

Intermodal Shipping Container Port Permit Training

S.B. 1524

TRC – 623.401

- “Intermodal Shipping Container” means an enclosed, standardized, reusable container that:
 - a) Is used to pack, ship, move or transport cargo;
 - b) Is designed to be carried on a semitrailer and loaded onto or unloaded from:
 - A. A ship or vessel for international transportation; or
 - B. A rail system for international transportation; and
 - c) When combined with vehicles transporting the container, has a gross weight or axle weight that exceeds the limits allowed by law to be transported over a state highway or county or municipal road

TRC – 623.402

- 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 a sealed intermodal shipping container moving in international transportation. The truck-tractor must be equipped with roll stability and blind spot systems
 - a) The gross weight of the combination does NOT exceed 93,000 pounds;
 - b) The distance between the steering axle and the rearmost axle of the semitrailer, measures 647 inches (see diagram #1 below);
 - c) The truck-tractor axle weights should be as follows:
 1. Single Axle may NOT exceed 13,000 pounds;
 2. Tandem Axle may NOT exceed 37,000 pounds; and
 3. The distance between the individual axles of the tandem must measure not less than 51 inches and not more than 52 inches (see diagram #2 below); and
 - d) The semitrailer is configured as follows:
 1. Three Axle group may NOT exceed 49,195 pounds; and
 2. The distance between the individual axles measures 60 inches (see diagram #3 below)
 3. No individual axle in the group shall exceed 16,400 pounds
- Allows a truck-tractor and semitrailer combination with a TOTAL of seven (7) axles to be issued a permit from TxDMV authorizing the movement of a sealed intermodal shipping container moving in international transportation. The truck-tractor must be equipped with roll stability and blind spot systems
 - a) The gross weight of the combination does NOT exceed 100,000 pounds;
 - b) The distance between the steering axle and the rearmost axle of the semitrailer, measures 612 inches (see diagram #4 below);
 - c) The truck-tractor axle weights should be as follows:
 1. Single Axle may NOT exceed 15,000 pounds;
 2. Three Axle group may NOT exceed 44,500 pounds; and
 3. No individual axle in the group shall exceed 14,900 pounds
 4. The distance between the individual axles of the three axle group must measure not less than 51 inches and not more than 52 inches (see diagram #5 below); and
 - d) The semitrailer is configured as follows:
 1. Three axle group may NOT exceed 46,200 pounds; and

2. The distance between the individual axles measures 60 inches (see diagram #6 below)
3. No individual axle in the group shall exceed 15,400 pounds

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 – 623.405

- A vehicle operating under this permit is NOT authorized to operate on:
 - a) The national system of interstate and defense highways; or
 - b) Load-restricted roads or bridges posted by TxDOT or load-restricted roads or bridges set by the commissioners court of a county

TRC – 623.406

- The permit is only valid under the following circumstances:
 - a) MUST begin or end at a port authority or port of entry that is located in a county contiguous to the Gulf of Mexico or a bay or inlet opening into the gulf; and
 - b) May NOT exceed 30 miles from the port authority or port of entry and must be on a highway or road described in 623.405
 - c) The intermodal shipping container must be continuously sealed from the point of origin to the point of destination with a seal that is required by:
 1. The United States Customs and Border Protection
 2. The United States Food and Drug Administration
 3. Federal Law or Regulation
 - d) This permit does NOT authorize the transportation of a material designated as of January 1, 2017 as a HM by the US Secretary of Transportation under 49 U.S.C. Section 5103(a) (HM that requires Placarding)
 - e) This permit does NOT authorize the transportation of a sealed intermodal shipping container in a county that borders New Mexico and the United Mexican States

TRC – 623.408

- This permit MUST be carried in the truck-tractor for which the permit is issued
- The permit MUST be presented, on request, to an officer authorized to enforce weight law

Helpful websites:

- Home page for Load Zoning
 - a) <http://www.txdot.gov/government/processes-procedures/load-zoning.html>
- Load Zoned Roads
 - a) <http://www.txdot.gov/apps/gis/loadzone/>

DIAGRAMS

COMBINATION WITH 6 TOTAL AXELS

Gross Weight not to exceed 93,000 lbs.



