Legislation Title:

ROAD TRAFFIC
Road Vehicles (Authorisation of Special Types) (General) Order 2003
Statutory Instrument 2003 No.

INTRODUCTION

The Road Vehicles (Authorisation of Special Types) (General) Order 2003 Will update and replace for new vehicles the previous order. "The Motor Vehicles (Authorisation of Special Types) General Order 1979 (No. 1198)"

What does it do! and why is it required?

It permits the road use of vehicles, which are usually longer, wider and or heavier than would be permitted by the "standard vehicle regulations[1]". Why! Because there are many "special type" and "special purpose" vehicles that require road use. But that cannot due to their essential working requirements be reasonably constructed to meet fully all the otherwise applicable "standard vehicle regulations.[1]" In all cases vehicles are required to be constructed so as to be safe for their permitted road use.

Who will the Order affect?

The Order will only affect those businesses involved in the processes of supplying, building, or operating large or heavy special purpose or special type vehicles for use on public roads.

As a general guide "large" is considered as any vehicle longer or wider than would be permitted by the "standard vehicle regulations[1]" and "heavy" as any vehicle with an in use or plated maximum weight or maximum axle weights greater than would be allowed by "standard vehicle regulations[1]"

What general special vehicle groups are covered and permitted by the order?

Part 2 - Special Vehicles for haulage, lifting, engineering and vehicle recovery

Abnormal Indivisible Load Vehicles
Mobile Cranes
Engineering plant
Road Recovery Vehicles

Part 3 - Special Vehicles for Agriculture

Agricultural Vehicles

[1] "Standard Regulations" are: The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 S.I. 1078 as amended, The Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations 1998 S.I. No 3111 as amended by S.I. 2000 No. 3224 and S.I. 2001 No 1125. The Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989 S.I. 1796 as amended.

Part 4 - Other Special Vehicles requiring notification or attendants

Local excavation vehicles
Motor vehicles or trailers carrying wide loads exceeding 4·3 metres in width
Track laying vehicles
Vehicles for tests, trials or non-UK use etc.
Straddle Carriers

Part 5 - Miscellaneous Special Vehicles

Motor vehicle used for cutting grass or trimming hedges
Naval, military, air force and aviation vehicles
Pedestrian controlled road maintenance vehicles
Trailers used for cutting grass or trimming hedges
Track laying vehicles belonging to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution
Highway Testing Vehicles
Vehicles with moveable platforms
Vehicles propelled by compressed natural gas (Note: these are the "standard vehicle regulations" which apply equally to all vehicle types/sizes, which are fuelled by CNG)

What "standard vehicle regulations[1]" may be dis-applied by this permissive order requirement? All vehicle applicable construction and use and road vehicle lighting regulations are applied unless dis-applied specifically by and within the STGO requirements. And also for Part 2 vehicles the application of the 1998 Authorised Weight Regulations for maximum vehicle weight may be dis-applied.

Annex A contains a tabular list of the dis-applied "standard vehicle regulations[1]" by vehicle group. All vehicles must however fully meet all non dis-applied "standard vehicle regulations[1]"and comply with all the special order requirements of the Special Types General Order 2003 article and schedule applicable.

STGO 2003 also specifies certain conditions in addition to "standard vehicle regulations[1]" as contained in Schedules or Articles as follows:

Schedule 5 - Notice to police
Schedule 6 - Attendants
Schedule 7 - Approval of the Minister as to the time, date and route of a journey by a vehicle or a vehicle and its load exceeding 5 metres in width
Schedule 8 Marking of projections (loads and fixed appliances or apparatus which project)
Schedule 9 - Road and Bridge Authorities (notice and indemnity to highway and bridge authorities)
Article 17 Use on bridges (vehicles of excessive weight or carrying excessive loads)

[1] "Standard Regulations" are: The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 S.I. 1078 as amended, The Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations 1998 S.I. No 3111 as amended by S.I. 2000 No. 3224 and S.I. 2001 No 1125. The Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989 S.I. 1796 as amended.

Annex B contains a reference table showing the STGO 2003 permissive general order requirements (for dimension or weight limits for: giving notice, requiring indemnity, requiring attendants, and marking load protrusions) which may be in place of or additional to any "standard vehicle regulations[1]" requirements.

Additional Information and Advice:

More information or advice may be obtained by reading the detailed STGO 2003 Statutory Instrument order when published (April 2003) which will be available from the Stationary Office. Alternatively you may telephone the Department for Transport VSE 5 enquiry line on 020 7944 2064.

