

**PROVISIONS GOVERNING  
THE OPERATION OF  
LONGER COMBINATION VEHICLES (LCVs)/  
TANDEMS THAT EXCEED THE  
LIMITS OF SECTION 385 OF THE  
NEW YORK STATE  
VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW**

TAP-602 (8/2005)

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## **FORMS LIST**

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The following LCV/tandem forms are referenced throughout this document by form letter and number. These forms are available on the Thruway Authority's website at [www.thruway.state.ny.us](http://www.thruway.state.ny.us).

<b><u>Form Letter</u></b>	<b><u>Form Name</u></b>
<b>Form A</b>	PERMIT FOR LCV/TANDEM OPERATIONS (TA-W6807)
<b>Form B</b>	TRAFFIC SAFETY APPEAL (TA-W6869)
<b>Form C</b>	CERTIFICATE OF LCV/TANDEM EQUIPMENT - TRACTOR (TA-W6808)
<b>Form D</b>	CERTIFICATE OF LCV/TANDEM EQUIPMENT - FIRST OR LEAD TRAILER (TA-W6809)
<b>Form E</b>	CERTIFICATE OF LCV/TANDEM EQUIPMENT – DOLLY CONVERTERS (TA-W6811)
<b>Form F</b>	APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL PERMIT TO OPERATE LCV/TANDEM (TA-W6818)
<b>Form H</b>	CERTIFICATION OF LCV/TANDEM EQUIPMENT - LCV/TANDEM MAINTENANCE VEHICLE (TA-W6812)

## LCV/TANDEM AREAS

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### INTERCHANGE

- 6A YONKERS/ARDSLEY (MP 5.47)  
MAKEUP/BREAKUP ONLY  
(4 HOUR PARKING LIMIT)
- 14 SPRING VALLEY (MP 24.31)
- 15 SUFFERN (MP 30.17)
- 17 NEWBURGH (MP 60.10)  
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM  
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM
- 18 NEW PALTZ (MP 76.01)
- 19 KINGSTON **(R)** (MP 91.37)
- 22 SELKIRK **(R)** (MP 134.93)
- 23 ALBANY/I-787 & US 9W **(TR) (R)** (MP 141.92)  
7:00 AM – 9:00 AM  
3:30 PM – 5:30 PM
- 24 ALBANY/I-87 NORTH **(TR)** (MP 148.15)  
SAME TIME RESTRICTIONS AS EXIT 23
- 25A SCHENECTADY/I-88 (MP 158.82)
- 27 AMSTERDAM (MP 173.59)
- 29 CANAJOHARIE (MP 194.10)
- 30 HERKIMER **(R)** (MP 219.70)
- 31 UTICA (MP 232.85)
- 32 WESTMORELAND/ROME  
ROUTE 233 (MP 243.37)
- 33 VERONA **(R)** (MP 252.71)
- 34 CANASTOTA **(R)** (MP 261.50)
- 34A COLLAMER (MP 276.58)

### INTERCHANGE

- 35 SYRACUSE/E. SYRACUSE **(TR)**  
(MP 278.93)  
7:30 AM – 8:15 AM  
4:00 PM – 5:15 PM
- 36 WATERTOWN/BINGHAMTON **(TR)**  
(MP 282.93)  
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM  
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM
- 39 SYRACUSE/FULTON (MP 289.53)
- 40 WEEDSPORT (MP 304.19)
- 42 GENEVA (MP 327.10)
- 43 MANCHESTER (MP 340.15)
- 45 ROCHESTER/VICTOR (MP 350.99)
- 46 ROCHESTER/CORNING **(R)**  
(MP 362.44)
- 47 LEROY (MP 378.56)
- 48 BATAVIA (MP 390.13)
- 49 DEPEW (MP 417.27)
- N17 NIAGARA SECTION  
TONAWANDA (MP 14.26)  
SB - MAKEUP  
NB - BREAKUP  
(4 HOUR PARKING LIMIT)
- 57 HAMBURG (MP 436.22)
- 59 DUNKIRK (MP 467.74)
- 61 RIPLEY (MP 494.50)

**MP = MILE POST**

**R = RESTRICTED TO LCVs/TANDEMS THAT HAVE OBTAINED PRIOR PERMISSION FROM THE OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY**

**TR = TIME RESTRICTED**

**NOTE: UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL LCV/TANDEM AREAS HAVE A MAXIMUM 12-HOUR PARKING LIMIT.**

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

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**Per Title 49, Part 380 of the Code of Federal Regulations, tandem trailer combinations are now referred to as Longer Combination Vehicles (LCVs). As a result, tandem trailer combinations will be referred to as “LCVs/tandems” throughout this document.**

LCVs/tandems in excess of the limits established by Section 385 of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law (V&T Law) may operate on the Thruway System under a LCV/Tandem Trailer Permit issued by the New York State Thruway Authority (Authority) upon the Authority's approval of an application by the prospective Permittee on **Form A** (TA-W6807), subject to the following provisions:

## **1. GOVERNING PROVISIONS**

Except as noted herein and in the LCV/Tandem Permit, the operation of LCVs/tandems on the Thruway System is governed by all Rules and Regulations of the Authority.

