



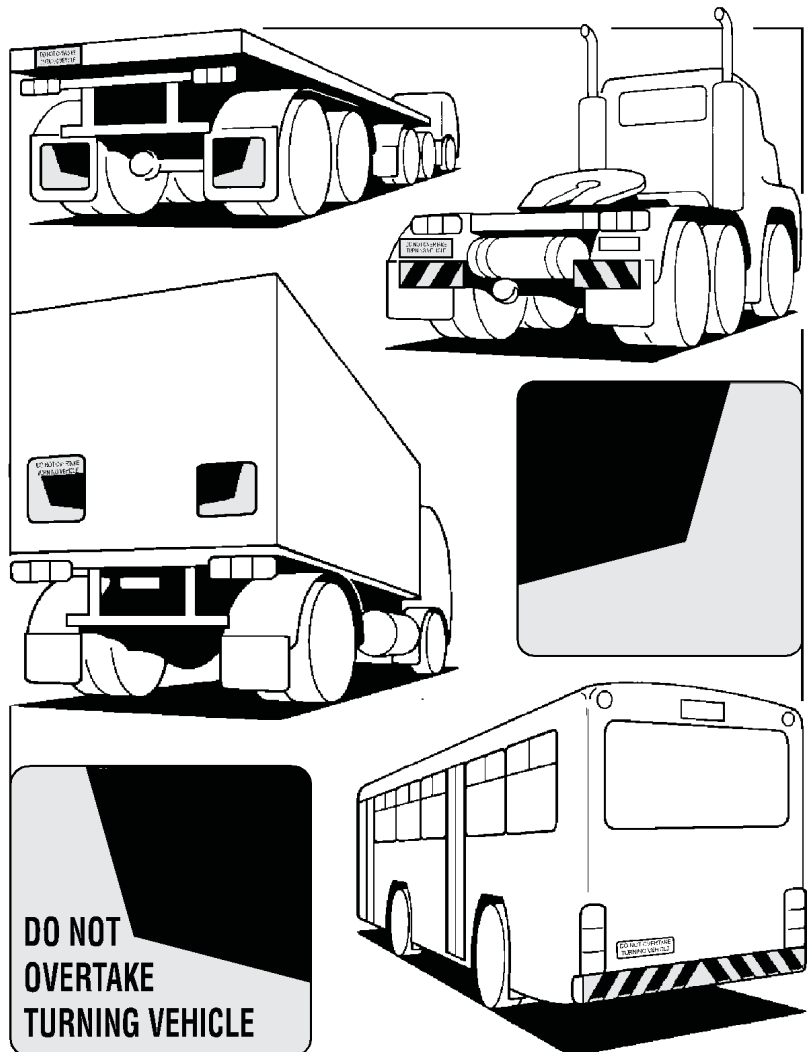
Rear Marking Plates for Heavy Vehicles

Introduction

All vehicles with a gross vehicle mass over 12 tonnes and trailers with a gross trailer mass over 10 tonnes must be fitted with retroreflective rear marking plates. This requirement applies also to trailers which are hauled by trucks or prime movers with a gross combination mass of over 12 tonnes. Buses with a gross vehicle mass over 12 tonnes must also be fitted with rear marking plates but route service buses used solely in urban areas are exempt from these requirements.

Prime mover and semi-trailer combinations must display the plates at the rear of the semi-trailer.

Rear marking plates may also be fitted to any motor vehicle with less than 12 tonnes gross vehicle mass or to any trailer with less than 10 tonnes gross trailer mass.



Rear marking plates can be made using either “Class 1” or “Class 2” retroreflective materials. More details about these materials are given in Australian Standard AS1906. “Class 1” retroreflective material is more durable and has better retro-reflective performance when compared to rear marking plates made from “Class 2” material. Because of this, marking plates made from “Class 1” material can be smaller and yet reflect more light.

A special turning concession applies to vehicles or vehicle combinations over 7.5 metres long which display a prescribed sign at the rear with the words “DO NOT OVERTAKE TURNING VEHICLE”. This sign may be either a separate sign or can be combined with the marking plate on the left hand side.

Types of Class 1 retroreflective material marking plates

Dimensions and graphics of the “Class 1” rear marking plates are shown in the following diagrams. “Class 1” rear marking plates are referred to by a code based on the overall width and height of the plate (eg. 31 for a 300mm wide x 100mm high plate). Where applicable, this number is followed by a letter, L to indicate a legend only plate (eg. “DO NOT OVERTAKE TURNING VEHICLE”) or a letter A, B or C to indicate the inclination of the colour bands on a “strip” plate.

