Fluid Milk Truck Permit Training

S.B. 1383

TRC – 623.401

- Allows a truck-tractor and semitrailer combination with a TOTAL of six (6) axles to be issued a permit from TxDMV authorizing the movement of fluid milk. The truck-tractor must be equipped with roll stability and blind spot systems
  a) The gross weight of the combination does NOT exceed 90,000 pounds; and
  b) Must comply with basic weight law for single axle(s), tandem axle(s), and group of axle weights found in TRC-621.101(a) (see diagram #1 below)
  c) An exception to the above axle weights is as follows:
     i) If from the steering axle of the truck-tractor to the first axle of the truck-tractor tandem measures 15 feet or more and the distance between the individual axles of the truck-tractor tandem measures 48 inches to 54 inches. Then the tandem can weigh 36,500 pounds (see diagram #2 below)
     ii) If the distance from the first axle of the truck-tractor tandem to the rearmost axle of the semitrailer measure 36 feet or more and the distance between the individual axles of the semitrailer group measures 48 inches to 54 inches. Then the semitrailer group can weigh 42,500 pounds (see diagram #2 below)

TRC – 623.403

- The permit must designate each county and municipality in which the permit will be used
- The permit is NOT valid in a county or municipality that is not designated on the permit

TRC – 623.404

- A vehicle operating under this permit MAY operate on a federal interstate highway or a state, county, or municipal road, including a frontage road adjacent to a federal interstate highway
- A vehicle operating under this permit is NOT authorized to operate on:
  a) A county road or bridge for which a maximum weight and load limit has been established and posted

DIAGRAMS

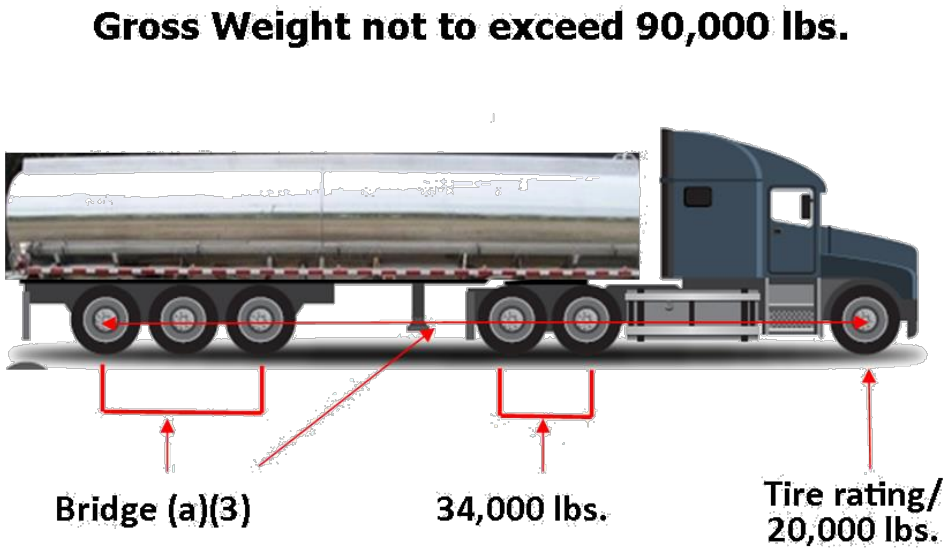

Diagram #1

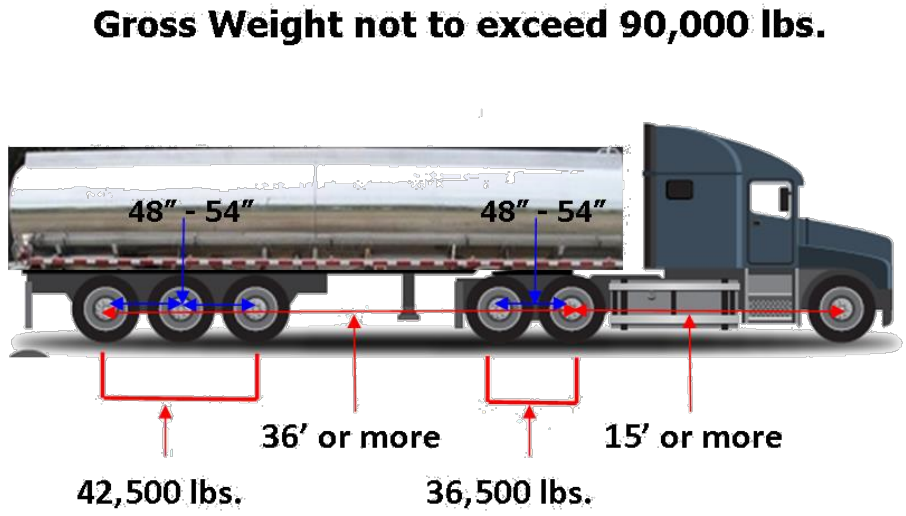

Diagram #2

BRAKING DISTANCES

TRC – 545.062(a)

- An operator shall, if following another vehicle, maintain an assured clear distance between the two vehicles so that, considering the speed of the vehicles, traffic, and the condition of the highway, the operator can safety stop without colliding with the preceding vehicle or veering into another vehicle, object, or person on or near the highway.

TABLE I. Stopping Distance Calculations for Two- and Three-Axle Tractors with a GVWR of 70,000 Pounds or Less, and Tractors with Four or More Axles and a GVWR of 85,000 Pounds of Less, in the Loaded-to-GVWR Condition. Brake System Reaction Time is 0.45 Seconds.*

Initial Vehicle Speed		Steady-State Deceleration		Stopping Distance
(mph)	(ft/sec)	(ft/sec²)	(g's)	(ft)
20	29.3	18.00	0.56	30
25	36.7	18.00	0.56	45
30	44.0	17.50	0.54	65
35	51.3	17.00	0.53	89
40	58.7	17.00	0.53	114
45	66.0	16.80	0.52	144
50	73.3	16.80	0.52	176
55	80.7	16.80	0.52	212
60	88.0	16.80	0.52	250

TABLE II. Stopping Distance Calculations for Three-Axle Tractors with a GVWR Greater Than 70,000 Pounds, and Tractors with Four or More Axles and a GVWR Greater Than 85,000 Pounds, in the Loaded-to-GVWR Condition. (Brake System Reaction Time of 0.45 Seconds)*

Initial Vehicle Speed		Steady-State Deceleration		Stopping Distance
(mph)	(ft/sec)	(ft/sec²)	(g's)	(ft)
20	29.3	15.00	0.47	35
25	36.7	14.65	0.45	54
30	44.0	14.15	0.44	78
35	51.3	13.90	0.43	106
40	58.7	13.75	0.43	138
45	66.0	13.60	0.42	175
50	73.3	13.45	0.42	216
55	80.7	13.40	0.42	261
60	88.0	13.35	0.41	310

Driver Signature: _____ Date: _____

Supervisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

*U. S. Department of Transportation. (2009). [Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Air Brake Systems]. *National Highway TrafficSafety Administration*. Retrieved from: https://www.nhtsa.gov/sites/nhtsa.dot.gov/files/121_stopping_distance_fr.pdf