Diagram #1

Truck-tractor Configuration

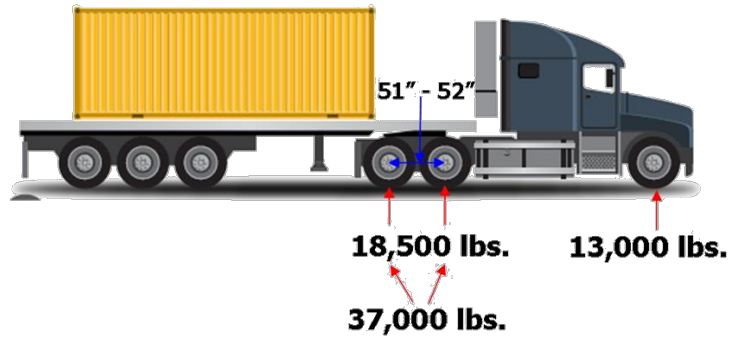


Diagram #2

Semitrailer Configuration

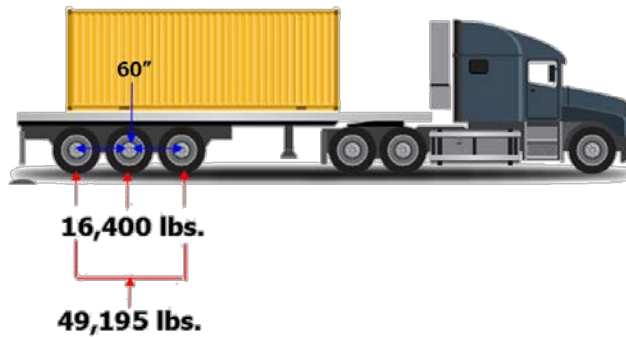


Diagram #3

COMBINATION WITH 7 TOTAL AXELS

Gross Weight not to exceed 100,000 lbs.

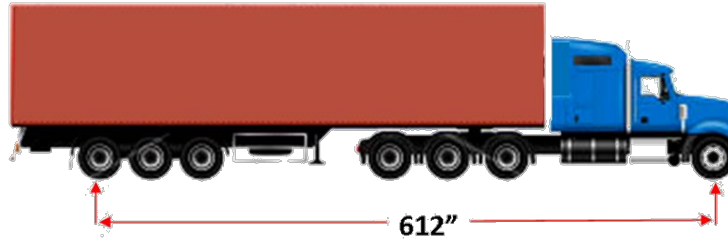


Diagram #4

Truck-Tractor Configuration

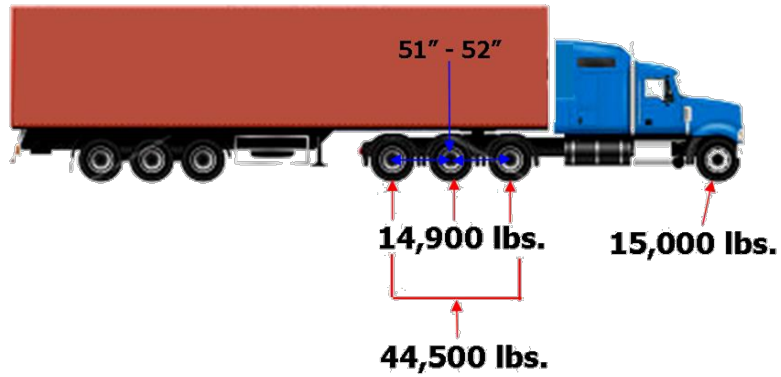


Diagram #5

Semitrailer Configuration

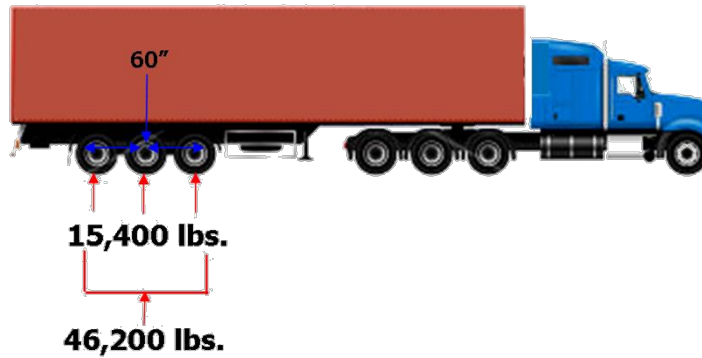


Diagram #6

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/sec ²)	(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/sec ²)	(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 Traffic Safety Administration*. Retrieved from: https://www.nhtsa.gov/sites/nhtsa.dot.gov/files/121_stopping_distance_fr.pdf