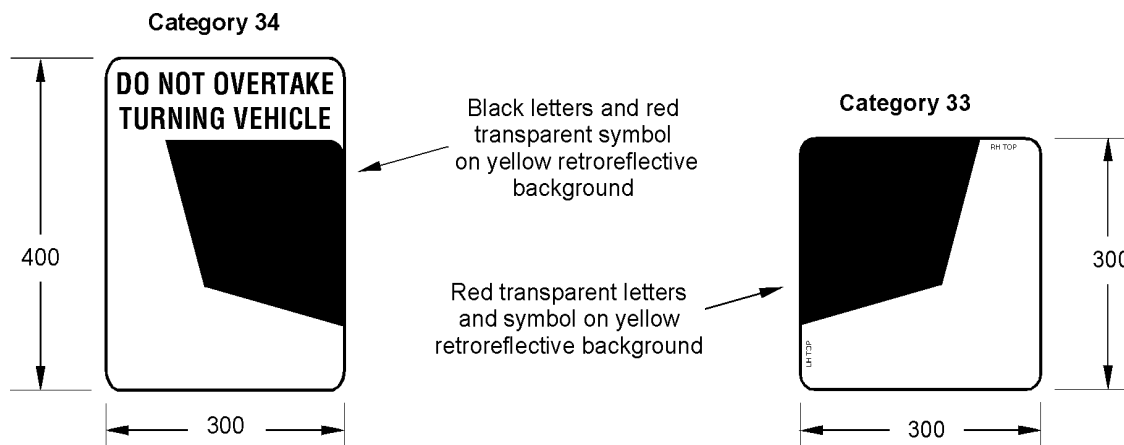
The table below lists the sizes of approved “Class 1” rear marking plates

OVERALL SIZE OF PLATE	
Category	Dimensions width x height mm
31 L	300 x 100
33, 33L	300 x 300
34	300 x 400
161	1,600 x 100
81	800 x 100
41	400 x 100
615	600 x 150

Note: Australian Standard AS4001.1-1992 “Motor Vehicles - Rear Marker Plates Part 1”, contains additional information about manufacturing requirements of Class 1 marking plates

Figure 1 - Rectangular Class 1 rear marking plates

(all dimensions in millimetres)



