

## \*\*\* ABLOADS \*\*\* Thresholds

first draft 26/09/07

### Introduction

The Management of Highway Structures Code of Practice published in late 2005 devotes a complete Chapter and Appendix to the management of abnormal load notifications. In a separate paper, **\*\*\* ABLOADS \*\*\* and Highway Structures Management**, available on the Cascade Software website (<http://www.cascadesoft.co.uk/support.php>), you can find full details of how **\*\*\* ABLOADS \*\*\*** fulfils the requirements of this Code for an 'advanced' system.

The Code of Practice is particularly concerned to define the various parties involved in the abnormal loads notification process, their responsibilities and how they should be kept informed. It is the **\*\*\* ABLOADS \*\*\*** thresholds facility which provides for these particular requirements.

### Entering details of the parties involved

The Code of Practice defines the responsible parties who have separate roles in dealing with abnormal load notifications as follows:-

***Abnormal Loads Officer** - the person responsible, within the Authority, for receiving notifications of movements from hauliers, ensuring that such notifications are assessed and that the haulier is advised if there is any reason why a proposed movement should not take place.*

***Structures Advisor** - a chartered civil or structural engineer within the bridge management organisation, to whom the Abnormal Loads Officer should refer decisions relating to vehicle movements which fall outside the agreed guidelines which otherwise determine whether or not particular vehicle movements should be accepted.*

***Road Space Coordinator** - the person responsible within the relevant highway authority for the co-ordination of all traffic management on the highway network. This responsibility usually includes all planned highway work, including the booking of road space for utility companies and other external parties.*

**\*\*\* ABLOADS \*\*\*** provides in Setup for the entry of the names and contact details for all these parties. It also provides for an additional role which has been found to be useful, that of an Abnormal Loads Manager who is probably an engineer and who has responsibility for the complete abnormal loads notification and checking process.

The montage from **\*\*\* ABLOADS \*\*\*** Setup below shows entry of this data. The similar provision for the entry of police force data can also be seen. Just enter the details as shown. Make sure that the number of telephone and fax numbers and the number of mail addresses corresponds to the number of Road Space Co-ordinators. **\*\*\* ABLOADS \*\*\*** will notify by email if it can, otherwise by fax.

\*\*\* ABLOADS \*\*\* Set up options

description	entry
<b>Organisation</b>	
Organisation name	KCC & Medway Abnormal Loads Service
Abnormal Loads Officer	Sally Waterfall
Abnormal loads telephone number	01622 695841
Abnormal loads fax number	01622 695810
Abnormal loads mail address	kcc@abloads.com
Structures Adviser	John Waterfall
Structures Adviser telephone number	01483 811202
Structures Adviser fax number	01483 811284
Structures Adviser mail address	jmw@cascadesoft.co.uk
Abnormal Loads Manager (if applicable)	Peter Heath
Abnormal Loads Manager telephone number	01622 666032
Abnormal Loads Manager fax number	01622 695085
Abnormal Loads Manager mail address	peterj.heath@jacobs.com
Road Space Co-ordinators - separate by commas (continue the list here - do not split names)	Dave Nowell & Barry Frost - West Kent, Neil Campbell - Mid Kent, Eric Banning & Darren Wadhams - East Kent, Martin Morris - Med
Road Space Co-ordinators telephone numbers - separate by commas (continue the list here - do not split numbers)	01474 544064 & 01474 544022, 01622 798349, 01227 825351 & 01227 825317, 01634 331148, 01634 331119
Road Space Co-ordinators fax numbers - separate by commas (continue the list here - do not split numbers)	01474 544029, 01622 798447, 01227 825384
Road Space Co-ordinators mail addresses - separate by commas (continue the list here - do not split addresses)	khs.roadworkswest@kent.gov.uk, khs.roadworksmid@kent.gov.uk, khs.roadworkseast@kent.gov.uk, martin.morris@medway.gov.uk, f
Relevant Police forces - separate by commas (continue the list here - do not split names)	Kent Police (FAO Brian Packham)
Police abnormal loads telephone numbers - separate by commas (continue the list here - do not split numbers)	01622 798545
Police abnormal loads fax numbers - separate by commas (continue the list here - do not split numbers)	01622 798549
Police abnormal loads mail addresses - separate by commas (continue the list here - do not split addresses)	abloads@kent.pnn.police.uk

Use commas (,) to separate multiple entries  
Use a forward slash (/) to split a single entry into two lines

Close Default

## Setting threshold values

The Code of Practice gives an example of a schedule defining threshold vehicle dimensions above which the various parties should be notified:-

8.6.5 *The Abnormal Loads Officer should refer to a procedural guidance schedule to check that the load details above certain thresholds are notified to others as appropriate. An example of a procedural guidance schedule is shown in Table 8.1 and this can be customised to an individual authority's requirements.*

Table 8.1 - Example of a Procedural Guidance Schedule for Abnormal Loads Officer

	From	To	Class	Action
Width	0	3.0 m		
	3.0 m	5.0m	WdA	
	5.0 m	6.1 m	WdB	Notify Road Space Co-ordinator
	6.1 m		WdC	Notify Road Space Co-ordinator
Length	0	18.75 m		
	18.75 m	30.0 m	LgA	
	30.0 m		LgB	Notify Road Space Co-ordinator
Weight	44 t	80 t	WtA	
	80 t	150 t	WtB	Notify Structures Advisor of loads at or exceeding [100 t]
	150 t		WtC	Notify Road Space Co-ordinator and Structures Advisor
Axle	0	[20 t]		
	[20 t]			Notify Road Space Co-ordinator and Structures Advisor

Height	0	5.03 m		
	5.03 m	[6.25] m		Notify Road Space Co-ordinator and Structures Advisor

Again **\*\*\* ABLOADS \*\*\*** provides in Setup for the entry of up to two threshold values and the parties who should be notified if they are exceeded.

The second montage from **\*\*\* ABLOADS \*\*\*** Setup below shows entry of the threshold data. Just enter threshold values and parties to notify as shown. You can enter the shortened versions for convenience.

**\*\*\* ABLOADS \*\*\* Set up options**

description	entry
<b>Operational Procedures</b>	
First width notification threshold in metres	4
notify (from S/ALM/RSC) - separate by commas	RSC
Second width notification threshold in metres	
notify (from S/ALM/RSC) - separate by commas	
First length notification threshold in metres	25
notify (from S/ALM/RSC) - separate by commas	ALM
Second length notification threshold in metres	30
notify (from S/ALM/RSC) - separate by commas	SA,ALM,RSC
First axle weight notification threshold in tonnes	20
notify (from S/ALM/RSC) - separate by commas	SA
Second axle weight notification threshold in tonnes	
notify (from S/ALM/RSC) - separate by commas	
First weight notification threshold in tonnes	100
notify (from S/ALM/RSC) - separate by commas	SA
Second weight notification threshold in tonnes	150
notify (from S/ALM/RSC) - separate by commas	SA,ALM,RSC
First height notification threshold in metres	4.95
notify (from S/ALM/RSC) - separate by commas	ALM
Second height notification threshold in metres	
notify (from S/ALM/RSC) - separate by commas	

Use commas (,) to separate multiple entries  
Use a forward slash (/) to split a single entry into two lines