**Technical Circular T-04/08**
Date: September 5, 2008
Amended December 15, 2008

To: All HQ Directors: Operations, Planning & Major Projects
All Regional Directors
All District Managers Transportation
All Ministry Regional Traffic Engineers, (RTEs)
Manager, Provincial Sign Shop
ICBC, Driver Licensing Section
Greg Gilks, Director, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement

**Subject: WINTER TIRE AND CHAIN SIGNS**

- **REGULATORY R-047 (Revised/08) - *Use Winter Tires or Carry Chains Beyond This Point October 1 – April 30***

- **WARNING W-041-4 - *Winter Tires or Carry Chains Oct 1 – Apr 30***

**Purpose:**

This Circular supplements Circular Letter G31/65 ***"Chain Signs"*** dated October 28, 1965 ***P:\HQ\ENG\Circulars & Bulletins - General & Technical\All Gen & Tech Circulars\GCircs1950-1989\1965***, and the Ministry's subsequent Manual of Standard Traffic Sign releases of 1968, 1988, and 1998 ***P:\HQ\ENG\A Documents Folder - MoT Digital Files\Highway Traffic Engineering\BC Manual Standard Traffic Signs May 1998*****.** This Technical Circular updates the R-047 sign and introduces the W-041-4 sign for use on selected roadways. Enforcement of the R-047 regulatory sign is established via the British Columbia Motor Vehicle Act, *Part 3*, Section 208 (2) under the title *"Safety Equipment,"* and Part 3, Section 125 under the title *"Obeying Traffic Controls."*

**Background:**

The 2008 update to the Ministry's R-047 sign and introduction of the W-041-4 sign add symbolic graphics and size options in keeping with other Ministry sign updates for improved road user comprehension.

**Scope and Application:**

**R-047 (Rev/08)**

The updated R-047 will replace existing regulatory R-047 signs established in the field by Circular Letter G31/65, and the subsequent Manual of Standard Traffic Sign releases of 1968, 1988, and 1998. Installation of the updated R-47 signs will be overseen by the Regional Traffic Engineer (RTE) to determine if current location should be adjusted for improved traffic operations and road user notification. The RTE may also add additional R-

Superseded by T-05/14

047 signs. The R-047 is a "fold-up" sign, therefore it should be **OPENED** prior to the winter season beginning October 1st and **CLOSED** after the winter season ending April 30th.

**W-041-4**

The warning W-041-4 signs may be used on roads and/or in advance to hills throughout the province where adverse snow conditions can reasonably be expected throughout the winter. For numbered highways, the W-041-4X size of sign should be used. The W-041-4 is a "fold-up" sign, therefore it should be **OPENED** prior to the winter season beginning October 1st and **CLOSED** after the winter season ending April 30th. Typical locations where the W-041-4 sign may be used would include (but not be limited to);

- ⇒ Supplementary signage to the R-047 sign and used along that same roadway. Typically 25 km spacing, but may vary depending on the number of accesses to the route and geographical conditions along route.
- ⇒ Roadways that serve recreational facilities (i.e. Ski Hills, Snowmobile and Cross-Country Ski areas, Hot Springs, Provincial Parks).
- ⇒ Roadways that link to provincial border crossings.
- ⇒ Roadway segments and/or geographical areas identified by the RTE as locations for enhanced signage regarding snow and ice conditions that can be reasonably expected in the winter season.

**Additional Information**

The Ministry's *"Frequently Asked Questions - FAQs"* page under the heading Winter Tires has information on the BC Motor Vehicle Act regulations controlling winter tire/all-season tire use in the province. This FAQs page also has general information on winter driving and the preparation of vehicles for the winter driving season. The link to the Ministry's FAQs page is as follows - ***http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/popular-topics/faq.htm#winter_tires***.

**Attachments:**

| Contact: | |
|---|---|
| Ross McLean<br>Manager<br>Provincial Sign Program<br>(250) 371-3808 | Ed Miska, P.Eng, PTOE<br>Chief Traffic/Electrical, Hwy Safety and Geometrics Standards Engineer<br>Engineering Branch<br>(250) 387-7676 |

Dirk Nyland, P.Eng
Chief Engineer

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# Provincial Sign Program

# Winter Tires Sign Package

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Sign Item #

R-047

USE: As specified by Technical Circular T-04/08 (dated September 2008).

Application in field will be by the direction of a Ministry of Transportation, Senior or Regional Traffic Engineer.