Application of Requirements and Enforcement of STGO 2003 order conditions:

The requirements of this order are permissive and are made by the Secretary of State for Transport in accordance with the powers given by the 1988 Road Traffic Act (RTA), Section 44.The Secretary of State may produce such general orders and individual special orders as are appropriate and necessary. The "standard vehicle regulations[1]" are permitted by Section 41 of the same 1988 act.

Initial enforcement of Road Traffic offences is a matter for the Police and in the case of vehicle construction and maintenance issues the Traffic Commissioners, Vehicle Inspectorate Executive Agency (VI) examiners. Roadside checks and the subsequent examination and the issue of correction, prohibition notice or formal charge accomplish practical enforcement. The Courts will then decide and apply penalties and sentences in accordance with appropriate offence and guidance.

[1] "Standard Regulations" are: The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 S.I. 1078 as amended, The Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations 1998 S.I. No 3111 as amended by S.I. 2000 No. 3224 and S.I. 2001 No 1125. The Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989 S.I. 1796 as amended.

Annex A

Abnormal Indivisible Load Vehicles
(Constructed on or after 1 October after 1989)

Vehicle Category	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply:	1998 Authorised weight regulations
1	7,8,80 and 82	Maximum vehicle weight.
2 and 3	7,8,15,16,18(1A) to(9), 25,64,65,75 in so far as it relates in items 1-4, 6-11, 15 and 16 of the Table, 76-80, 82 and 83(1)	

Abnormal Indivisible Load Vehicles
(Constructed before 1 October 1989)

Type of vehicle	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply
A heavy motor car	8,16 in so far as it relates to the requirement in item 18(C) of schedule 3 to the regulations, 15, 18(1A) to(9), 22,24,25,45,63,75-80, 82, and 83(1)
A locomotive or tractor	8,21,22,25,45,75(3), and 76
A trailer	7,8,16 in so far as it relates to the requirements in items 4,11,15, and 18 of schedule 3 to the regulations, 15,18(1A) to(9), 21,22,24,25,63, 75-80, 82, and 83(1)

Agricultural Vehicles

Type of Vehicle	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply
Vehicles primarily constructed for agricultural use but also licensed for road use.	8, (75(2) track laying vehicles only) and 82.

Engineering plant

Type of Vehicle	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply
Motor vehicle, trailer or tracked vehicle	7,8,10A to 14, 18(1A) to (9), 19,20 to 22, 24 to 26, 35 to 36C, 39A, 39B, 49, 51, 53B, 62 to 65, 66 to 74, 75 to 80, 82.
Machine solely used for laying materials for road repair	Provided single axle weight does not exceed 11,180kg regulation 23 <u>will not apply.</u>
Machine solely used for laying materials for road repair	Provided wheels equipped with pneumatic tyres provided with smooth tread and vehicle cannot by construction exceed a speed of 20mph regulation 27(1) (f) shall not apply

[1] "Standard Regulations" are: The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 S.I. 1078 as amended, The Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations 1998 S.I. No 3111 as amended by S.I. 2000 No. 3224 and S.I. 2001 No 1125. The Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989 S.I. 1796 as amended.

Type of Vehicle	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply
Machine solely used for laying materials for road repair	Provided wheels equipped with pneumatic tyres provided with smooth tread and vehicle cannot by construction exceed a speed of 20mph regulation 27(1) (b) shall not apply
Track Laying Motor Vehicle registered before 31/12/1951 or road roller	A motor vehicle registered on or before 31st December 1951 need not apply 31 or 34 and in the case of a road roller regulation 28 shall not apply.
Track Laying Trailer	In the case of a road roller regulation 28 shall not apply.

Motor vehicles and Trailers used for cutting grass or hedge trimming

Type of Vehicle	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply
Motor cutter Vehicle	8 and 82(11)
Cutter Trailer	All that would otherwise apply to a trailer however regulation 27 shall apply as applied to a trailer.

Local excavation vehicles

Type of vehicle	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply
A heavy motor car not forming part of an articulated vehicle	8,16(4) item 8,18,"18(1) however applies", 22, 63, 66, 75 – 80
A trailer not forming part of an articulated vehicle	8, 18,"18(1) however applies", 22, 63, 66,
An articulated vehicle	7,8,16(4) item 8,18, "18(1) however applies", 22, 63,66, 75-80.