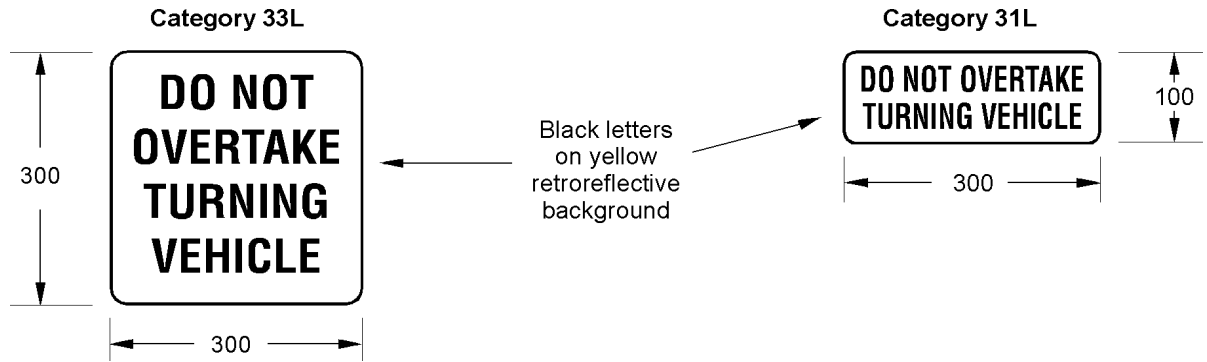
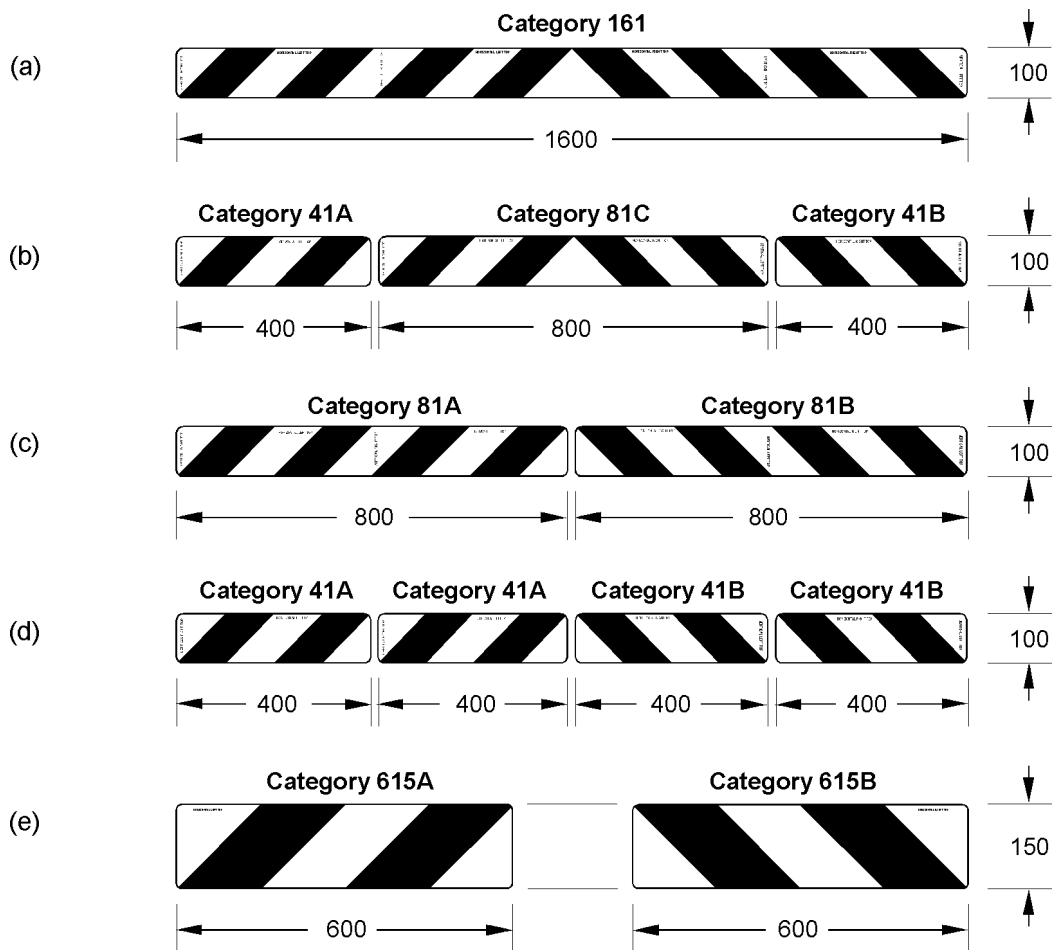


Figure 2 - Class 1 strip type rear marking plates

Red transparent letters and stripes on yellow retroreflective background

(all dimensions in millimetres)



Note: Category 615 plates are only permitted on the rear of prime movers.

Types of Class 2 retroreflective material marking plates

Figure 3 - Preferred style plates

(all dimensions in millimetres)

