Motor Vehicle Division Informational Memo # 22-22
2022 Legislation – Annual All-Systems Overweight Permit

DATE: November 1, 2022
FROM: Kelli Huser, Compliance Officer, MVD
TO: All Motor Vehicle Division staff

SUBJECT
This informational memo explains legislation enacted during the 2022 legislative session which authorizes us to issue a new annual all-systems overweight permit.

SUMMARY
SF 2376 establishes new Iowa Code section 321E.8(1A). This code section will allow a motor carrier to request, and us to issue, an annual all-systems permit for overweight divisible and indivisible loads. The loads must have a total gross weight that does not exceed the gross weight authorized under section 321.463 by more than twelve percent. The loads must not exceed the dimensions specified in Iowa Code sections 321.454 through 321.457. **This memo was originally issued June 30, 2022. It was revised October 31 to provide additional questions and answers. It was further revised November 1 to clarify contact information for the cities.**

The legislation is effective January 1, 2023.

LINK TO LEGISLATION
https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=89&ba=SF2376

CURRENT
Under current law, we are authorized to issue an all-systems permit for oversize loads but may not issue an all-systems permit for overweight loads.

NEW
The legislation will allow us to issue two separate all-systems permits:

1. The existing annual all-systems oversize permit, authorized under Iowa Code 321E.3(1) and 321E.8. These are indivisible loads only and are limited to 80,000 lbs. but may exceed the dimensions specified in Iowa Code sections 321.454 through 321.457 (height, width, and length). This permit is $160.
2. A new annual all-systems overweight permit, authorized under Iowa Code 321E.3(1) and 321E.8(1A). These loads may be indivisible or divisible. These loads may not exceed the dimensions specified in Iowa Code sections 321.454 through 321.457. But these loads may have a total gross weight that does not exceed the gross weight authorized under section 321.463 by more than twelve percent. This new annual all-systems overweight permit is $500.

BUSINESS IMPACT

This legislation will allow motor carrier staff who issue overweight permits to issue a new annual all-systems overweight permit. Central office MVD staff will work with Bentley to create the new permit type and any required forms. Because this legislation is not effective until January 1, 2023, we anticipate updating this guidance with further information once we are closer to the implementation date.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following questions and answers provide additional information to you and to customers. We expect to update questions and answers as we are closer to the January 1, 2023 implementation date.

IS THIS PERMIT ONLY FOR AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES?

No, the new all-systems overweight permit is not limited to agricultural commodities but applies to all divisible and indivisible loads that otherwise meet the dimension and weight requirements. In 2022, the legislature considered a different bill that would have limited a permit to certain agricultural commodities, but that bill did not pass.

AS OF JANUARY 1, 2023, CAN I TRAVEL ON ALL ROADS IN IOWA UNDER THIS PERMIT?

A customer can travel on the primary road system, other than the interstate system. But the customer must review applicable maps on the DOT website such as for bridge embargos or construction.

While we expect some county and city roads will be available for travel on January 1, 2023, counties have until July 1, 2025 to identify county roads to be included under this permit. City participation is not required under the law. Prior to travel, customers should go to the map at the following link to see what county and city roads are included: https://iowadot.gov/mvd/motorcarriers/Maps

HOW DO I RECOMMEND A COUNTY OR CITY ROAD TO INCLUDE FOR TRAVEL UNDER THIS PERMIT?

Customers may contact their county engineers about particular county roads. The below link provides contact information for all county engineers in the state of Iowa, as well as a link to each county's website for more information:
https://www.iowacountyroads.org/find-your-county-engineer

For city roads, customers may refer to individual city websites for city contact information.

IF I TRAVEL UNDER THIS PERMIT, CAN I INCREASE BY AXLE DISTANCES BY 12% FOR THE WEIGHT TABLES IN IOWA CODE 321.463?

No. The only numbers that increase by 12% in the weight tables in Iowa Code 321.463 are the gross weights in each column. The distance in feet and the number of axles will remain the same. See the charts further down in this memo for specific weights.

IF I TRAVEL UNDER THIS PERMIT, WHAT ARE THE AXLE LIMITS FOR THE LOAD?

20,000 lbs. per axle maximum, except that a single tandem axle on the truck and a single tandem axle on the trailer may have a maximum gross weight of up to 46,000 lbs. if each axle of the tandem group has at least 4 tires, as per Iowa Code 321E.7(3)(e).

CAN I GET THIS PERMIT FOR MY IMPLEMENT OF HUSBANDRY?

No. Implements of husbandry are already allowed to travel at heavier axle weights and heavier gross weights under different Iowa law. There are specific permits issued for implements of husbandry in Iowa Code 321, but the other permit requirements of Iowa Code 321E do not apply, including the availability of this permit.

CAN I USE THIS NEW PERMIT AND AN ALL-SYSTEMS OVERSIZE PERMIT TOGETHER?

No. The two permits are not designed to be used together.

IF I TRAVEL UNDER THIS PERMIT, HOW HEAVY CAN I HAUL ON THE PRIMARY HIGHWAYS FOR 3-AXLE, 4-AXLE, AND 5-AXLE TRUCKS?

