

SCOTTISH MINISTERS' REQUIREMENTS

SCHEDULE 8 PART 1

ABNORMAL INDIVISIBLE LOAD ROUTEING

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SCOTTISH MINISTERS' REQUIREMENTS

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ABNORMAL INDIVISIBLE LOAD ROUTEING

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

1.1.1 Movement of abnormal indivisible loads and abnormal vehicles is regulated and controlled by:

- (i) *The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986* (SI 1986 No 1078),
- (ii) *The Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations 1998* (SI 1998 No 3111),
- (iii) *The Road Vehicles (Authorisation of Special Types) General Order 2003* (SI 2003 No 1998) hereinafter referred to as Special Types General Order 2003, and
- (iv) Section 44 of the *Road Traffic Act 1988*,

and any statutory amendment or re-enactment thereof.

1.1.2 The Operating Company shall, on behalf of the Director, act as the main contact for all communication and correspondence relating to the routing and movement of abnormal indivisible loads within the Unit. The Operating Company shall inform the Director of all proposed and agreed movements of abnormal indivisible loads within the Unit.

1.1.3 Movement of certain abnormal indivisible loads requires authorisation from the Department of Transport. Hauliers and companies are required to obtain authorisation for movements of abnormal indivisible loads with dimensions or weights as described in parts B and C of Annex 8.1/A of this Part.

Hauliers and companies moving abnormal indivisible loads are required to give notice to the Police and all road and bridge authorities who have responsibility for the proposed route in accordance with the timescales specified in parts B and C of Annex 8.1/A of this Part.

1.1.4 Movement of certain loads, as stated in parts B and C of Annex 8.1/A of this Part, requires an escort. Hauliers are permitted to undertake the self escorting of abnormal indivisible loads and abnormal vehicles within certain limits. The Operating Company shall inform all hauliers and companies intending to undertake the self escorting of abnormal indivisible load of the need to comply with Highways Agency publication Code of Practice – *Self-Escorting of Abnormal Loads and Abnormal Vehicles*. The Operating Company shall comply with this guidance when executing any Operations that may involve self escorting of abnormal indivisible loads and abnormal vehicles.

1.1.5 The Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland has published a notice to all hauliers wishing to self-escort any abnormal indivisible loads on roads in Scotland. A copy of such notice is contained in Annex 8.1/B of this Part. The Operating

Company shall bring this notice to the attention of all hauliers and companies seeking the routing and movement of abnormal indivisible loads within the Unit.

1.1.6 The Operating Company shall include documented procedures for the effective management of abnormal indivisible load routing within its Management System, including its Quality Plan.

1.1.7 The Operating Company's Abnormal Load Routing Manager shall supervise and co-ordinate the duties to be undertaken by the Operating Company specified in this Part.

1.2 Load Routeing and Co-ordination

1.2.1 The Director has a duty to provide a statutory abnormal indivisible load routing and coordination service throughout Scotland to hauliers and companies on behalf of the Department of Transport. The Operating Company shall provide advice on the routing of abnormal indivisible loads to the Director, and on behalf of the Director, when required.

1.2.2 The Operating Company shall provide a routing and coordination service for hauliers and industry for abnormal indivisible loads movements that take place on the Trunk Road within the geographical area of the Unit.

The Operating Company shall liaise with:

- (i) adjoining local road authorities,
- (ii) Police,
- (iii) Network Rail,
- (iv) British Rail Property Board,
- (v) British Waterways,
- (vi) Statutory Undertakers, and
- (vii) other concerned organisations,

as required, in order to advise on or identify a suitable route for the movement of abnormal indivisible loads and abnormal vehicles.

When any such movement requires statutory authorisation, the Operating Company shall advise the haulier or company accordingly. No later than three Working Days after advising the haulier or company of the need for statutory authorisation, the Operating Company shall refer the application or enquiry, together with a suggested abnormal indivisible load route, to the Director.

1.2.3 Any advice that the Operating Company gives to hauliers or companies shall be based on such Records as the Operating Company may possess or to which the Operating Company has access. The Operating Company shall inform hauliers and companies that by advising or commenting on a proposed abnormal indivisible load route:

- (i) the Operating Company and Director shall not assume responsibility of any kind in connection with the movement of the relevant abnormal indivisible load or abnormal vehicle, and

- (ii) in following any advice provided, the owner and the operator of the vehicle shall not be relieved of any of obligations or liabilities under the relevant legislation.

2. ROUTE ASSESSMENT

2.1 Management and Records

- 2.1.1 The Operating Company shall use the Director's structures management function of the Integrated Roads Information System database, as referred to in Schedule 7 Part 6, and follow the procedures set out in the structures management function of the Integrated Roads Information System user manual to identify Structures that may be affected by the movement of an abnormal indivisible load.
- 2.1.2 The Operating Company shall update the data held within the structures management function of the Integrated Roads Information System in accordance with the requirements of Schedule 7 Part 6.
- 2.1.3 In undertaking a route assessment, the Operating Company shall take account of the guidance contained in the structures management function of the Integrated Roads Information System on the effects of heavy load movements across over-bridges, under-bridges and Structures within the Unit. The Operating Company shall record in the structures management function of the Integrated Roads Information System, data on the vehicles used in the movement of abnormal indivisible loads.

