State of California
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Traffic Operations, Mail Station 36
Transportation Permits Branch



# Transportation Permits Policy Memorandum

**Subject:** Tridem Bonus Weight
**Date:** March 4, 2013
**Policy:** TPPM 2009-02 (Revised)
**Reference:** CTPAC- WG4-111203-002, WG7-090104-001, WG4-080708-001

## Objectives

This policy will:

- Supersede TPPM 2006-04
- Allow bonus weight for tridem axle group with 4 tires per axle.
- Add GREEN and PURPLE Tridem Bonus weight charts for qualifying tridem axles.
- Allow up to 52,000 lbs bonus GREEN weight and up to 60,000 lbs bonus PURPLE weight on a qualifying tridem axle group.
- Revise tridem group maximum axles spacing from 10'- 0" to 10'- 4".

## Existing Documentation

The following source contains information related to this subject:
TPPM 2006-04, TPPM 2009-01, Weight Chart plates 25-4 and 25-5.

## Transportation Permit Manual Changes

1) *Add the following new section to:*

### 302.5 Allowable Axle Weight

#### 302.5.4 Tridem Bonus Weight

For tridem groups to qualify for bonus weight, the axle group(s) must comply with the following:

- No more than two (2) bonus weight tridem groups per vehicle combination.
- Minimum spacing between the bonus tridem groups is 25'- 0" or greater, measured from the center of the last axle to center of the first axle of the next tridem axle group.
- Be inspected laden if the vehicle combination contains a mechanical distribution unit.
- Not be close coupled.
- 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.

**302.5.4 Tridem Bonus Weight (con't)**

Tridems* qualifying under this policy shall be routed as follows:

- **5 axle** – One (1) tridem group in a combination (i.e. 3 axle tractor 3 axle trailer).
- **7 axle** – Two (2) tridem groups in a combination (i.e. 4 axle tractor 3 axle trailer).
- **9 axle** – Two (2) tridem groups in a 3 vehicle combination.
- **11 axle** – Two (2) tridem groups in a 4 vehicle combination.

***NOTE: Mechanical Distribution Units (MDUs), i.e. 3+3, 3+2, 3+1, will be considered as one (1) vehicle for routing purposes.**

**The weight chart below shall be used for assignment of Tridem Bonus GREEN group weight.**
Note: Weights are drawn from 8'- 0" wide, 8 tires per axle line of Weight Chart Plate 25-4.

| Ft/In | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 50,232 | 50,319 | 50,406 | 50,494 | 50,581 | 50,668 | 50,755 | 50,842 | 50,930 | 51,017 | 51,104 | 51,191 |
| 9 | 51,279 | 51,366 | 51,453 | 51,540 | 51,627 | 51,715 | 51,802 | 51,889 | 51,976 | 52,000 | 52,000 | 52,000 |
| 10 | 52,000 | 52,000 | 52,000 | 52,000 | 52,000 | | | | | | | |

**The weight chart below shall be used for assignment of Tridem Bonus PURPLE group weight.**
Note: Weights are drawn from 8'- 0" wide, 8 tires per axle line of Weight Chart Plate 25-5.

| Ft/In | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 57,960 | 58,061 | 58,161 | 58,262 | 58,363 | 58,463 | 58,564 | 58,664 | 58,765 | 58,866 | 58,966 | 59,067 |
| 9 | 59,168 | 59,268 | 59,369 | 59,469 | 59,570 | 59,671 | 59,771 | 59,872 | 59,973 | 60,000 | 60,000 | 60,000 |
| 10 | 60,000 | 60,000 | 60,000 | 60,000 | 60,000 | | | | | | | |

Yin Ping Li 3/4/2013

**YIN-PING LI**, Chief
Office of Truck Services

Date