

Transporting High Containers

August 2000



Temporary High Containers Scheme

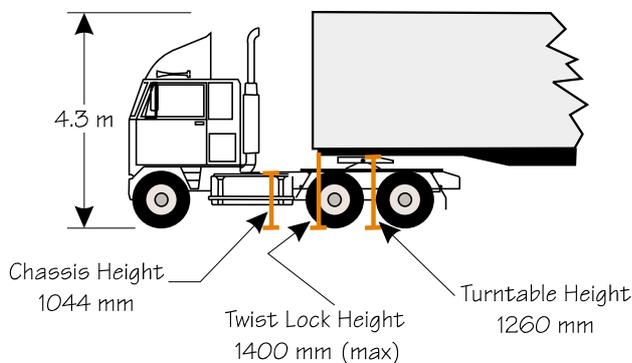
In April 1997, Victoria introduced a temporary scheme which allowed high containers to be carried on a conventional vehicle to a maximum height of 4.6 m. The scheme provided industry almost three years in which to re-equip with low profile vehicles in order to carry 9'6" high containers within the national height of 4.3 m.

This scheme ended on 30 June 2000.

What do I need to do?

To carry high containers, operators will need to be equipped with low profile vehicles.

Things to be considered when purchasing a low profile vehicle are shown in the diagram below.



If all the above features are met, it should enable a 9'6" container to be carried at the nationally agreed height limit of 4.3 metres.

When transporting containers higher than 9'6", the above vehicle dimensions would need to be reduced even further to meet the national height limit of 4.3 metres.

These lower vehicles also have the added advantage of offering better stability.

Vehicles carrying an oversize indivisible item in an open top container or on a container base will continue to be eligible for consideration for oversize permits from VicRoads.

What will happen if I don't comply?

If you exceed this limit, you will be facing a fine by penalty notice, which is currently \$165, or a fine resulting from a court prosecution of up to \$2,000 for an individual and \$10,000 for a corporation.

Further Information

For further information please contact VicRoads' Permit Issuing Officers on (03) 9313 1224 or (03) 9881 8852.

Container Documentation

Drivers and operators should be aware that shipping containers and all documentation relating to these containers have a four character international ISO code, which provides information on the dimensions and type of container.

This first character denotes the container length, the second container height, and the third and fourth the type of container. In the example below (45G1), the container is a 40' long, 9'6" high general purpose container.

It should be noted that where the ISO code is displayed and the second character is "5", then the container is 9'6" high.



Safety Considerations

Drivers are reminded that Victoria has a number of low bridges, particularly around the Melbourne wharf area.

It is the responsibility of the driver and/or operator to ensure that the appropriate vehicle is used for the load to be carried and the most appropriate route is selected for each trip.

To assist drivers to plan their routes, VicRoads has produced a booklet, Height Clearance on Roads. The booklet shows the location of low bridges and tram wires. It is available free from any VicRoads office.