Mobile Cranes

Vehicle Category	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply:	1998 Authorised weight regulations
A	8, 75 to 80	Maximum vehicle weight
B or C	7,8,15,16,18(1A to (9), 25,49, 51,64,65, 75 to 80, and 82	Maximum weight and axle weights

Vehicles for tests, trials or non – UK use (vehicles and trailers constructed for use outside the United Kingdom or which are new or improved types constructed for tests or trials or are equipped with new or improved equipment or types of equipment) ***In this order case it should be noted that what is specified is the regulations that apply and any accepted modification.***

Vehicle Type	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do apply	Modifications permitted
All vehicles as they would otherwise apply	10,16, 18(1), 20,26,27,29, 30, 34,37,53,54,61,62,81, 82, 83,84,86,89,90,92,97,98,99, 100 to 109 inc.	None

[1] "Standard Regulations" are: The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 S.I. 1078 as amended, The Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations 1998 S.I. No 3111 as amended by S.I. 2000 No. 3224 and S.I. 2001 No 1125. The Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989 S.I. 1796 as amended.

Vehicle Type	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do apply	Modifications permitted
	16 Braking Systems	In regulation 16(1) for the words "to which regulation 15 does not apply" there shall be substituted the words "and has effect subject to the proviso in paragraph of regulation 15"
	81 and 82 Restrictions on the use of vehicles carrying wide or long loads or having fixed appliances or apparatus	In regulation 82(8)(C)(ii)(B) the reference to paragraph 1 of Schedule 12 to the 1996 regulations shall be omitted.
Vehicle Types	1989 Road Vehicle Lighting Regulations that do apply	Modifications permitted
All as applied	11,13,16,17,18,19,21&22	
All vehicles as they would otherwise apply	18 Obligatory lamps, reflectors, rear markings and devices	In regulation 18(1)(b) there shall be added at the end: "as if the requirements relating to the markings of lamps, retro-reflectors and rear markings were omitted; the requirements relating to angles of visibility were omitted; the requirements relating to the positioning of any lamp, retro-reflector or rear marking permitted any specified maximum measurement to be increased by 5 per cent and any specified minimum measurement to be decreased by 5 per cent; and the requirements relating to the fitting of a dim-dip device or running lamp in Table 1 of Schedule 1 were omitted."

[1] "Standard Regulations" are: The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 S.I. 1078 as amended, The Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations 1998 S.I. No 3111 as amended by S.I. 2000 No. 3224 and S.I. 2001 No 1125. The Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989 S.I. 1796 as amended.

Vehicle Types	1989 Road Vehicle Lighting Regulations that do apply	Modifications permitted
All vehicles as they would otherwise apply	22 Additional side marker lamps	there shall be inserted and subject to paragraph (3)".In paragraph (3), there shall be added at the end:" as if the requirements relating to the markings of lamps, retro-reflectors and rear markings were omitted; the requirements relating to angles of visibility were omitted; and the requirements relating to the positioning of any lamp, retro-reflector or rear marking permitted any specified maximum measurement to be increased by 5 per cent and any specified minimum measurement to be decreased by 5 per cent."]

Motor vehicles or trailers carrying loads exceeding 4·3 metres in width

Vehicle Types	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply
Any vehicle or combination of vehicles	82(1) and (2)

Naval, military, air force and aviation vehicles

Vehicle Types	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply
Any vehicle or combination of vehicles	All and any regulation. Operational military vehicles are a recognised category of special vehicles in any case where compliance with any regulations made under section 41 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 by any such vehicle would directly compromise the vehicle's operational capability. Subject to certification.

[1] "Standard Regulations" are: The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 S.I. 1078 as amended, The Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations 1998 S.I. No 3111 as amended by S.I. 2000 No. 3224 and S.I. 2001 No 1125. The Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989 S.I. 1796 as amended.

Pedestrian controlled road maintenance vehicles

Vehicle Types: Any motor vehicle constructed or adapted for. Gritting of roads, the laying of road markings, the clearing of frost, snow or ice from roads or any other work of maintaining roads, being vehicles controlled by pedestrian and not constructed or adapted for use or used for the carriage of a driver or passenger.	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply 16,18(1A) to (9), 23, and 61

Road Recovery Vehicles

Vehicle Type	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply:	1998 Authorised weight regulations
Motor Vehicle being a Road Recovery Vehicle	36A,36B,36C, 51, 70, 70A, 72, 73, 75 to 79A, 81,82 and 83(1)	Maximum vehicle weight and Axle weights.

Straddle Carriers

Type of Vehicle	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply
Straddle Carrier	8,11,16(4), 18(1A) to (9), 22, and 66.