LCVs/tandems are also governed specifically by the LCV/Tandem Provisions (TAP 602), the guidelines established by the Authority's Traffic and Safety Committee, and the Authority's applicable commercial bulletins as distributed. These may be revised or updated by the Authority as needed.

## **2. DEFINITION OF A LCV/TANDEM**

- A. The lead trailer must be at least 40 feet in length, and the second trailer must be at least 28 feet 6 inches in length. The total carrying capacity of the entire combination must be at least 80,000 pounds.
- B. A complete LCV/tandem shall consist of:
  - a. a tractor, first semi-trailer, dolly and second semi-trailer; or
  - b. another such combination as may be approved by the Authority, owned by the applicant or leased from an Authority certified leasing company.

In a LCV/tandem, the maximum length for a **semi-trailer**, including any load thereon, shall be **48 feet**.

The maximum length for a LCV/tandem's **cargo carrying unit**, defined as the semi-trailer(s), the dolly, and any load thereon, shall be 102 feet.

The maximum length for the **complete LCV/tandem**, including any load thereon, shall be **120 feet** unless prior written approval is received from the New York State Thruway Authority.

LCVs/tandems commonly referred to as a "B-Train" configuration, require separate approval by the Authority's Department of Engineering Services prior to initial LCV/tandem run. Special provisions regarding BTrains will be reviewed at time of application or request for use on the Thruway.

The overall length of loaded LCV/tandem automobile haulers may be increased by load overhang, provided, however, that such overhang is consistent with the V&T Law.

The Permittee, when operating any of the vehicles or combination of vehicles described above, shall be considered to be operating under a Special Hauling Permit if the combination is propelled by a tractor which has been properly certified to the Authority for use in LCV/tandem operations, provided that the other dimensions of the vehicle do not exceed the limits established by Section 385 of the V&T Law.

### 3. **APPLYING FOR COMPANY PERMIT**

To make an initial application to operate LCVs/tandems, a Company should write:

New York State Thruway Authority  
Department of Operations  
P.O. Box 189  
Albany, NY 12201-0189  
or call: (518) 471-4219

### 4. **INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

To comply with insurance requirements, the Company must furnish the Authority with a Certificate of Insurance (TA-51308) or other proof of insurance acceptable to the Authority. The certificate must be signed by a duly authorized representative of the insurance carrier, certifying such authorization and showing compliance with the Authority's insurance requirements. The insurance company providing coverage must be licensed to do business in the State of New York.

The Permittee shall maintain Business Automobile Liability coverage, which shall cover liability arising out of any vehicle, whether owned, hired or non-owned. The minimum limits of liability are as follows:

- A. Liability limits of at least \$1,000,000/1,000,000 bodily injury and \$500,000 property damage;  
or
- B. A combined single limit coverage of at least \$1,000,000.

The policy must contain the following endorsements:

- 1. An endorsement naming the "New York State Thruway Authority and/or the State of New York, their agents, officers, and employees" as additional insureds.

2. An endorsement with the following description of policy coverage: "This policy includes coverage for public liability arising with respect to all movements of all LCVs/tandems or portions thereof, of single units or portions thereof, service vehicles or other units incident to the use of the Thruway by the Permittee or by anyone acting by, through, or for the named insured including omissions and supervisory acts of the State of New York and the New York State Thruway Authority, their agents, officers, or employees."
3. An endorsement with the following description of policy coverage: "The naming of the New York State Thruway Authority and the State of New York as additional insureds does not exclude the liability of the Permittee, and does not exclude the liability of anyone acting by, through or for the Permittee, for damages to the property or facilities of the New York State Thruway Authority or the State of New York."
4. An endorsement providing for a 30 days advance notice before cancellation, lapse, or material change of coverage provided. The notice is to be mailed to:

New York State Thruway Authority  
Attn: Insurance Compliance Unit  
P.O. Box 189  
Albany, NY 12201-0189

## 5. **SAFETY TRAINING**

Prior to the issuance of a LCV/Tandem Operator Certification, the Authority requires Company management and operating personnel to comply with safety training requirements. The Authority has established an Initial Safety Training Seminar for all certified LCV/tandem Companies and Company safety patrols. The safety-intensive class is tailored to the individual needs of each Company. It is offered, at no charge, during normal business hours. The class includes lectures, video presentations, and hands-on demonstrations, and covers the following subjects:

- Proper LCV/tandem hook-up
- On-the-road operations
- Professional driver safety attitudes
- LCV/Tandem Rules & Regulations
- Certification procedures
- Expediting paperwork
- Accident/incident investigations
- Disabled vehicle procedures
- Hazardous materials regulations
- Sharing the road with other drivers
- LCV/tandem area usage
- Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations - Parts 383, 392, 395, 396

A Company can make arrangements to schedule a seminar by contacting the Bureau of Traffic Operations at (518) 436-2796 or writing:

New York State Thruway Authority  
Department Of Operations  
Attention: Traffic Management Vehicle Safety Specialist  
P.O. Box 189  
Albany, NY 12201-0189

Ongoing training by a Company representative is strongly recommended. All training must be documented.