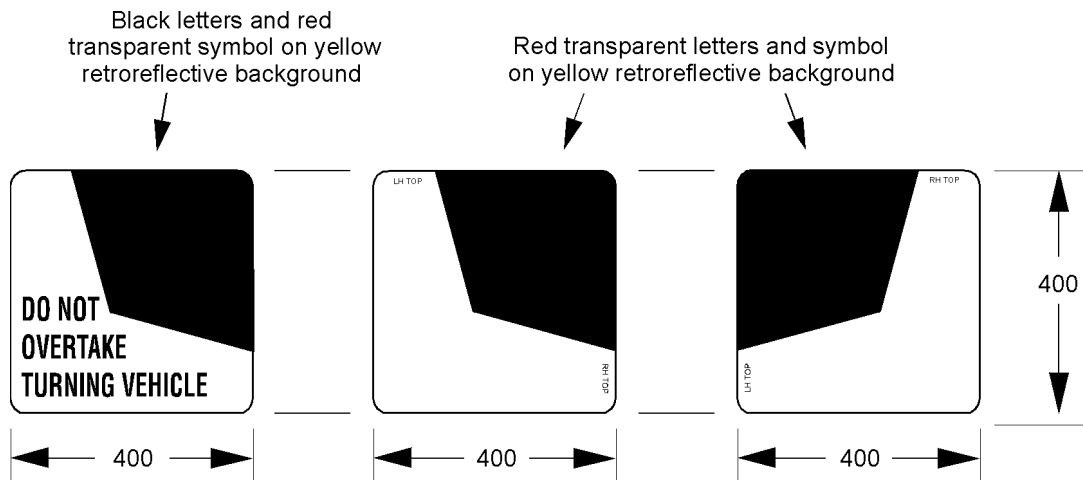
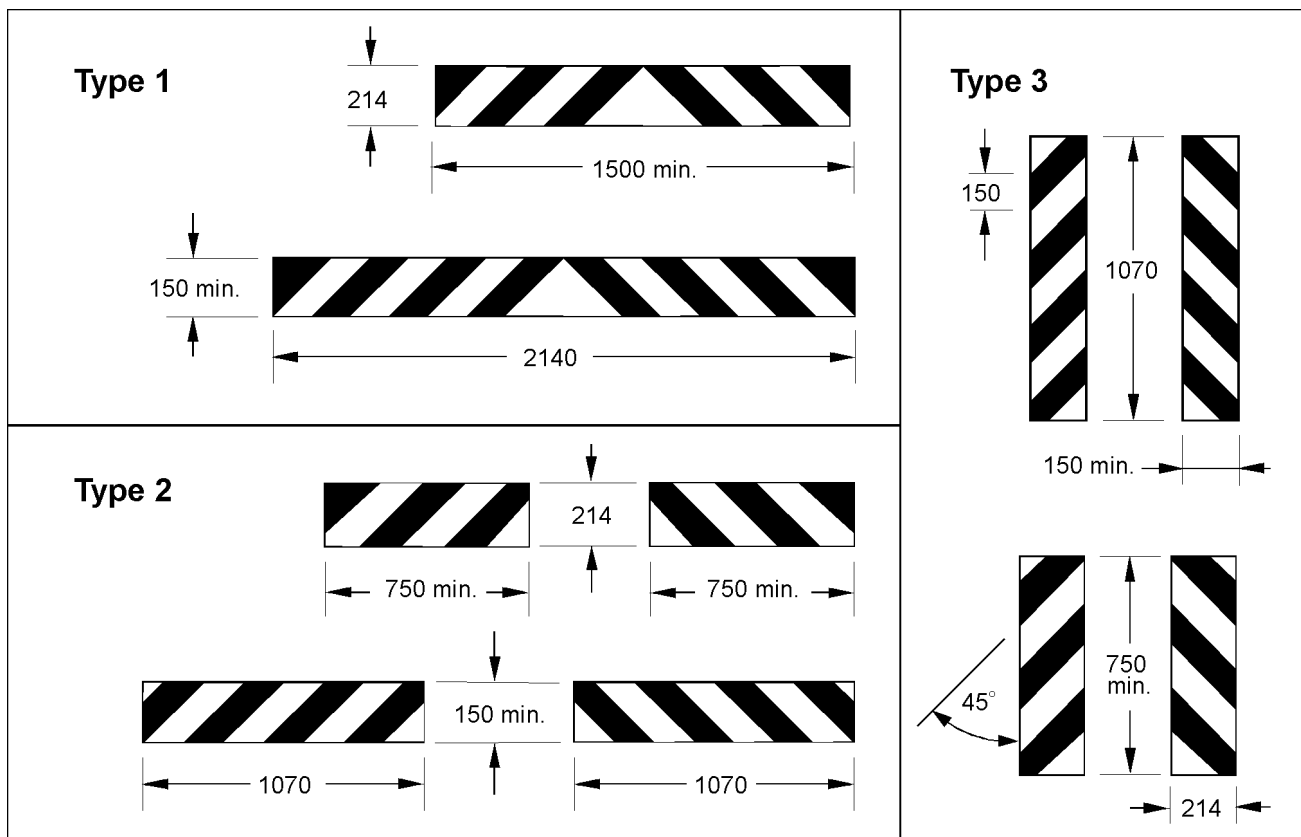


Figure 4 - Alternative Styles of Class 2 plates (for use where it is not possible to fit preferred style plates)

Red transparent stripes on yellow retroreflective background

(all dimensions in millimetres)



Note: The dimensions shown are typical dimensions only. There are no restrictions on maximum overall size of alternative marking plates (the bigger the better!). The minimum width or height dimensions are shown in the diagrams, with corresponding dimensions to achieve the required surface area. The total installed plate area must not be less than 0.32 sq. metres per vehicle set.

