

Vehicle registration & licensing

Boat-haulers & other new mobile equipment

Low speed boat haulers and certain remote control devices are no longer considered motor vehicles under the *Motor Vehicle Act* (MVA). They are now defined as “mobile equipment”.

Background

Mobile equipment is excluded from the MVA interpretation of a “motor vehicle” and is not registered, licensed or insured by ICBC.

Mobile equipment is defined, in part, as a self-propelled device with a maximum speed of 10 km/h. Types of mobile equipment are further described in the MVA and regulations.

Details

Two types of mobile equipment are described in the MVA. One is a device that can be steered only by an operator walking or standing behind, walking in front of or walking alongside the device. The other is a work platform used to raise and lower the platform operator, tools and supplies.



As of March 1, 2017, the Motor Vehicle Act Regulations (MVAR) also prescribe two types of devices as being “mobile equipment” under the MVA:

- boat haulers designed and used primarily for lifting or hoisting vessels (boats, kayaks, canoe or any other craft used or capable to be used for navigation on water), and
- remote control devices that are not designed and not used to carry a person.



A device is not mobile equipment if it is not self-propelled or if it can exceed 10 km/h, even if it otherwise fits one of the above descriptions.



Operation

Mobile equipment may only be used or operated on highway for the work purposes for which it is designed. Use or operation on a highway is limited to:

- (a) crossing the highway,
- (b) the untraveled portion of the highway,
- (c) the *travelled portion of the highway* within a *designated area* or within 100 meters of the *worksite* where the mobile equipment is being used or operated to perform work, and
- (d) continuously on the travelled portion for further than 100 meters only if being used or operated by or on behalf of a farmer.

"designated area" means private property, a parking lot, a campground, an airport, a ferry terminal, a golf course or a marina.

"travelled portion of a highway" means the area of a highway that has a prepared surface for vehicle operation, including the shoulder

"worksite" means the specific location where the tools, supplies or equipment carried on or in a motor vehicle are being used, or where a utility vehicle or mobile equipment is being used for its utility purpose unrelated to the transportation of people or property

Other highway requirements set out reflective devices, retro-reflective tape and lamp requirements when used between 1/2 hour after sunset and 1/2 hour before sunrise, and that the owner name and unit number must be marked on work platforms.

However, use and operating restrictions apply, as set out in Part 2.1 of Motor Vehicle Act Regulations, Division 24. Also, the operator of mobile equipment has the same rights and duties as the operator of a motor vehicle.

It is an offence under MVAR s. 24.22 to use or operate mobile equipment in contravention of Division 24.

Mobile equipment does not require the police issued operation permit that is set out in Division 24 for some utility vehicle operations.

Insurance

It is the owner's responsibility to secure insurance coverage to ensure that they are protected in case of a loss. ICBC insurance must not be issued to mobile equipment.

Legislation and regulations

<i>Motor Vehicle Act</i>	Section 1	Interpretation, "motor vehicle"
Motor Vehicle Act Regulations	Division 24	Part 1 (Interpretation), Part 2.1 (Mobile equipment), Part 4 (General offence)
Order in Council	OIC No. 099	Effective March 1, 2017



Contact

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Francis", is positioned above the printed name and title.

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Distribution list

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