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Press Release

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[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

Zero Tolerance for Overweight Trucks at MTA Bridges and Tunnels' Crossings

MTA Bridges and Tunnels' truck weight enforcement effort has been averaging more than 150 summonses per month given to trucks not in compliance with the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) Bridge Formula and carrying overweight loads. The fines are up to \$10,000 if they attempt to cross the agency's facilities.

"Our priority is the safety of our customers and preventing damage to the facilities," said Acting President David Moretti. "Overweight vehicles put extra stress on decks and surface pavements."

Trucks as heavy as 150,000 lbs. have been stopped, fined, turned around and, in some cases, towed, according to Chief of Special Operations James Fortunato.

Trucks that do not meet the bridge formula must call in advance to the facility to make arrangements, which generally means crossing at night at low speeds and may involve an escort. At the Throgs Neck Bridge certain heavier trucks with State permits are allowed to cross at any time at slow speeds in the middle lane only.

Bridge and Tunnel Officers at all agency facilities that allow trucks consistently perform routine permit, manifest and weight checks on trucks, in addition to enforcement by the truck unit from the Special Operations Division. The officers are trained to recognize safety violations and overweight indicators and, after a truck is stopped, check for various safety requirements. The State's bridge formula factors the number and spacing of axles relative to load carried; and all trucks over 80,000 lbs. can only cross with special handling. There is a designated area where trucks are pulled over, to avoid interference with toll plaza traffic flow, and the officers use a set of portable scales that fit under the vehicles.

For more information, visit the Bridges and Tunnels Weekly Traffic Advisory link on the MTA's website to view "[Truck Weight Limitations on MTA Bridges and Tunnels](#):" <http://mta.info/bandt>.

MTA Bridges and Tunnels facilities, which serve more than 830,000 daily customers, are the Bronx-Whitestone, Cross Bay Veterans Memorial, Henry Hudson, Marine Parkway-Gil Hodges Memorial, Throgs Neck, Triborough and Verrazano-Narrows Bridges, and the Brooklyn-Battery and Queens Midtown Tunnels.



PHOTO CAPTION: Bridge and Tunnel Officers monitoring trucks for compliance with weight and safety restrictions.