

Road Traffic
(Permits for Specialised Vehicles)
Regulations 2009
S.I. 147 of 2009

and

Road Traffic (Specialised Vehicle
Permits)(Amendments) Regulations 2010
S.I 461 of 2010



Guidelines for Operators
(Movement of Abnormal Loads)

Contact Information:

Permits Officer:

Chief Superintendent.

Garda National Traffic Bureau,
Garda Headquarters,
Phoenix Park,
Dublin 8.

Email: traffic_abloads@garda.ie

Phone No: 01-666 1932

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Guidelines for Operators - Permit for Specialised Vehicles *(Movement of Abnormal Loads)*

Road Traffic (Permits for Specialised Vehicles) Regulations 2009, S.I. No. 147 of 2009, and Road Traffic (Specialised Vehicle Permits) (Amendment) Regulations 2010, S.I. 461 of 2010, introduced a streamline permit system and list of Designated Routes to be administered by An Garda Síochána for the movement of loads not exceeding 27.4 metres in length and 4.3 metres in width on the major inter-urban routes and to Cork, Rosslare and Ringaskiddy Ports.

An abnormal load must adhere to the maximum weight limits set down by S.I. 5 of 2003 Road Traffic (Construction and Use of Vehicles) Regulations 2003 and the maximum height limit set down in S.I. 366 of 2008 Road Traffic (Construction and Use of Vehicles)(Amendment) Regulations 2008.

This “Permit for Specialised Vehicles” form when signed by the Garda Síochána Permits Officer grants permission to move abnormal loads as defined under the above regulations, on inter-urban routes specified in the Schedule of Designated Roads in above Regulations require independent authorisation from the Local Authority concerned and or Minister for Transport.

The following Support Documents are available at www.garda.ie

- Statutory Instrument No. 147 of 2009 – *Specialised Vehicle Permits.*
 - Statutory Instrument No. 461 of 2010 – *Designated Routes*
 - Application for Permit – *Specialised Vehicle Permit.*
- (*Note: Download application form at www.garda.ie*)

Road Traffic (Permits for Specialised Vehicles) Regulations 2009

It must be emphasised the following points are intended to be an **aid** and **not a substitute** for the legislation itself.

You must refer to the **Road Traffic (Permits for Specialised Vehicles) Regulation 2009** for full particulars.

- Each Operator/Driver will ensure that vehicles subject to this permit are, as in all other occasions, fully serviced and compliant with all the legal requirements for operational use on public thoroughfares.
- Each Operator/Driver will undertake the necessary Health and Safety precautions and comply fully with his/her Health and Safety legal obligations.
- Loads in excess of **4.65 meters in height** are not covered under the remit of this Permit.
- Loads in excess of **4.3 meters in width** are not covered under the remit of this Permit.
- Loads in excess of **27.4 meters in length** are not covered under the remit of this Permit.
- The owner or operator of a specialised vehicle may apply to the Permits Officer for a permit authorising the operation of the vehicle either on a **specified occasion or occasions, or during a specified period of up to 1 year**, on
 - a) A specified designated road or specified designated roads; or
 - b) All designated roads within a specified area.
- An application for a permit shall be made at least five clear working days before the proposed operation is to commence.
- An applicant for a permit for Specialised Vehicle will download the application form / permit from the Garda web page, complete all the sections and return the completed form by email to **traffic_abloads@garda.ie** five clear working days before the operation is to commence.
- The application form being signed by the Permits Officer becomes the Permit for Specialised Vehicle and will be returned via email to the applicant with or without conditions and must be carried in the specialised vehicle by the driver / operator.
- The Permits Officer may require the applicant to provide any other information reasonably necessary to consider the application, and if he/she so requires need not consider the application until the applicant supplies the required information.
- The Permits Officer may grant a Permit for Specialised Vehicle subject to the conditions contained in Article 6 of the Regulations.
 - a) The Permits Officer may impose a limitation, restriction or condition on a Specialised Vehicle Permit if s/he reasonably considers it necessary for the protection of the public.
- If a Specialised vehicle for the operations of which a permit has been issued is operated in a way that contravenes a condition of the permit, any member of An Garda Síochána may withdraw the permit by notice (including oral notice) to the vehicle's driver or operator.
 - a) However, the member may direct the vehicle's operator or driver to move the vehicle to a place where it presents the least practicable risk to other road users.