Markings

The front retroreflective face of the plate must be marked in either red or black lettering with the name of the manufacturer or his agent in letters and numbers not greater than 3mm in height. In addition, Class 2 marking plates must also be marked with the words "AS1906 Class 2". The manufacturer's telephone number is optional if manufactured in Australia.

"Class 1" plates must also clearly display letters indicating the correct orientation on the vehicle.

Installation requirements - "Class 1" and "Class 2" marking plates

- A vehicle must **not** be fitted with a mixture of "Class 1" and "Class 2" retroreflective marking plates.
- Rear marking plates are to be located on a rear, near-vertical surface.
- Pairs of marking plates should be positioned symmetrically about the centre line of the vehicle and at the same height from the ground.
- It is recommended that for vehicles over 7.5 metres long, the "*DO NOT OVERTAKE TURNING VEHICLE*" sign be fitted, either as a separate sign located on the left hand side or incorporated in the left hand side marking plate.
- The colour bands of all "strip" type rear marking plates shall be oriented to slope down and outwards (away from the centre of the vehicle).
- Rear marking plates should not be bent to suit the contour of a non-flat mounting surface.
- Cutting of the marking plate to suit a restricted space or to span fixed and moveable sections of the vehicle should be avoided and alternative styles of marking plates should be considered. Where cutting is unavoidable, any resulting gap between the sections of the plate should not exceed 10mm after installation.
- Category 615A and 615B "Class 1" material rear marking plates are intended only for horizontal installation on the rear of a prime mover. (See figure 10)
- "Class 1" retroreflective material must be applied to the required backing material made of aluminium and complying with AS1734. Application directly to the vehicle is not permitted.
- Australian Standard AS4001.2 - 1992 contains additional information about the installation of "Class 1" retroreflective rear marking plates.

Installation of rear marking plates made from Class 1 material

(all dimensions in millimetres)