The Operating Company shall keep Records of the assessment of abnormal vehicle movements and the approved abnormal indivisible load route for each abnormal indivisible load. However, neither the results of the assessment nor the approved abnormal indivisible load route taken shall be recorded within the structures management function of the Integrated Roads Information System.

2.2 Roads and Structures

- 2.2.1 In accordance with paragraph 2.1 and Appendix 8.1/A of this Part, the Operating Company shall assess the proposed movement of vehicles with heavy, wide, long or high abnormal indivisible loads to determine the suitability of Structures and Trunk Roads to accommodate such vehicles.
- 2.2.2 The Operating Company shall examine the Records available in the structures management function of the Integrated Roads Information System or other such documents or databases available to the Operating Company.
- 2.2.3 The Operating Company shall not carry out structural assessments as part of its duties under this Part. When it is identified that a Structure may require further structural assessment to establish its capability to carry the proposed load, the Operating Company shall bring this to the immediate attention of the Director.

Subject to the haulier or company reaching agreement with the Director on a further structural assessment, the Operating Company shall provide assistance to the haulier or company or its agent by giving access to relevant drawings, calculations and other appropriate Records held by the Operating Company.

2.3 Recommendations and Checks

- 2.3.1 The Operating Company shall make recommendations in writing to the Director on the suitability of a proposed movement of abnormal indivisible loads and abnormal

vehicles within the timescale specified within Annex 8.1/A of this Part. This timescale is required in order to allow authorisation by the Department for Transport on behalf of the Director.

The Director shall issue a copy of the notifications and authorisation to the Operating Company. The Operating Company shall immediately check all notifications and authorisations issued and no later than five Working Days after checking, bring any discrepancies to the attention of the appropriate organisation.

2.4 High Loads

2.4.1 The Operating Company shall provide advice to the Director, hauliers and the industry on the passage of high loads. In order that the maximum possible use is made of the Trunk Road network, except where signed height restrictions are in force, the overall laden height of a vehicle should not exceed 4.95 metres (16'3").

2.4.2 No later than 28 days before the Commencement of Service Date, the Director shall provide to the Operating Company a grid of high load routes within Scotland. These high load routes shall be for load heights up to 5.48 metres (18ft), with further information provided on routes that can accommodate 6.09 metres (20ft) high loads.

The Operating Company shall immediately notify the Director of any changes that need to be made to the abnormal load pinch point grid of high load routes.

2.4.3 The Operating Company shall ensure that no activity for which it is responsible reduces the existing height clearances available on Trunk Roads unless consented to in writing by the Director.

2.5 Electronic Service Delivery for Abnormal Loads

2.5.1 During the Contract Period, the Director may introduce a new system, known as the electronic service delivery for abnormal loads.

2.5.2 When the system for electronic service delivery for abnormal loads is introduced, the Operating Company will be required to:

- (i) implement the use of this system through document procedures contained within the Management System,
- (ii) use this system for the remainder of the Contract Period,
- (iii) update data used in indicative capacity appraisals to identify potential problem Structures, and
- (iv) add information to the system about any constraints that may impact on an abnormal indivisible load route.

3. INDEMNIFICATION

3.1.1 The Operating Company shall, on behalf of the Director, request indemnification in the format specified in the Specification of the *Special Types General Order 2003*, from any haulier or company whose abnormal indivisible loads are expected to travel within the Unit.

3.1.2 The Operating Company shall immediately notify the Director if it has not received any requested indemnity in advance of any movement of abnormal indivisible loads.

- 3.1.3 The Operating Company shall keep the indemnity forms received at its Central Office and shall prepare and maintain a list of hauliers and companies for whom indemnity forms are held. Indemnity forms shall be kept for a minimum period of 12 months after the indemnified movement has taken place. Should the 12 month period extend beyond the Contract Expiry Date, any indemnity forms held by the Operating Company shall be passed to any incoming operating company.

This is Annex 8.1/A to Schedule 8 Part 1 referred to in the foregoing Agreement between Scottish Ministers and Scotland TranServ being a Joint Venture comprising of Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Limited and Mouchel Limited.

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ANNEX 8.1/A – A Guide to Notification and Authorisation

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ANNEX 8.1/A – A Guide to Notification and Authorisation of Abnormal Indivisible Load Movements

The following is a guide to notification and authorisation requirements for the movement of abnormal indivisible loads:

A. Dimensions within "Construction & Use Regulations"

Laden dimensions **not** exceeding:

2.90m (9'6") overall width,
18.75m (61'6") rigid length or
40,000kgs (40t) gross weight

No requirement for notice to Transport Scotland, the Police or for notice with indemnity to Road & Bridge Authorities

The Secretary of State's authorisation is not required for the movement of abnormal indivisible loads with laden dimensions as stated above.