**6. REQUIREMENTS FOR DRIVER PERMIT APPLICATION**

Only drivers certified by the Authority pursuant to the provisions herein may operate LCVs/tandems.

A Company may apply for a LCV/Tandem Driver Permit for a driver in its employ who meets the following requirements:

1. Driver possesses a current Commercial Driver License with appropriate endorsement(s) for operation of doubles/triples and air brakes. (If applicable, a Tanker and/or Hazardous Materials endorsement may be necessary.)
2. Driver is 26 years of age or older, is in good health, and has at least 5 years provable experience driving tractor trailer combinations.
3. Driver has passed an approved LCV/tandem course.

An application will be rejected if any of the following apply:

- a. The driver's license has been revoked/suspended more than 2 times in the past 10 years.
- b. The driver's record of major traffic violations shows more than 4 points in 1 year, more than 6 points in 2 years, more than 8 points in 3 years, more than 9 points in 4 years, or more than 10 points in 5 years.
- c. The driver's record of chargeable (preventable) accidents shows more than 1 in 2 years or more than 3 in 5 years.
- d. The driver's record shows more than 2 offenses in 10 years for DWI/DWAI (driving while intoxicated/driving with ability impaired) and/or drug use.

If a driver meets the above requirements and the Company wishes to apply for a permit, a \$15.00 non-refundable processing fee, payable by Company check, certified check or money order should be sent to the Authority along with one copy of the following driver related information:

1. **Form F** (TA-W6818)
2. Accident Reports (for last five years)
3. Medical Certificate (for last two years)
4. Motor Vehicle Driver's Ten Year Abstract (Original, certified copy dated within last three months). Not Required for NYS Licensed Operators, as the Authority will obtain this directly from the Department of Motor Vehicles.
5. Commercial Driver License. Copy not required for NYS Licensed Operators.

A driver meeting the qualifications is issued a special permit card which must be shown on request to New York State Police and/or Authority personnel. Proposed drivers of LCVs/tandems **MUST** be registered by the Authority prior to driving such equipment on the Thruway System.

A qualified driver may hold a LCV/Tandem Permit for 2 companies at the same time, provided an appropriate application is filed by each Company and approved by the Authority. The LCV/Tandem Driver Permit is valid only for the operation by the named driver of certified tractors owned or leased by the Company to which the driver's permit is issued.

## EQUIPMENT PROVISIONS

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### 7. OVER-DIMENSION PROVISIONS

All over-dimensional and weight regulations of the Authority shall apply to all units unless specifically excluded under the terms of the LCV/Tandem Permit or these provisions.

### 8. WEIGHT LIMITS

The maximum legal gross weight that can be carried on any combination of units is limited by the maximum legal gross weight that can be carried on each unit and the axles thereof as provided in Section 385 of the V&T Law.

In no case can a combination of vehicles exceed a total maximum gross weight of 143,000 pounds. The maximum permissible gross weight for B-Train combinations is 127,000 pounds. For LCVs/tandems exceeding 138,400 pounds in maximum gross weight, the Authority requires that:

1. Axle spacing and maximum axle weights meet the requirements shown on the sketches on the following page.
2. To meet the nine axle requirement, the LCV/tandem must have a LCV/tandem axle dolly.

The formulas which follow are used to determine permissible maximum gross weight of the unit of tractor and first semi-trailer. In no case can the maximum gross weight of the unit of tractor and first semi-trailer exceed 80,000 pounds. For any vehicle or combination of vehicles having a total gross weight less than 71,000 pounds, the higher of a. or b. shall apply. For any vehicle or combination of vehicles having a total gross weight of 71,000 pounds or greater, b. shall apply.

- a.  $MGW = 34,000 \text{ lbs} + (1,000 \text{ lbs.} \times \text{length between extreme axles})$
- b.  $W = 500 [(L \times N) / (N - 1) + (12 \times N) + 36]$  except that 2 consecutive sets of LCV/tandem axles may carry a gross load of 34,000 pounds each providing the overall distance between the first and last axles of such consecutive sets of tandem axles is 36 feet or more.

Where:

MGW = total weight on all axles

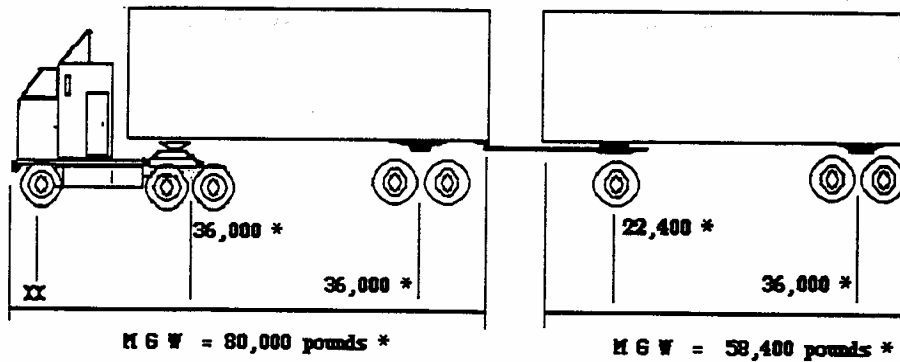
W = overall gross weight on any group of 2 or more consecutive axles to the nearest 500 lbs.

