

# MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY STANDARDS

## Sizes & Weights

The following size and weight information was provided courtesy of Ministry of Transportation Ontario from their guidebook, "Vehicle Weight and Dimension Limits in Ontario," February 2006.

*Application* — Ontario is in the midst of vehicle weight and dimension reforms that are being introduced over four phases designed to cause a gradual migration to vehicles designated as Safe, Productive and Infrastructure-Friendly (SPIF). The reforms ensure that heavy vehicles are designed to perform safely on Ontario highways and within an acceptable amount of space. The reforms also help to better protect bridges and pavement from excessive wear. Changes include a move to self-steering axles in place of rigid lift-axles and a requirement that all semi-trailer axles automatically load-equalize.

The first three phases of these reforms dealt with tractor-trailer combinations and all changes have now been proclaimed into law under Ontario Regulation 413/05. The fourth phase will deal with commercial trucks, trailers and buses and is expected to be implemented in 2008 or 2009. No trucks, trucks and trailers, or buses have yet been designated as SPIF – allowable weights for these vehicles are referred to as 'non-SPIF.'

**Any long tractor-trailer combination must meet SPIF standards to legally operate on Ontario highways.** Standard length tractor-trailer combinations may operate on Ontario highways, but will face a reduction from the allowable gross weight if the combination does not meet SPIF standards. In many cases, existing vehicles are grandfathered which effectively postpones the weight reductions. The grandfather dates are provided after the size and weight limit charts.

### LIMITATIONS — ALL HIGHWAYS

<b>Width (Vehicle)</b> <sup>3</sup>	2.6 m	(8 ft 6 in.)
<b>Width (Load)</b> <sup>5</sup>	2.6 m	(8 ft 6 in.)
<b>Height</b>	4.15 m, including load	(13 ft 6 in.)
<b>Single Vehicle Lengths</b> <sup>6</sup>		
Straight truck	12.5 m, including load	(41 ft)
Bus <sup>4, 7</sup>	12.5 m	(41 ft)
Inter-city motor coach <sup>2</sup>	14.0 m	(46 ft)
Articulated bus	23.0 m	(75 ft 6 in.)
<b>semi-trailer Lengths</b>		
Standard semi-trailer <sup>8</sup>	14.65 m	(48 ft)
SPIF long combination semi-trailer <sup>1, 9</sup>	16.2 m	(53 ft)
<b>Combination Lengths</b>		
Standard combination (trucks and trailers, tractors and semi-trailers, and tractors and double trailers)	23.0 m	(75 ft 6 in.)
SPIF tri-drive long combination <sup>1</sup>	23.5 m	(77 ft)
SPIF double trailer long combination <sup>1</sup>	25.0 m	(82 ft)
<b>Double Trailer Box Lengths (measured from the front of the first trailer to the rear of the second trailer)</b>		
Standard SPIF and non-SPIF double trailers	18.5 m	(60 ft 6 in.)
SPIF long combination double trailers <sup>1</sup>	20.0 m	(65 ft 6 in.)