

## Special types General Order 2003 – an explanation

### Introduction

Most equipment used on roads is covered by the Construction and Use (C & U) regulations. The Special Types General Order (STGO) regulations relate to vehicles and loads that are not covered by the C & U regulations. This summary covers the STGO regulations which cover the use of vehicles carrying abnormal loads.

An abnormal load is defined as :

- (i) A load that cannot without due expense or risk or damage be divided into two or more loads (indivisible load), and which cannot be carried on a normal vehicle covered by the C & U regulations due to its dimensions or
- (ii) The combined weight of the vehicle and its load exceeds 44,000 kgs.

STGO vehicle and load combined weights are divided into 3 categories

Gross combined weight up to	Category
50,000 kgs	Category 1
80,000 kgs	Category 2
150,000 kgs	Category 3

### Summary of conditions

	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
<b>Notification to police</b>	2 days clear notice if either : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• width exceeds 2.9m</li> <li>• overall rigid length exceeds 18.75m</li> <li>• overall combination length , including load, exceeds 25.9m, or if overhang exceeds 3.05m</li> </ul>	2 days clear notice if either : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• width exceeds 2.9m</li> <li>• overall rigid length exceeds 18.75m</li> <li>• overall combination length , including load, exceeds 25.9m, or if overhang exceeds 3.05m</li> </ul>	2 days clear notice if either : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• width exceeds 2.9m</li> <li>• overall rigid length exceeds 18.75m</li> <li>• overall combination length , including load, exceeds 25.9m, or if overhang exceeds 3.05m</li> <li>• gross combination weight exceeds 80,000kg</li> </ul>
<b>Notification to Highways and Bridge Authorities</b>	2 clear days notice plus indemnity for damage	2 clear days notice plus indemnity for damage	5 clear days notice plus indemnity for damage
<b>Multiple loads</b>	Permitted if : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are all of the same type</li> <li>• Were loaded at the same place</li> <li>• Have the same destination</li> <li>• Load doesn't exceed 18.75m long and 3m wide</li> </ul>	Permitted if : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are all of the same type</li> <li>• Were loaded at the same place</li> <li>• Have the same destination</li> <li>• Length and width no greater than necessary for just one load</li> </ul>	Not normally permitted