

	TRUCK ENTRANCE SIGN		<i>Issued: MAY 2005</i>
			<i>Revised: DEC 2006</i>
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RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	PART	HIGHWAY SIGNS	
	SECTION	WARNING SIGNS	
	SUB-SECTION		

General

Truck turning movements at intersections can be hazardous to the approaching drivers, often requiring them to slow down to accommodate fully loaded trucks which may be crossing or merging at slower speeds.

Truck turning manoeuvres are particularly unsafe when an intersection has sight distance restrictions or inadequate sight triangle.

Temporary sites (such as construction sites, borrow pits, exploration or mining sites) usually operate for a short period of time. They often pose a hazard to the highway traffic because drivers normally do not anticipate large, slow moving vehicles merging or turning from the site.

A Truck Entrance sign may be used in advance of such intersections to warn the approaching drivers about frequent and possibly unsafe truck maneuvers ahead.

Standard

A standard Truck Entrance sign consists of a black symbol on a yellow background. The right version of the Truck Entrance sign indicates a truck entrance from the right side of the highway. The left version of the Truck Entrance sign indicates a truck entrance from the left side of the highway.



WC-8	750 mm x 750 mm 900 mm x 900 mm 1200 mm x 1200 mm R-right, L-left	
Colour	Symbol and Border Background	Black Yellow
Sheeting	ASTM, Type III or IV	

The educational Truck Entrance tab sign, WC-8-T, may be attached below the Truck Entrance sign to communicate in words the meaning of the Truck Entrance symbol. The educational tab sign may be needed when a new sign is first introduced in the area.



WC-8-T	600 mm x 300 mm	
Colour	Symbol and Border Background	Black Yellow
Sheeting	ASTM, Type III or IV	

Sizes of Signs

The standard size of a Truck Entrance sign is **750 mm x 750 mm**.

Oversize signs are permitted in special situations where an investigation has shown that a larger sign is needed for greater visibility or emphasis.

Such situations include complex visual environments where many traffic control devices compete for driver attention, or high speed and high traffic volume locations with recorded safety problems.

In determining whether an oversize sign is warranted, one should consider the following factors: the degree of hazard as revealed by a collision history, posted speed limits and background distractions. There are no simple warrants for the use of the oversize signs; each case must be decided on its own merit.

Guidelines For Use

In general, a Truck Entrance sign may be installed in advance of an intersection which has been heavily used by truck traffic and where physical conditions of the site present an uncommon degree of hazard.

The following specific criteria may be utilized when assessing the need for a Truck Entrance sign at an intersection (all criteria need to be met):

- the intersection experiences considerable truck traffic (usually 15 percent or more trucks in the traffic stream)
- the intersection has minimum or substandard physical conditions

affecting the operation of trucks and traffic in general. Such substandard conditions include an inadequate sight triangle or sight distance restrictions due to horizontal or vertical alignment constraints.

- the intersection has experienced safety problems related to truck activity as indicated by a collision history or stakeholder input.

The Truck Entrance sign may also be considered in advance of entrances to temporary construction sites, frequently used borrow pits, or other temporary industrial sites. Truck activities at such locations are often seasonal, posing additional hazard to drivers who might not be aware of new traffic conditions.

Guidelines for Placement

The Truck Entrance sign should be placed a distance of 300 to 350 metres in advance of a problematic intersection. Signs are usually installed for both directions of travel.

The Truck Entrance sign is installed on the right-hand side of the highway. On divided highways and one-way roadways with visibility problems, an additional sign should be installed on the left-hand side of the roadway.

Safety Issues

It is important to realize that warning signs will not eliminate a hazard posed by an intersection which has geometric deficiencies (e.g., sight distance restrictions). Usually, a more detailed investigation is needed to determine if the existing conditions could be improved and a hazard removed or reduced.

Factors to consider during such an investigation include:

- geometric conditions (e.g., the presence of sharp vertical or horizontal curves in the vicinity of an intersection, intersection configuration including turning radii and auxiliary lanes etc.)
- operational conditions (e.g., turning movements at an intersection, percentage of trucks in the traffic stream)
- safety record (e.g., collisions involving trucks and pedestrians).

Improvements may include:

- improvements to sight distances
- geometric improvements
- intersection lighting.

References to Standards

*Highway Geometric
Design Guide*

Section D.4.2 Minimum Sight Triangle

Section B.2.6 Decision Sight Distance