

# FACT SHEET



## SPECIAL MOBILE EQUIPMENT

### Definition [PA Vehicle Code § 102]

**Special Mobile Equipment** - (1) Vehicles not designed or used primarily for the transportation of persons or property, except for tools and parts necessary for the use and maintenance of the vehicle, and only incidentally operated or moved over a highway. (2) Vehicles which have machinery permanently attached shall not carry a load, except for tools and parts necessary for the use and maintenance of the permanently attached machinery and are only incidentally operated or moved over a highway. (3) Motor vehicles used primarily for road and bridge maintenance or repair which carry a load of asphalt emulsion or epoxy and aggregate material, that is applied as finished product by the vehicle's equipment directly to a highway or trafficway for maintenance or repair of the road or bridge surface. The term includes, but is not limited to; ditch digging apparatus, well boring apparatus, earth moving and road construction and maintenance machinery, such as asphalt spreaders, bituminous mixers, bucket loaders, snowplows, ditchers, graders, patchers, finishing machines, road rollers, scarifiers, earth moving carryalls, scrapers, power shovels and drag lines, and self-propelled cranes and tractors, other than truck tractors. The term does not include house trailers; dump trucks; or truck-mounted transit mixers, cranes or shovels.

### Registration Fee [PA Vehicle Code §1921, 1302(11)]

\$36.00

### Documents Needed to Title and Register Special Mobile Equipment:

- Completed Form MV-1, "Application for Certificate of Title" and Manufacturer's Statement of Origin or Non-Pennsylvania title completed, and Form MV-190, Side B.
- Completed Form MV-426, "Application for Specially Constructed, Reconstructed or Modified Vehicle", if the vehicle is Specially Constructed or Reconstructed.

OR

- Completed Form MV-4ST, "Vehicle Sales and Use Tax Return/Application for Registration;" Pennsylvania title completed, and Form MV-190, Side B.
- A vehicle identification number tracing must be attached when an MV-426 is completed.
- Proof of insurance, if the vehicle is to be registered.

### Inspection [PA Vehicle Code §4703(b)(1)]

Special mobile equipment is exempt from inspection.

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Bureau of Motor Vehicles - Commercial Registration Section  
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Visit us at [www.dmv.state.pa.us](http://www.dmv.state.pa.us)

**Vehicle Width** [PA Vehicle Code §4921(a) and 4921(b)(3)]

Permissible vehicle width is generally 8'. Special mobile equipment not exceeding 9'2" width may be driven or towed between sunrise and sunset on highways other than freeways. [Overall vehicle width greater than 9'2", including wheels and tires may obtain a permit for up to 12'] (See Permits on reverse side).

**Permits** [Section 4969 of the PA Vehicle Code]

An annual permit may be issued for operation or movement between sunrise and sunset of a vehicle containing wheels and tires extending beyond the maximum width allowed in Section 4921 (a) if the Department determines that the wheels and tires are essential to the function for which the vehicle is designed or adapted and used.

Vehicles required to be registered as trucks or trailers and which have tires marked "not for highway use," "unsafe for highway use" or similar designations, must obtain a permit as described above.

Vehicles that have tires which extend beyond the outer edge of the wheel housing must also obtain a permit.

**Insurance** [Chapter 17 of the PA Vehicle Code]

Applicant must show proof of financial responsibility (insurance) as required by the Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility Law.