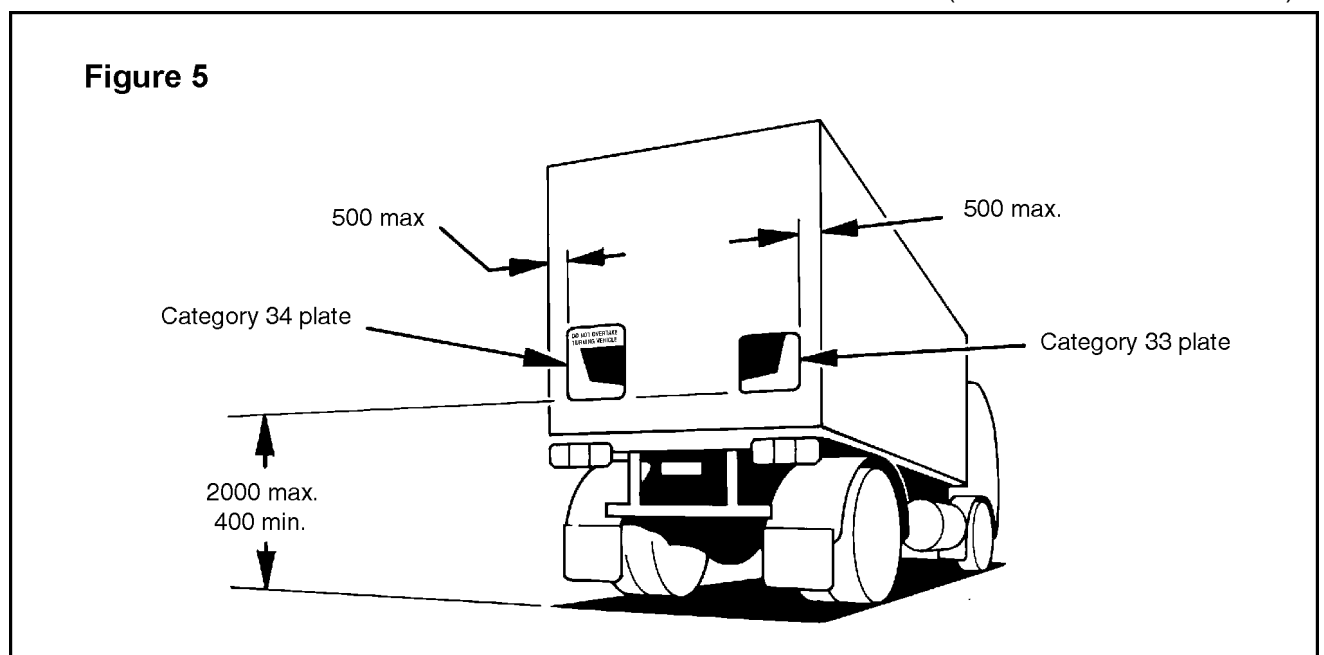


Figure 6

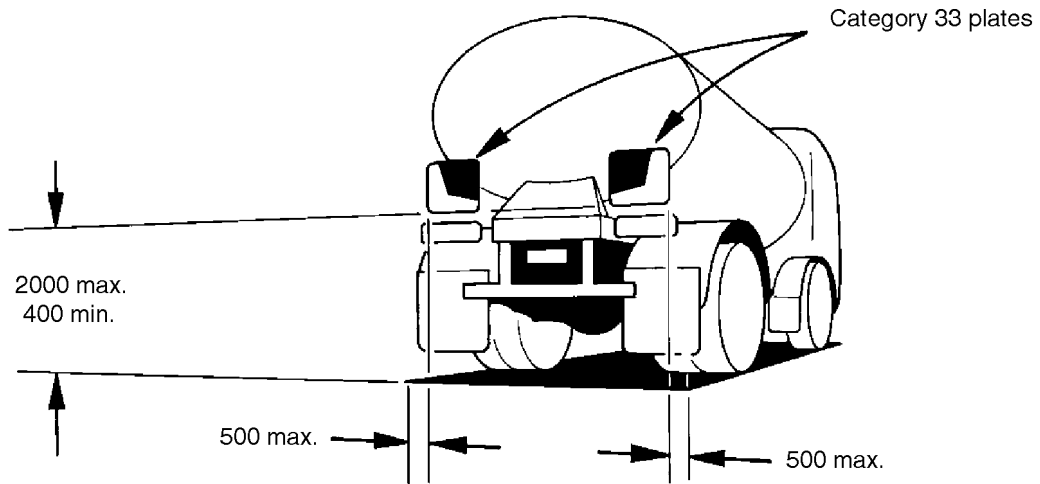


Figure 7

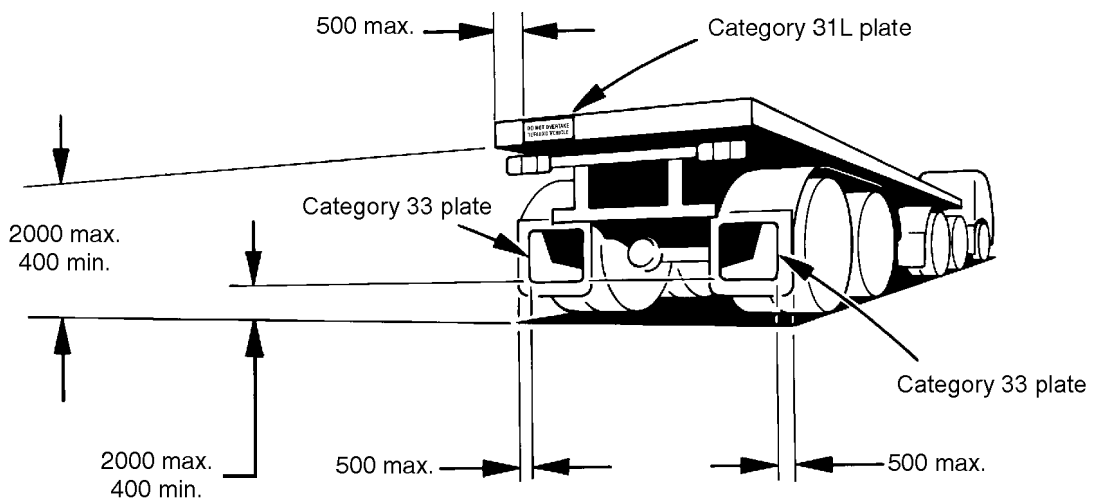