B. Dimensions within "Special Types General Order"

Laden dimensions in excess of "Construction & Use Regulations" but **not** exceeding:

6.1m (20'0") overall width *

2 Clear Working Days notice to Police

* Secretary of State "VR1" authorisation is required for the movement of abnormal indivisible loads **with an overall width in excess of 5.0m (16'5") but not exceeding 6.1m (20'0")**. **The VR1 authorisation requires 10 days notice to the Highways Agency in addition to the timeframe stated above.**

30.0m (98'4") rigid length

2 Clear Working Days notice to Police

80,000kgs (80t) gross weight

2 Clear Working Days notice with indemnity to Road & Bridge Authorities

over 80,000kgs (80t) but not exceeding
150,000kgs (150t) gross weight

5 Clear Working Days notice with indemnity to Road & Bridge Authorities **and**
2 Clear Working Days notice to Police

C. Dimensions requiring Special Order

Laden dimensions exceeding:

6.1m (20'0") overall width**	5 Clear Working Days notice with indemnity to Road & Bridge Authorities and 5 Clear Working Days notice to Police
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**** Secretary of State "HA form BE 16" authorisation is required for the movement of loads with an overall width in excess of 6.1m (20'0"). The BE16 authorisation requires 8 weeks notice to the Highways Agency in addition to the timeframes outlined above**

30.0m (98'4") rigid length***	5 Clear Working Days notice with indemnity to Road & Bridge Authorities and 5 clear Working Days notice to Police
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***** Secretary of State "HA form BE 16" authorisation is required for the movement of loads with an overall length in excess of 30.0m (98'5"). The BE16 authorisation requires 8 weeks notice to the Highways Agency in addition to the timeframes outlined above**

150,000kgs (150t) gross weight and/or 16,500kgs (16.5t) per axle****	5 Clear Working Days notice with indemnity to Road & Bridge Authorities and 5 Clear Working Days notice to Police
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****** Secretary of State "HA form BE 16" authorisation is required for the movement of loads with an overall weight exceeding 150,000kgs (150t) and/or 16,500kgs (16.5t) per axle. The BE16 authorisation requires 8 weeks notice to the Highways Agency in addition to the timeframes outlined above**

Secretary of State's "Special Order" authorisation is required for the movement of abnormal indivisible loads with laden dimensions as stated above.

NOTES

1. At present there is no legislation governing the overall laden height of a vehicle but in order that the maximum possible use is made of the motorway and Trunk Road network, the overall laden height should not exceed 4.95m (16'3").
2. "Clear Working Days notice" excludes Saturdays, Sundays, bank holidays or public holidays.
3. The Transport Scotland Bridges Section offers an advisory service to the operating companies on the routing of abnormal indivisible loads on the Trunk Road network, including those loads within the laden dimensions stated in Part A of this Annex which do not require the Secretary of State's authorisation or notification to Transport Scotland.

This is Annex 8.1/B to Schedule 8 Part 1 referred to in the foregoing Agreement between Scottish Ministers and Scotland TranServ being a Joint Venture comprising of Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Limited and Mouchel Limited.

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ANNEX 8.1/B – The Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland – Notification to Hauliers

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NOTICE TO HAULIERS

ACPOS ABNORMAL LOADS WORKING GROUP

ACPOS Road Policing Standing Committee have endorsed the principle of self escorting abnormal indivisible loads on motorways and linking dual carriageways and on other roads deemed suitable by individual Chief Constables.

The self escorting of abnormal indivisible loads is acceptable only in the following circumstances:

- The Haulier complying with the Department for Transport/Highways Agency Code of Practice.
- The Haulier must give written notice at the time of notification that the self escort personnel will not engage in the direction or control of traffic.
- The Haulier must give an assurance that they will not operate or move abnormal indivisible loads on urban motorways during peak traffic flows.

ROAD SAFETY UNDERPINS THE POLICY RELATIVE TO SELF ESCORTING. HAULIERS MUST ENSURE THAT THE SAFETY OF ALL ROAD USERS IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF SELF ESCORTING ACTIVITIES.

The draft code of conduct refers to Level 2 accredited persons. Level 2 accredited persons will not apply in Scotland. Chief Officers in England and Wales do not intend to accredit any individuals to Level 2 as referred to in the DfT Highways Agency Code of Practice.

The police service in Scotland are not forcing any haulier to self escort. Self escorting is an option available to all the hauliers using motorways and the linking dual carriageway network in Scotland. The savings in time will no doubt make self escorting very attractive to Hauliers. As a result of the "no escort" policy being adopted by the police service in England and Wales from 1 January 2004, many private companies have been set up as providers of abnormal load escorts. Such companies are in the process of contacting individual police forces seeking some form of endorsement for their company. Scottish Forces will not enter into any form of agreement with private abnormal load escort companies. The relevant legislation refers to the haulier and no provision is made for any agent or other person acting on behalf of the haulier. The onus relative to notification and indemnity rests with the haulier and with no other person.

The Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland Road Policing Standing Committee are not requiring Hauliers to be members of any organisations or trade associations before they can operate self escorting.

It is essential that all Hauliers have insurance cover for the task of self escorting.

The onus for route planning and notification to both the Police and Roads Authorities remains with the Haulier.

Should any further information relative to the policy be required, contact should be made with the undersigned during normal office hours.

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