Track laying vehicles belonging to the RNLI

Type of Vehicle	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply
RNLI Track Laying Vehicles	Any but subject to need for special purpose. In all cases regulation 100 applies.

Track laying vehicles for non-UK use

Type of Vehicle	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply
Track Laying Vehicles for non –UK use	Any but subject to need for special purpose. In all cases regulation 100 applies.

Highway Testing Vehicles

Type of Vehicle	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply
Any motor vehicle	Any but subject to need for special purpose. In all cases regulation 100 applies.

Vehicles with moveable platforms

Type of Vehicle	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply
Vehicles with moveable platforms.	(7,8,11,do not apply whilst using platform), 20,23, and 82.

Vehicles propelled by natural gas (all sizes and weights of vehicle affected)

Type of Vehicle	1986 Construction and Use Regulations that do not apply
Any motor vehicle fuelled by CNG	40, 94(2) and (3) and 96 of or Schedule 4 or 5. Regulation 100 directly applied.

[1] "Standard Regulations" are: The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 S.I. 1078 as amended, The Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations 1998 S.I. No 3111 as amended by S.I. 2000 No. 3224 and S.I. 2001 No 1125. The Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989 S.I. 1796 as amended.

Annex B

Table for application of dimension and weight limits for Notification, Attendants and Markers. Blank cell indicates no application of requirement.

Vehicles dimension or weight limit of application.	Police Notice	Road and Bridge Notice	Working Days Notice	Attendants and Markers
Any maximum plated axle weight over 10,000kg or 11,500kg for drive axle		Yes	2 Days	
Any maximum plated motor vehicle weight over: 18,000kg 2 axle 26,000kg 3 axle 32,000kg 4 axle 40,000kg 5 axle 44,000kg 6 axle (44,000kg 5 axle) (combined transport operation only)		Yes	2 Days	
Any maximum plated weight over 80,000kg	Yes 2 Days	Yes 5 Days	2 Days or 5 Days	
Width of load or vehicle over 3m	Yes		2 Days	
Width of load or vehicle over 3.5m	Yes		2 Days	Yes
Width of Load or Vehicle over 4.3m or 5m if AILV (need formal Department of Transport VR1 Order)	Yes	Notice as required by individual vehicle registration movement order	5 Days from receipt of formal order.	Yes
Width of any lateral projection over 305mm either side of vehicle body.	Yes		2 Days	Markers only required.
Length of vehicle or load over 18.75m (includes articulated vehicles)	Yes		2 Days	Yes
Length of a combination of vehicles carrying the load over 25.9m	Yes		2 Days	Yes

[1] "Standard Regulations" are: The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 S.I. 1078 as amended, The Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations 1998 S.I. No 3111 as amended by S.I. 2000 No. 3224 and S.I. 2001 No 1125. The Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989 S.I. 1796 as amended.

Vehicles dimension or weight limit of application.	Police Notice	Road and Bridge Notice	Working Days Notice	Attendants and Markers
Length of any forward projection beyond foremost point of a vehicle carrying the load exceeds 2m				Yes
Length of any rearward projection beyond rearmost point of a vehicle carrying the load exceeds 3m				Yes
Length of any forward or rearward projection beyond foremost or rearmost point of a vehicle carrying the load exceeds 3m	Yes			Yes

Speed limits for vehicles:

The following groups of vehicles have speed conditions or in use limit specifically applied by the order irrespective of other enactment:

Vehicle Group	motorway	A road	other roads	Remarks
Abnormal Indivisible Load Vehicles in Category 2 or 3	40 mph	35 mph	30 mph	
Motor vehicles or trailers carrying loads exceeding 4·3 metres in width	40 mph	35 mph	30 mph	
Engineering plant	30mph	12mph	12mph	12mph, unless able to operate fully meeting requirements as a Part 2 A.I.L.V.
Local excavation vehicles	30mph	12mph	12mph	
Mobile Cranes Category A Category B Category C	 60mph 50mph 40 mph	 50mph 45mph 35 mph	 40mph 30mph 30 mph	
Recovery Vehicles	40 mph	35 mph	30 mph	(only applies when recovering casualty)
Straddle Carriers	NA	12mph	12mph	
Trailers used for grass cutting	NA	20mph	20mph	

[1] "Standard Regulations" are: The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 S.I. 1078 as amended, The Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations 1998 S.I. No 3111 as amended by S.I. 2000 No. 3224 and S.I. 2001 No 1125. The Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989 S.I. 1796 as amended.