Figure 8

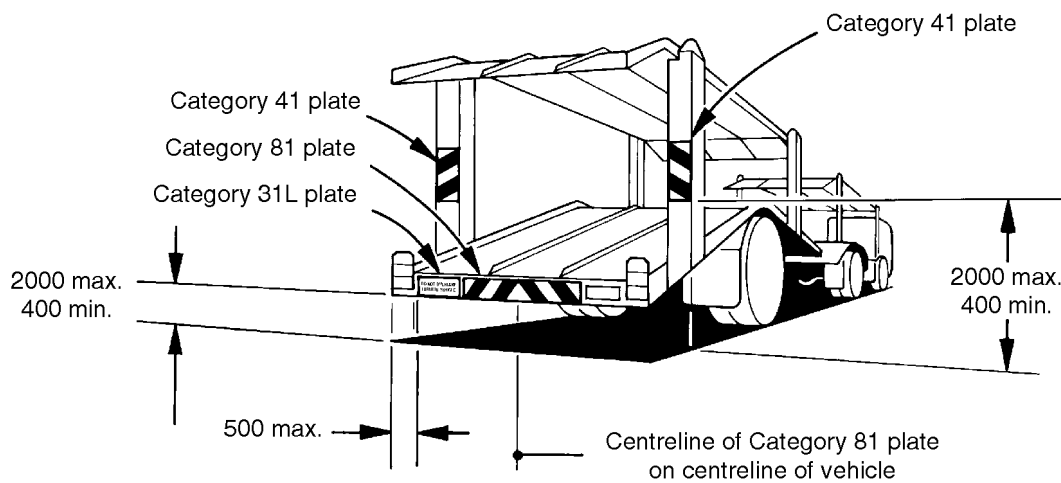


Figure 9

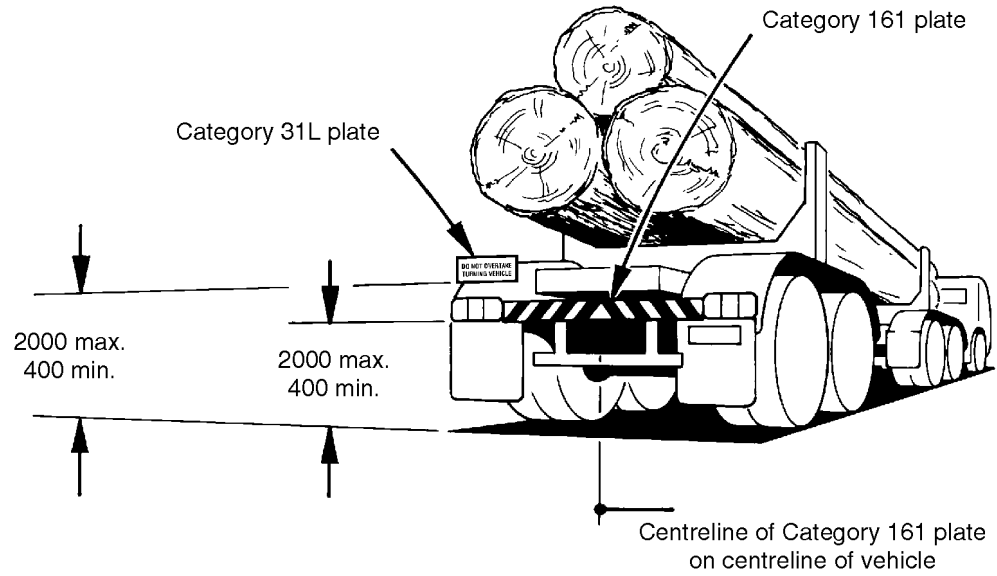
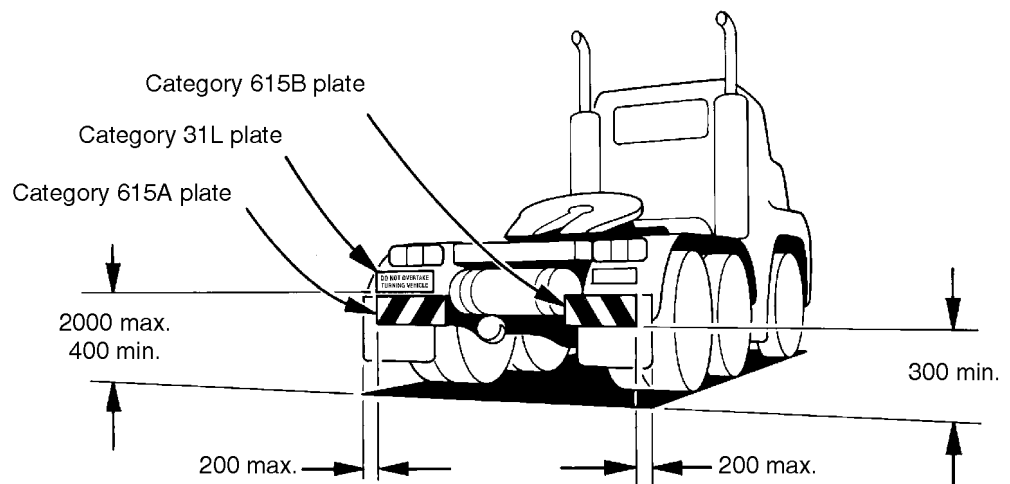