L = distance in feet from the center of the foremost axle to the center of the rearmost axle of any group of two or more consecutive axles

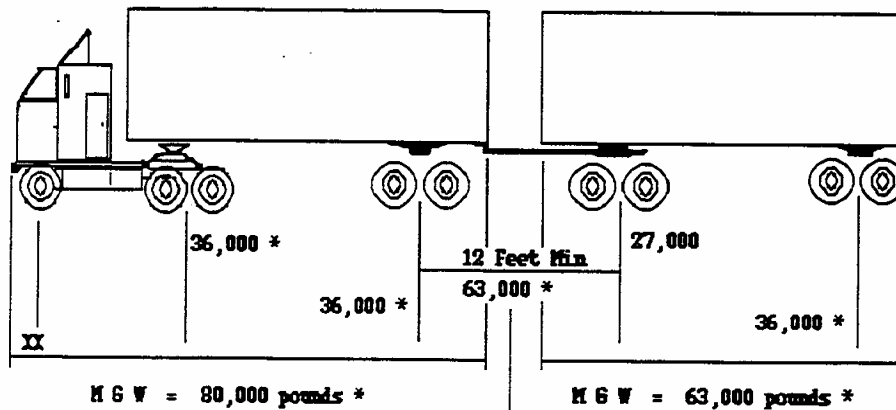
N = number of axles in group under consideration

**Axle Requirements for Combinations more than  
127,400 MGW**

**8 Axles  
MGW = 138,400 pounds \***



**9 Axles  
MGW = 143,000 pounds \***



**Total combined load on group of axles SHALL NOT exceed 63,000 pounds**

**\* No TOLERANCE ALLOWED above weight indicated.**

**XX Varies up to legal MAXIMUM of 22,400 pounds.**

## 9. CERTIFICATION OF TRACTORS

All tractors used in LCV/tandem operations must be certified with the Authority prior to use by a LCV/tandem Company.

To request certification of tractors, **Form C** (TA-W6808) is used. The Permittee and an authorized representative of the company which manufactured, commercially reconditioned, or rebuilt each tractor used in LCV/tandem operations on the Thruway shall **each** certify to the Authority that the tractor is capable of hauling the maximum permissible gross load to be transported by the Permittee at a speed of not less than 20 MPH on all portions of the Thruway System. (The maximum grades on the Thruway are 3% and the longest such grade is approximately 2.7 miles.) If it is determined after the tractor is engaged in the LCV/tandem operations that the vehicle cannot meet such requirements, the Authority's approval of the described vehicle may be withdrawn. In that event, the tractor shall not be used to haul LCVs/tandems on the Thruway system. When the gross loads are reduced, the tractor is modified, or other corrective measures have been taken, both the Permittee and an authorized representative of the company which manufactured, commercially reconditioned, or rebuilt the tractor shall certify in writing that corrective measures have been taken and that the tractor now will meet the minimum speed requirement. The Authority may then reinstate its approval of the described tractor, and it may then be used in the LCV/tandem operations. Any changes or replacement of approved Permittee equipment must be recertified by the Company on **Form C** (TA-W6808).

An Authority certified leasing company that supplies leased equipment for use in LCV/tandem operations is responsible for certification and maintenance of all equipment.

## 10. CERTIFICATION OF TRAILERS

All trailers used in LCV/tandem operations must be certified with the Authority prior to use by a LCV/tandem Company.

To request certification of trailers, **Form D** (TA-W6809) is used. All semi-trailers except the rear trailer used in LCV/tandem operation shall have sufficient structural strength to permit the satisfactory attachment of the coupling device (pintle hook or its equivalent) at the rear of the trailer. Each coupling device shall be capable of towing a trailer and a dolly. The Permittee shall certify to the Authority that every trailer certified for use in LCV/tandem service is adequate for this service. In addition, an authorized representative of the company which manufactured, commercially reconditioned, or refurbished the pintle hook mounting structure shall certify the adequacy of the pintle hook assembly. Any changes or replacement of Permittee equipment must be recertified by the Company on **Form D** (TA-W6809).

Every coupling device shall incorporate a no-slack design such as air take-up, fitted pin and socket, mechanical wedging, or similar coupler designs, which eliminate fore and aft slack in the coupling of dollies to semi-trailers. The no-slack feature of the coupler shall be in constant operation while the LCV/tandem is operated on the Thruway System.

An Authority certified leasing company that supplies leased equipment for use in LCV/tandem operations is responsible for certification and maintenance of all equipment.

## 11. CERTIFICATION OF DOLLIES

All dollies used in LCV/tandem operations must be certified with the Authority prior to use by a LCV/tandem Company.

To request certification of dollies, **Form E** (TA-W6811) is used.

