	<b>COMMERCIAL VEHICLES OVER 4500 KG MUST INSPECT BRAKES SIGN</b>		<i>Issued: DEC 2006</i>
			<i>Revised:</i>
			<i>Page 1 of 2</i>
<b>RECOMMENDED PRACTICES</b>	PART	HIGHWAY SIGNS	
	SECTION	REGULATORY SIGNS	
	SUB-SECTION		

### General

Large vehicles (vehicles over 4500 kg) have different operational characteristics than small vehicles. Large vehicles can easily develop high speeds when travelling on a downhill road section. Operators use lower gears and brakes to control excessive vehicle speeds. When not properly controlled by a braking device, large vehicles can pose a significant hazard to other road users.

Currently, provincial policy requires that operators of large commercial vehicles perform a braking equipment inspection in designated areas before entering a steep downhill road section. Specific turnout facilities have been constructed along the provincial highways to enable operators to pull off the road and perform a brake inspection.

Special regulatory signs are installed on the approaches to these turnout facilities to direct and inform the large vehicle operators of the need to stop and perform the brake inspection.

For consistency in treatment, all of these turnout facilities should be signed the same way.

Where this sign is installed, large vehicle operators are required to stop and inspect their braking equipment prior to proceeding down the roadway.

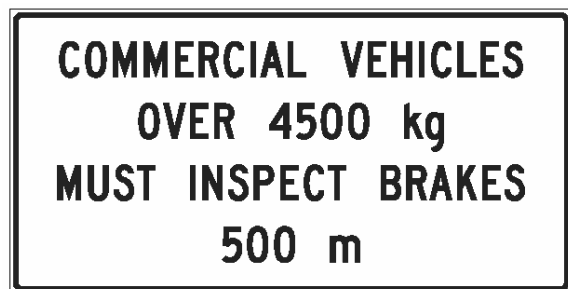
### Standard

The Commercial Vehicles Over 4500 kg Must Inspect Brakes sign has a 200 mm letter height, a white background and black text.



<b>RB-217</b>	<b>3600 x 1200 mm</b>	
<b>Colour</b>	Text and border Background	Black White
<b>Sheeting</b>	ASTM Type III or IV	

This sign is used in conjunction with an additional regulatory sign that gives large commercial vehicles advance notice of the requirement to pull over.



<b>RB-216</b>	<b>3000 x 1500 mm</b>	
<b>Colour</b>	Text and border Background	Black White
<b>Sheeting</b>	ASTM Type III or IV	

### **Guidelines for Use**

The use of the Commercial Vehicles Over 4500 kg Must Inspect Brakes sign is reserved for locations where:

- A steep grade (greater than 6%) exists, or
- There is a history of incidents of runaway vehicles,

And:

- A turnout area for conducting brake inspections exists.

A significant amount of large vehicle traffic (greater than 5% trucks) should exist along the roadway before this sign is considered.

The provision of runaway lanes on the downhill is not a requirement for the use of this sign.

When the Commercial Vehicles Over 4500 kg Must Inspect Brakes sign is used, all large commercial vehicles must stop and complete brake system inspections in compliance with the Alberta Drivers Air Brake Manual procedure or, for other brake types (i.e., hydraulic, electric), the generally accepted brake inspection practice.

### **Guidelines for Placement**

The Commercial Vehicles Over 4500 kg Must Inspect Brakes sign should be placed within the highway right-of-way at the start of the deceleration taper. Sign placement should be in accordance with the Recommended Practices guideline entitled Placement of Signs.

### **Enforcement**

Commercial Vehicles Over 4500 kg Must Inspect Brakes signs are enforced by the RCMP and Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation's Commercial Vehicle Enforcement branch under the Traffic Safety Act, Use of Highway and Rules of the Road Regulation, Section 57.

### **References to Standards**

Recommended Practices Section: General	Placement of Signs
Alberta Drivers Air Brake Manual	