violating the provisions of this chapter is deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction must be fined:

- (a) Not less than one hundred dollars for a first offense;
- (b) Not less than five hundred dollars for a second offense;
- (c) Not less than one thousand dollars for a third or subsequent offense.