- A. Every converter dolly certified on and after June 1, 1968, and used to convert a semi-trailer to a full trailer may have either single or LCV/tandem axles at the option of the Permittee. LCVs/tandems grossing in excess of 138,400 lbs. must have a LCV/tandem axle dolly to meet the 9-axle requirement.

Converter dollies shall be coupled with one or more safety chains or cables to the frame, or to an extension of the frame, of the motor vehicle by which it is towed. Attachment of these chains or cables to the pintle hook or to any other device on the towing vehicle to which the tow bar is attached will NOT meet this requirement, provided, however, that a separate place of attachment independent of the pintle hook on a pintle hook forging or casting may be used to attach the safety chains or cables to the towing vehicle.

- B. Safety chains or cables shall have no more slack than is necessary to permit proper turning.
- C. Each chain or cable and each means of attachment shall have an ultimate strength at least equal to the gross weight of the vehicle being towed.
- D. Chains or cables shall be connected to the towed and towing vehicle and to the tow bar, so as to prevent the tow bar from dropping to the ground in the event the tow bar fails or becomes disconnected.
- E. Every converter dolly with a hinged tow bar shall be equipped with two safety chains, or cables, or a bridle arrangement of a single chain or cable, attached to its frame or axle at two points as far apart as the configuration of the frame or axle permits. Such chains or cables shall be either two separate pieces, each equipped with a hook or other means for attachment to the towing vehicle, or a single piece leading along each side of the tow bar from the two points of attachment on the towed vehicle. When a single length of cable is used, a thimble and twin base cable clamps shall be used to form the forward bridle eye. The hook or other means of attachment to the towing vehicle shall be secured to the chains or cables in a fixed position.
- F. Converter dollies with solid tongues and without hinged tow bars or other swivels between the fifth wheel mounting and the attachment joint of the tongue, eye or other hitch device may be equipped with either one or two safety chains or cables, provided that if only one chain or cable is used, it shall be in line with the center line of the trailer tongue. The point of attachment of these chains or cables to such solid tongue converter dollies is optional provided only that such attachment is to the rear of the attachment of the tongue eye or other hitch device.

- G. Where two safety chains or cables are used and attached to the towing vehicle at separate points, the points of attachment on the towing vehicle shall be located equally distant from, and on opposite sides of, the center line of the towing vehicle. Where two chains or cables are attached to the same point on the towing vehicle, and where a bridle or a single chain or cable is used, the point of attachment must be on the center line of the towing vehicle.
- H. Coupling devices and towing devices shall comply with the Federal regulations as stated in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 393, Subpart F, as amended.
- I. Each dolly converter, when towed singly by another vehicle and not as part of a full trailer, shall be equipped with a minimum of one stop lamp, one tail lamp, and two rear reflectors. It must also be equipped with mud flaps, safety chains, and air brakes to be used as applicable.
- J. When the distance between the rear of one semi-trailer and the front of the following semi-trailer is 10 feet or more, the dolly shall be equipped with a device, or the trailers shall be connected along the sides with suitable material, which will indicate to other Thruway users that the trailers are connected and are in effect one unit. Such devices or connection shall be approved by the Authority prior to use on a LCV/tandem.
- K. Any LCVs/tandems using single wheel tires commonly referred to as "Super Singles" must have a total tire weight rating that is greater than the axle load capacity. For example, a single axle may carry 22,400 pounds. The total tire rating must be equal to or greater than 22,400 pounds.
- L. Any LCV using "Low Profile" tires must have a total tire weight rating equal to or greater than the axle load capacity.
- M. LCVs/tandems using a "B-Train" configuration will require separate approval by the Authority's Department of Engineering Services prior to initial LCV/tandem run. Special provisions regarding B-Trains will be reviewed at time of application or request for use on the Thruway.
- N. All converter dollies must have the wheels properly chocked or blocked when left unattended or unhooked in a LCV/tandem assembly area.

An Authority certified leasing company that supplies leased equipment is responsible for certification and maintenance of all equipment.

## 12. BRAKE PROVISIONS

- A. The brakes on any vehicle or dolly converter or combination of vehicles used in LCV/tandem operations shall comply with the Federal regulations as stated in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 393, Subpart C as amended.
- B. The brakes on any vehicle or dolly converter or combination of vehicles used in LCV/tandem operations shall also comply with the applicable requirements of the provisions of the V&T Law.

C. On units of LCVs/tandems certified on and after June 1, 1968, the brake application line of every LCV/tandem shall be equipped with suitable devices to accelerate application and release of the brakes of the towed vehicles. These devices shall be so arranged that the brake application signal does not pass directly through more than one trailer, but is dead-ended at the rear of the lead trailer or, alternatively, at the dolly, and the application signal then retransmitted to the dolly and the second trailer. The devices required above for retransmission of the application signal shall be closely connected to and supplied by air reservoirs which have their air supplied to them by the emergency line. In the event of rupture of the application line on the towed vehicles of any LCV/tandem, the loss of brake application shall be limited upstream of the loss to those vehicles between the rupture and the first retransmission device.