Piano Hinge Line

Note - Green back is to be green vinyl (Pantone 349C or equivalent)

| SIGN ITEM # | DIMENSIONS (W x H) (mm) | REFLECTIVITY | SUBSTRATE / SIGN BLANK # | SCALE RATIO | COLOUR | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | BACKGROUND | BORDER \ MESSAGE |
| R-047 | 1830 x 915 | ASTM Type 9 | 0.081 Flat Aluminum | 12 | White | Black |

Superseded by T-08/14

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Sign Item #

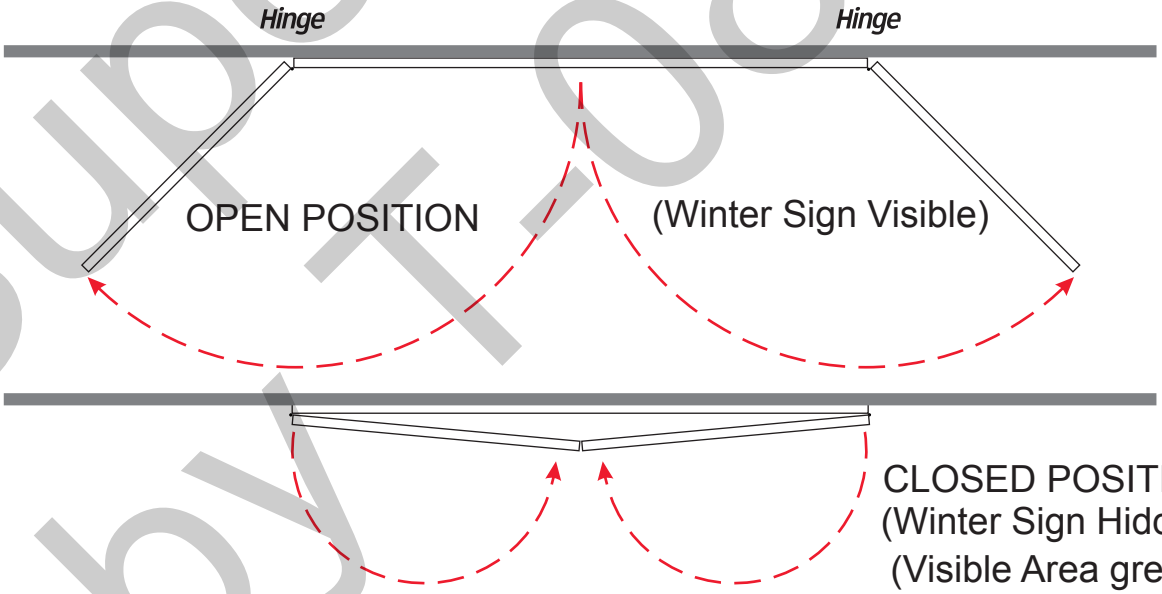
R-047-x

USE: As specified by Technical Circular T-04/08 (dated September 2008).

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Superseded by T-08/14




CLOSED POSITION
(Winter Sign Hidden)
(Visible Area green)

Note - Green back is to be green vinyl (Pantone 349C or equivalent)

| SIGN ITEM # | DIMENSIONS (W x H) (mm) | REFLECTIVITY | SUBSTRATE / SIGN BLANK # | SCALE RATIO | COLOUR | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | BACKGROUND | BORDER \ MESSAGE |
| R-047-x | 3050 x 1525 | ASTM Type 9 | Extruded Aluminum with 0.081 Flat Sheet "Flip" Panels | 20 | White | Black |

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Sign Item #

W-041-4

USE: As specified by Technical Circular T-04/08 (dated September 2008).

Application in field will be by the direction of a Ministry of Transportation, Senior or Regional Traffic Engineer.

Superseded by T 108/14




Aluminum Piano Hinge Line

Note - Green back is to be green vinyl (Pantone 349C or equivalent)

| SIGN ITEM # | DIMENSIONS (W x H) (mm) | REFLECTIVITY | SUBSTRATE / SIGN BLANK # | SCALE RATIO | COLOUR | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | BACKGROUND | BORDER \ MESSAGE |
| W-041-4 | 750 x 1500 | ASTM Type 9 | 0.081 Flat Aluminum | 10 | White / Fluor Yellow | Black |

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Sign Item #

W-041-4x

USE: As specified by Technical Circular T-04/08 (dated September 2008).

Application in field will be by the direction of a Ministry of Transportation, Senior or Regional Traffic Engineer.




Aluminum Piano Hinge Line

Note - Green back is to be green vinyl (Pantone 349C or equivalent)

Superseded by T-08/14

| SIGN ITEM # | DIMENSIONS (W x H) (mm) | REFLECTIVITY | SUBSTRATE / SIGN BLANK # | SCALE RATIO | COLOUR | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | BACKGROUND | BORDER \ MESSAGE |
| R-041-4x | 900 x 1350 | ASTM Type 9 | 0.081 Flat Aluminum | 10 | White / Fluor Yellow | Black |