


<b>Government of Alberta</b>  Transportation	<b>AUCTION MART/LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE SIGNS</b>		<i>Issued: JAN 2010</i>
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<b>RECOMMENDED PRACTICES</b>	PART	HIGHWAY SIGNS	
	SECTION	GUIDE AND INFORMATION SIGNS	
	SUB-SECTION		

## General

Livestock, farm equipment and estate auctions/exchanges may be conducted at permanent or temporary sites. These sites may be outside urban centres along Alberta highways.

Where an auction mart or livestock exchange is located away from the provincial highway, directional signs may be provided to assist motorists in navigating to the auction mart or livestock exchange site.

Due to the potential for auction marts and livestock exchanges to generate large volumes of unfamiliar traffic, they are treated similar to other large traffic generator sites.

## Standard

### *Permanent Auction Sites*

Permanent auction/exchange sites are those where the primary business is auctions, and a minimum of 1 auction is held per month.

Signs shall have the following design criteria:

- White text on a standard green background
- Lettering should be standard alphabet (as specified in the TAC Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Canada) or Clearview
- 203 mm (8 inch) lettering for signs on two-lane, undivided highways

- 254 mm (10 inch) lettering for signs on divided highways
- ASTM Type III or IV sheeting material
- Size not in excess of that necessary to accommodate the sign message.

The sign content is restricted to the name of the facility and the distance/direction to the facility only.

***No advertising or other information about the auction mart/livestock exchange such as a website address or business phone numbers will be allowed on a directional sign.***

Directional signs will not be permitted if the auction mart/livestock exchange is located adjacent to the highway and has identification signs visible to the motoring public.

A permit is required to install the specified signs. Applicants wishing to install signs along a provincial highway must submit an application to one of the Alberta Transportation district offices in order to have them approved.

A listing of Alberta Transportation district offices and an example of the required application is provided at the following website:

<http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/Content/docType329/Production/signinstr.pdf>

After reviewing an application, Alberta transportation will issue a Letter of Approval allowing for the placement of signs within the highway right-of-way.

#### *Temporary/Mobile Auction Sites*

When an auction/exchange is to take place at a non-permanent location (i.e., typically a one day event), a temporary sign will be permitted in each direction of travel in advance of the nearest highway access point to the auction site. These auction/exchange signs may only be placed on private property.

The maximum allowable size of each sign is 1.5 square metres. The signs will be permitted to include the address of the auction and the times which it will be operating.

Signs may be placed 12 hours in advance of the event start time and must be removed once the event is completed. A permit to install the sign is not required. However, the sign owner should obtain permission to hold the event from the local municipality prior to installing temporary signs.

#### **Guidelines for Placement**

A directional sign to an auction mart or livestock exchange should be placed at the nearest provincial highway intersection providing access to the facility site.

Signs should be placed 150 to 300 metres in advance of the intersection or at the beginning of a deceleration taper in accordance with the Recommended Practices guideline for the Placement of Signs. Directional sign(s) for permanent auction mart/livestock exchange sites should

be placed within the highway right-of-way.

No directional signs will be allowed in the median on divided highways.

Two signs will be permitted for the auction mart or livestock exchange (one for each direction of travel on the highway). Other signs located in the vicinity of the access point may affect the placement of auction mart/livestock exchange signs.

Where a sign permit from Alberta Transportation is not required for sign installation (i.e., a temporary site), care must be taken when selecting an appropriate installation location. If sign posts are to be buried in the ground, the sign owner must undertake an investigation to determine that no buried utilities exist in the area before digging holes to install sign posts.

#### **Installation and Maintenance**

The requirements for fabricating, installing, and maintaining permanent auction mart/livestock exchange directional signs are outlined in the Recommended Practices guideline entitled General Provisions for Installing Private Signs within the Highway Right-of-Way. Additional requirements for fabricating, installing and maintaining directional signs to auction marts/livestock exchanges may be stipulated in the sign permit issued by Alberta Transportation.

The sign applicant is responsible for all costs associated with the fabrication, installation, maintenance and future replacement of the sign and sign structure.

Where the auction mart/livestock exchange

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sign is incorporated into other department sign systems, the department will be responsible for all sign costs.

### References to Standards

<i>Recommended Practices</i> Section: General	Placement of Signs
<i>Recommended Practices</i> Section: General	General Provisions for Installing Private Signs within the Highway Right-of-Way
<i>Transportation Association of Canada (TAC)</i>	Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Canada
<i>Recommended Practices</i> Section: Guide and Information Signs	Guide Signs for Large Traffic Generators