### 13. **AXLE TYPE**

A tractor which will be used to haul a LCV/tandem with a total gross weight of more than 110,000 pounds shall be equipped with LCV/tandem rear axles, both with driving power, or other axle configurations as may be approved by the Authority.

A tractor which will be used to haul a LCV/tandem with a total gross weight of 110,000 pounds or less may be a two axle tractor with a single drive axle.

### 14. **LIGHTING**

Each trailer in a LCV/tandem shall be equipped at a minimum with electric lamps and reflectors mounted on the vehicle as follows:

1. On the front: two amber clearance lamps, one at each side of the trailer.
2. On the rear: one red tail lamp; one red or amber stop lamp; two red clearance lamps, one on each side; two reflectors, one on each side.
3. On each side: one amber side-marker lamp located at or near the front; one red side-marker lamp located at or near the rear; one amber reflector located at or near the front; one red reflector located at or near the rear.

### 15. **LCV/TANDEM INSPECTION**

It shall be the responsibility of each LCV/tandem Permittee to ensure that all certified LCV/tandem equipment is systematically inspected and maintained by competent mechanical personnel to ensure that this equipment is kept in first class condition. Inspection and maintenance shall include the requirements outlined in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 396, as amended.

After all of the component vehicles in a LCV/tandem are completely hooked up, and prior to the departure of the unit from the assembly area, the driver shall, in addition to the pre-trip equipment inspection and use requirements set forth in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 392.7 and 392.8, as amended, inspect the combination unit and make certain tests on the vehicle, equipment, and hook-up to determine whether each item is in safe and proper operating condition.

The items to be inspected and the tests to be made must include at least the following:

- Federal equipment inspection

- Inspection of brake line to dolly and trailers
- Inspection of electric lines to dolly and trailers
- Inspection of coupling devices.

Entry to the Thruway System shall be denied to a LCV/tandem if a deficiency is noted on any of the above inspection items.

## 16. **RED AND BUFF TAGS**

Any equipment that has an out-of-service violation (as defined by Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations and/or deemed a hazard by Authority personnel) will be Red Tagged. Once the repairs are made, Company officials must notify the Authority so that the equipment can be used again. You may fax (preferred method) the information to (518) 449-3198 or mail it to:

New York State Thruway Authority  
Department Of Operations  
Attention: Traffic Management Vehicle Safety Specialist  
P.O. Box 189  
Albany, NY 12201-0189

Please include: (1) Red Tag number, (2) equipment number, (3) time and date of repairs, (4) copy of work order, (5) your name and (6) fax number.

Any equipment issued a Red Tag is **NOT** to be used in a LCV/tandem on the Thruway without the written permission of the Director of Traffic Management or their designee. Written permission cannot be granted to place any equipment back in service until confirmation is received that repairs have taken place.

Any equipment issued a Buff Tag should be serviced as soon as possible to prevent the deficiency from becoming a safety hazard.

Procedures for proper submission of both tags are outlined on the tags. An authorized signature is required on all tags and work orders when returned to the Authority.

Authorization to use LCVs/tandems or equipment may be withdrawn at any time at the sole discretion of the Authority.

## SAFETY RELATED PROVISIONS

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### 17. EQUIPMENT BREAKAWAYS

When a LCV/tandem breakaway occurs, it is vital for safety reasons that the breakaway be investigated thoroughly and promptly. To handle such incidents properly and safely, these procedures are followed:

- a. When a LCV/tandem breakaway occurs without property damage or personal injury, the Authority may permit the unit to be reassembled under the direct supervision of an authorized representative of the Company's maintenance department. Authority personnel will observe the rehooking of the units, and may allow them to proceed.
- b. When the breakaway or accident involves property damage or personal injury, all of the units of the combination will be Red-Tagged by Authority personnel.

In either instance, the Company will be required to submit a written report to the Director of Traffic Management within 10 days of the incident, detailing the results of their review of the breakaway and evaluation of the possible cause. The Authority will review each incident to determine if Company driver error was involved and will take appropriate action with respect to individual LCV/tandem driver or Company certification permits.

### 18. LCV/TANDEM ASSEMBLY

In the assembly of LCVs/tandems prior to their operation on the Thruway, the Permittee shall ascertain the total gross weight of each trailer of the proposed combination. When the gross weights of the two trailers in a LCV/tandem vary more than **20 percent**, the heavier of the two must be placed in the lead position.

### 19. EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

Each truck tractor used in LCV/tandem operations shall be equipped, at a minimum, with emergency equipment as required by Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 393, Subpart H, as amended. In addition, **tire chains shall be carried from October 15 to May 1**, fire extinguishers shall have an aggregate rating of 20BC, and each LCV/tandem unit shall be equipped with an operating flashlight.

### 20. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Special restrictions apply to the transportation of hazardous materials. **All Class 7 Radioactive materials and Class 1 Explosive Divisions 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are prohibited.** Other hazardous materials, classifications 2-6 and 8-9, as defined in the U.S. Department of Transportation Regulations, Section 173.2, may be carried in LCVs/tandems, but the total volume of such material in a LCV/tandem shall not exceed the total volume that could be carried in a single trailer.

