

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DIVISION OF TRAFFIC OPERATIONS

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Transportation Permits Policy Memorandum

Subject: Tridem Bonus Weight – Equal Axle Weight Distribution for Hauled Vehicles Revised
Date: April 9, 2021
Policy: TPPM 2009-04 (Revised)
Reference: CTPAC WG4-040407-001, Addendum B

Objective

This policy will allow the equal redistribution of axle weights for hauled vehicles with a qualified Bonus tridem axle group and an adjacent straight tridem axle group. Maximum of two bonus tridem groups is allowed per vehicle combination, regardless of the number of axles. This policy will supersede TPPM 2009-04, issued on June 7, 2010.

Existing Documentation

TPPM 2009-01, TPPM 2009-02 (Revised), TPPM 2009-04, Weight Chart Plates 25-4 and 25-5

Transportation Permit Manual Changes

Add the following new section:

302.5.5 Tridems Bonus Weight – Equal Axle Weight Distribution for Hauled Vehicles

This policy only applies to hauled vehicles (i.e. three (3) or more vehicle combinations with jeeps, dollies, etc...) Hauled vehicles with qualified Bonus GREEN tridem axle groups may be allowed to redistribute weight between adjacent straight GREEN tridem groups. Hauled vehicles with qualified Bonus PURPLE tridem axle groups may be allowed to redistribute weight between adjacent straight PURPLE tridem groups. Requests for equal weight distribution for tridem groups that are not close coupled shall comply with the following:

TPPM 2009-04 (Revised)

Tridem Bonus Weight – Equal Axle Weight Distribution for Hauled Vehicles

April 9, 2021

- No more than two (2) Bonus weight tridem groups per vehicle combination, regardless of the number of axles.
- Minimum spacing between the Bonus tridem groups is 25'-0", measured from the center of the last axle to center of the first axle of the next tridem group.
- Measured no less than 8'-0" and no greater than 10'-4" from the center of the first axle to the center of the last axle within the same tridem group.
- Minimum of four (4) tires per axle.
- Minimum axle width of 8'-0", measured from extreme width of the axle or tire on the left side to the extreme width of the axle or tire of the same axle on the right side, not including the load induced tire bulge.
- Not be a crane.
- Only Bonus tridem groups are allowed to split or redistribute weight with an adjacent tridem group.
- Tridem groups must not be close coupled.
- Maximum of two (2) split tridem groups.
- Equal weight distribution for GREEN weight is allowed only between a qualified Bonus GREEN tridem weight group and an adjacent straight GREEN tridem weight group.
- Equal weight distribution for PURPLE weight is allowed only between a qualified Bonus PURPLE tridem weight group and an adjacent straight PURPLE tridem weight group.
- Tridem groups are only allowed equal split weight (50/50 distribution) from the combined total weights.
- Weights shall be determined and is limited to equipment capacity.
- Redistributed weights must be shown on the inspection report.

Equal weight distribution policy will only be allowed with a valid inspection report. Customer must request for equal weight distribution of tridem axles at the time of vehicle inspection. For previously inspected equipment, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) may reinspect the vehicle and issue a revised inspection report. The customer shall contact the Caltrans vehicle inspector to request a revised inspection report.



April 9, 2021

THOMAS SCHRIBER Chief
Office of Commercial Vehicle Operations

Date