Figure 10



Installation of marking plates made from Class 2 material

(all dimensions in millimetres)

Figure 11

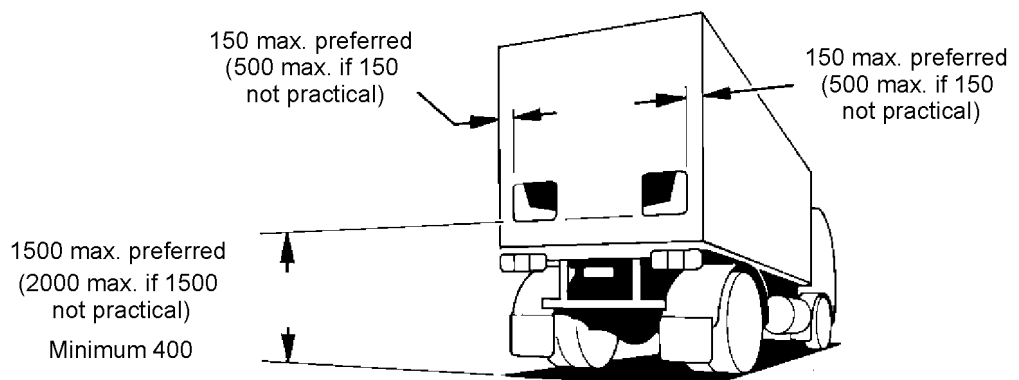


Figure 12

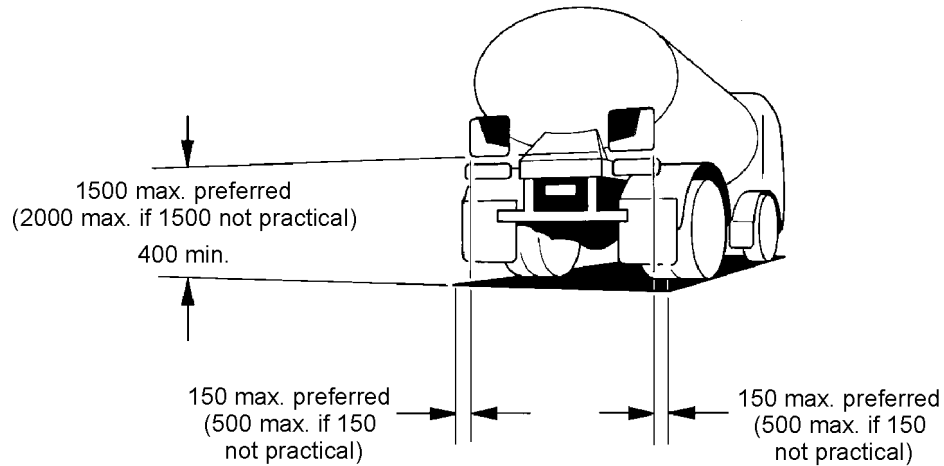
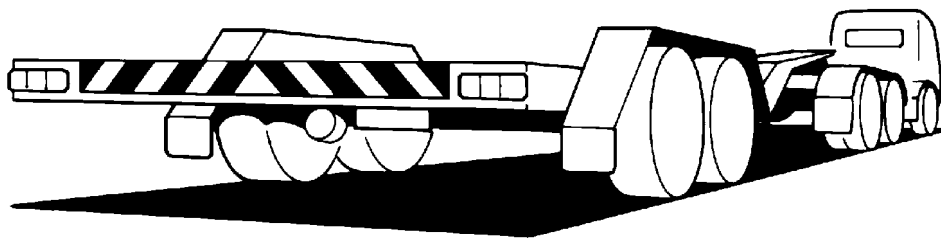


Figure 13

Showing typical fitting of alternative style class 2 plate (type 1)



Remember !

- ✓ Only use rear marking plates made with approved retroreflective material.
- ✓ Keep the plates clean and in good condition.
- ✓ Plates must not be obscured by other parts of the vehicle, load or tarpaulins.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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