All provisions of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety regulations, including Part 397, shall also be observed at all times. All unattended LCVs/tandems shall have the shipping papers of each trailer unit in the power unit of the vehicle, available and accessible for review. **All single trailers or trailer combinations shall display appropriate placarding as required.**

### 21. SPEED LIMIT

LCVs/tandems shall comply with the existing speed regulations for trucks and are subject to the **65**

**MPH strictly enforced speed limit**, or any lower speed limit posted because of adverse weather or road conditions. Radar detection devices are not permitted in LCV/tandem operations on the Thruway.

## 22. OPERATIONAL SAFETY

A minimum distance of 500 feet, or approximately four delineator spaces, shall be maintained under normal conditions between a LCV/tandem and a vehicle traveling in front of it in the same travel lane, except when passing occurs.

All LCV/tandem operators are required to wear safety belts when operating a LCV/tandem.

When entering the toll plazas from LCV/tandem compounds, it is the LCV/tandem operator's responsibility to ensure that the plaza is clear of any LCV/tandem trucks that could cause backup or impede traffic flow before entering the plaza with additional LCV/tandem equipment. All LCVs/tandems are mandated upon entry and exit to use a staffed (Toll Collector present) lane.

## 23. PASSING VEHICLES

A LCV/tandem may pass another vehicle traveling in the same direction only if the speed differential will allow the LCV/tandem to safely complete the maneuver and return to the normal driving lane within a distance of **one mile**.

## 24. EMERGENCY SERVICE

Service and towing vehicles owned and used for the maintenance of vehicles of LCV/tandem Permittees **MUST** be certified for operation on the Thruway System. The Permittee must certify on **Form H** (TA- W6812) that:

1. The vehicles are completely equipped with emergency lighting equipment.
2. Each employee who will operate this vehicle(s) has been instructed in Thruway Authority procedure for protecting the scene of a disabled vehicle and in the procedure for making U-turns as described in the Thruway Traffic Safety Manual (TAP 403).
3. Each employee has been instructed to make U-turns on the Thruway only when the next interchange is sufficiently distant from the scene of the disablement to warrant such action.
4. The vehicle will not be used in violation of the Provisions Governing the Operation of LCVs/Tandems (TAP 602) or of the Rules and Regulations of the New York State Thruway Authority.

Each approved maintenance vehicle will be assigned an identification number, which must be stenciled on the certified vehicle **with 3 inch high lettering**.

A Company that does not have its own servicing capability shall have the option of using a Thruway Authorized garage or an independent off-road service which meets both Thruway Authority and New York State Department of Motor Vehicle minimum qualifications. If the Permittee uses an independent off-road service, the Authority's Procedure for Handling Disabled Vehicles (682-0-01) must be followed. A copy of the Procedure is available upon request.

## **25. ROAD SERVICE PERMITS**

Road Service Permits for LCV/tandem vehicle repairs on the side of the road may be obtained at toll stations. Roadside service, towing, and recovery work on the Thruway are governed by the Rules and Regulations of the New York State Thruway Authority and Procedure for Handling Disabled Vehicles. Questions regarding these programs should be directed to the Director of Traffic Management at Authority Headquarters in Albany.

## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

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### 26. TOLL CLASSIFICATION TRANSACTIONS

Vehicle classification is based on height over the first two axles and the total number of axles for the vehicle combination, including trailers and dollies. Vehicles under 7' 6" in height over the first two axles are considered "LOW (L)." Vehicles 7' 6" or greater in height over the first two axles are considered "HIGH (H)." All LCV/tandems are designated as "HIGH (H)." The total number of axles plus the height designation determines the class. A five-axle LCV/tandem is Class 5H; six axles is Class 6H; seven or more axles is Class 7H.

### 27. AUTHORITY SUPERVISION

The Permittee shall, upon request, furnish the Authority with all data and information pertaining to an individual trip by a LCV/tandem or the overall LCV/tandem operation of the Permittee on the Thruway. The Permittee will allow representatives of the Authority to observe the operation by riding with the units or in any other prescribed manner so long as governmental and insurance regulations are complied with.

### 28. ASSIGNMENT AND DISPLAY OF IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS

All tractors certified by the Authority for use with LCV/tandem operations will be assigned an identification number by the Authority. The identification number will consist of the letters "TT" and two series of numbers separated by a hyphen. The set of digits preceding the hyphen will identify the Company owning the tractor and will be identical for all tractors owned by the Company. The set of digits following the hyphen will be issued chronologically to each tractor of the Company.

*Example* Joseph Smith Company requests and receives certification for three tractors to be used for LCV/tandem operations. The Joseph Smith Company will be assigned number 123, and the tractor identification numbers for the tractors will be as follows:

Tractor A - TT 123-1

Tractor B - TT 123-2

Tractor C - TT 123-3

The assigned identification number shall be stenciled in not less than **three (3) inch letters or numbers** on the left side of each tractor used in LCV/tandem operations.