The below chart shows the maximum gross weight under the permit (maximum gross weight increased by 12%) for primary highways for 3-axle, 4-axle, and 5-axle trucks:

MAXIMUM GROSS WEIGHT TABLE FOR NEW ALL-SYSTEMS WEIGHT PERMIT- PRIMARY HIGHWAYS

distance in feet	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles
4			
5			
6			
7	38080		
8	38080		
8'1"	47040		
9	47600		
10	48720	54320	
11	49280	55440	
12	50400	56000	
13	50960	56560	62,720
14	52080	57680	63,840
15	52640	58240	64,400
16	53760	58800	64,960
17	54320	59920	65,520
18	55440	60480	66,080
19	56000	61040	67,200
20	57120	62160	67,760
21	57680	62720	68,320
22	58800	63280	68,880

MAXIMUM GROSS WEIGHT TABLE FOR NEW ALL-SYSTEMS WEIGHT PERMIT- PRIMARY HIGHWAYS- Continued			
Distance in feet	**3 axles**	**4 axles**	**5 axles**
23	59360	64400	70,000
24	60,000*	64960	70,560
25	60,000*	65520	71,120
26	60,000*	66640	71,680
27	60,000*	67200	72,800
28	60,000*	67760	73,360
29	60,000*	68880	73,920
30	60,000*	69440	74,480
31	60,000*	70000	75,600
32	60,000*	71120	76,160
33		71680	76,720
34		72240	77,840
35		73360	78,400
36		76160	78,960
37		76160	79,520
38		76160	80,640
39		76160	81,200
40		76720	81,760
41		77840	82,320
42		78400	82,880
43		78960	84,000
44		80,000*	84,560
45		80,000*	85,120
46		80,000*	85,680
47		80,000*	86,800
48		80,000*	87,360
49		80,000*	87,920
50		80,000*	88,480
51		80,000*	89,600
52		80,000*	
53		80,000*	
54		80,000*	
55		80,000*	
56		80,000*	
57		80,000*	
*will exceed legal axle weights if given full 12% increase			

IF I TRAVEL UNDER THIS PERMIT, HOW HEAVY CAN I HAUL ON THE NONPRIMARY HIGHWAYS FOR 3-AXLE, 4-AXLE, AND 5-AXLE TRUCKS?

The below chart shows the maximum gross weight under the permit (maximum gross weight increased by 12%) for nonprimary highways for 3-axle, 4-axle, and 5-axle trucks:

MAXIMUM GROSS WEIGHT TABLE FOR NEW ALL-SYSTEMS OVERWEIGHT PERMIT-NONPRIMARY HIGHWAYS

distance in feet	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles
4			
5			
6			
7	38080		
8	38080		
8'1"	47040		
9	47600		
10	48720	50400	
11	49280	51520	
12	50400	52640	
13	50960	53760	54,320
14	52080	54880	55,440
15	52640	56000	56,560
16	53760	57120	57,680
17	54320	58240	58,800
18	55440	59360	59,920
19	56000	61040	61,040
20	57120	62160	62,160
21	57680	62720	63,280
22	58800	63280	64,400
23	59360	64400	65,520
24	60,000*	64960	66,640
25	60,000*	65520	67,760
26	60,000*	66640	68,880
27	60,000*	67200	70,000
28	60,000*	67760	71,120
29	60,000*	68880	72,240
30	60,000*	69440	73,360
31	60,000*	70000	74,480
32	60,000*	71120	75,600
33		71680	76,720
34		72240	77,840

MAXIMUM GROSS WEIGHT TABLE FOR NEW ALL-SYSTEMS OVERWEIGHT PERMIT- NONPRIMARY HIGHWAYS Continued			
Distance in feet	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles
35		73360	78,400
36		76160	78,960
37		76160	79,520
38		76160	80,640
39		76160	81,200
40		76720	81,760
41		77840	82,320
42		78400	82,880
43		78960	84,000
44		80,000*	84,560
45		80,000*	85,120
46		80,000*	85,680
47		80,000*	86,800
48		80,000*	87,360
49		80,000*	87,920
50		80,000*	88,480
51		80,000*	89,600
52		80,000*	
53		80,000*	
54		80,000*	
55		80,000*	
56		80,000*	
57		80,000*	
*will exceed legal axle weights if given full 12% increase			

IF I TRAVEL UNDER THIS PERMIT, DO I NEED A CDL TO TRAVEL AT 6 AXLES UP TO 100,800 LBS. OR AT 7 AXLES UP TO 107,520 LBS.?

Customers can only use the below chart to carry heavier loads if the driver meets one of the following:

- Has a commercial driver's license (CDL)
- Has a restricted CDL
- Is a farmer or a person working for a farmer while operating a covered farm vehicle. For more information on if a vehicle is a "covered farm vehicle" visit this website: https://iowadot.gov/farmersafety/Covered-farm-vehicle-exceptions#406741427-which-cmvs-are-considered-covered-farm-vehicles

MAXIMUM GROSS WEIGHT TABLE FOR NEW ALL-SYSTEMS WEIGHT PERMIT-NONINTERSTATE HIGHWAYS AND COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE

distance in feet	6 axles	7 axles
44	90160	90160
45	90720	91280
46	91280	92400
47	91840	93520
48	92960	94080
49	93520	95200
50	94080	96320
51	94640	97440
52	95200	98560
53	96320	99120
54	96880	100240
55	97440	101360
56	98000	102480
57	98560	103040
58	99680	104160
59	100240	105280
60	100800	106400
61		106960
62		107520

WHAT WARNING DEVICES MUST I DISPLAY WHILE OPERATING UNDER THIS PERMIT?

Vehicles operating over 80,000 lbs. are required to display a flashing or strobe amber light that is visible for at least 500 feet and provides 360 degrees warning. The light must be mounted on the towing unit and be visible from both front and rear. More than one light may be necessary.

WHAT WEIGHT MUST I REGISTER FOR WHILE OPERATING UNDER THIS PERMIT?

Vehicles traveling under this or any other permit must be registered for the gross weight of the vehicle and the load under Iowa law. All trucks and combinations are allowed to operate in excess of their

registration weight by up to 5 percent when in Iowa. Trucks or combinations transporting raw agricultural products are allowed to operate in excess of their registration weight by up to 25 percent when in Iowa.