Some suggested positions for the identification numbers are:

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| a. Side of engine hood | c. Crown of cab roof   |
| b. Door of cab         | d. Rear quarter of cab |

All trailers and dollies will be visibly identified in a similar manner as described above for tractors.

Trailers:

- a. Front gladhand location
- b. Left rear corner
- c. Rear doors

Dollies:

- a. Both left and right frame rails
- b. Rear frame

A certificate bearing the complete description of a particular tractor shall be issued by the Authority for each tractor. Such certificate shall be suitably protected and carried in the cab of the tractor which it describes at all times. The State Police and Authority personnel shall be permitted to view the vehicle in which such certificate is carried.

Any discrepancy between the description on the certificate, the actual vehicle, and the Authority identification number may result in the withdrawal of the approval of the particular tractor or of all of the vehicles and equipment of the Permittee.

**29. LCV/TANDEM PERMIT RENEWAL**

Company LCV/tandem permits must be renewed annually, and all equipment must be recertified annually. Company permit renewal requires completion of permit **Form A** (TA-W6807). Equipment recertification requires a letter on the Company's letterhead signed and submitted by a duly authorized designee of the firm listing the equipment to be recertified. These must be received by the Department of Operations at least 15 days before the permit expires. Renewal applications should be sent, on Company letterhead, to:

New York State Thruway Authority  
Department of Operations  
Attn: Director of Traffic Management  
P.O. Box 189  
Albany, NY 12201-0189

The letter must contain all the information required and be submitted in a format similar to the following example of recertification of LCV/tandem equipment:

***SAMPLE LETTER FOR RECERTIFICATION  
LCV/TANDEM EQUIPMENT***

The undersigned LCV/tandem Permittee affirms and recertifies to the Authority that all of our equipment which is presently properly certified for LCV/tandem operation on the New York State Thruway is being maintained, and will continue to be maintained to the standards established in the Provisions Governing the Operation of LCVs/Tandems (TAP 602) on the Thruway (**Form C** [TA-W6808], **Form D** [TA-W6809], **Form E** [TA-W6811]).

The Permittee also agrees that any subsequent changes to, or replacement of, certified and registered Company equipment must be recertified by the Company on the appropriate form provided by the Authority.

The equipment covered in this renewal application includes:

TRACTORS:           Company # \_\_\_\_\_ through Company # \_\_\_\_\_, exclusive of \_\_\_\_\_.

TRAILERS:           Company # \_\_\_\_\_ through Company # \_\_\_\_\_, exclusive of \_\_\_\_\_.

DOLLY

CONVERTERS:       Company # \_\_\_\_\_ through Company # \_\_\_\_\_, exclusive of \_\_\_\_\_.

I hereby affirm that the foregoing information is true and that I am executing this application as a duly authorized designee of my firm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Permittee)

By

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)

(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)

### **30. LCV/TANDEM ASSEMBLY AREAS**

LCVs/tandems shall be assembled and disassembled only in special make-up/breakup areas designated for this purpose by the Authority. No combination consisting of a truck tractor, first semi-trailer, and dolly with or without a second semi-trailer, shall exit from the Thruway System into a publicly maintained highway within the State of New York, except where other laws or local regulations permit. It shall be the responsibility of the trucking companies to see that all movements across traffic while entering or leaving a make-up/breakup area are supervised to minimize the possibility of accidents. Protective devices, such as flags, flares or lights, shall be used to warn and stop traffic while a LCV/tandem unit or any of its component parts is maneuvering on the pavement. The Permittee shall assume all responsibility for his/her vehicles and equipment, as well as the contents thereof, while such vehicles and equipment are in the make-up/breakup areas. LCV/tandem assembly areas are not to be used for parking of **12 hours** or more of either vehicles or equipment without express permission of the Authority.

### **31. REVOCATION OF LCV/TANDEM PERMIT**

The Authority may revoke or temporarily suspend any permit issued for the operation of LCVs/tandems on the Thruway, at its sole discretion, as it determines is in the best interests of the Authority. The issuance of such a Permit confers no property right whatsoever upon the Permittee or any other person or entity. The Authority specifically reserves the right to revise the Governing Provisions pursuant to which such Permit has been issued, at its sole discretion, in the exercise of its police powers or any other powers which it may possess. If the Authority shall temporarily suspend LCV/tandem operations at any time for any reason, including reasons of inclement weather, reconstruction, or other conditions, the instructions of the Authority and the State Police shall be complied with immediately.

### **32. LEASING COMPANIES**

Any Company holding a valid LCV/tandem Permit is responsible for ensuring that all the provisions of the Thruway Authority's Rules and Regulations and Provisions Governing the Operation of LCVs/Tandems that Exceed the Limits of Section 385 of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law (TAP 602) as set out in Section 1 are met when utilizing leased equipment in LCV/tandem operations.

### **33. TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

LCV/tandem procedures and provisions will be monitored by State Police and Authority personnel. The Authority's Traffic & Safety Committee has established sanctions and penalties for violations of LCV/Tandem Provisions. The Committee will review reports of violations and issue sanctions and/or penalties according to the established guidelines. A copy of the guidelines may be obtained from the Director of Traffic Management by written request.