

## Chapter 8

### Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations- General Part 390

#### Title 49 CFR, Part 390

#### Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations; General

##### General Applicability

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSR) applies to all employers, employees and commercial motor vehicles transporting property or passengers in interstate/intrastate commerce.

##### Commercial Motor Vehicle

Any self propelled or towed vehicle used on public highways in interstate/intrastate commerce to transport passengers or property under one of the following conditions:

- Vehicles has gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) or gross combination weight rating of 10,001 or more pounds;
- Vehicle is designed to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver;
- Designed or used to transport more than 8 passengers (including the driver) for compensation (interstate); or
- Vehicle is used in the transportation of hazardous materials in a quantity requiring placarding under the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act (HMTA) Regulations.

##### Exceptions to General Applicability

Transportation provided by Federal, State, Local or congressionally approved interstate agencies is exempt from the FMCSR's. Occasional non-commercial transport, school buses, ambulance services, a hearse and fire and rescue vehicle operations are also exempt.

##### What is an accident?

An occurrence involving a commercial motor vehicle operating on a public road those results in at least one of the following:

- A fatality;
- Bodily injury to a person who, as a result of the injury, immediately receives medical treatment away from the scene of the accident (crash);
- Disabling damage to one or more motor vehicles, requiring the vehicle(s) to be towed or otherwise transported from the scene by a tow truck or other vehicle.

## **Accident Register**

For a period of three years after an accident (crash) occurs, motor carriers are required to maintain an accident (crash) register containing the following information;

- Time and place of accident (crash);
- Driver's name
- Number of injuries and fatalities
- Hazardous materials released if any, (other than fuel)

Motor Carriers are also required to maintain copies of all accident (crash) reports required by state or other governmental entities or insurers for a period of one year after an accident (crash) occurs.

Every commercial motor vehicle operated by a motor carrier in interstate/intrastate commerce must be marked on both sides of the vehicle with the following:

### **Vehicle Identification**

- Name of motor carrier, or trade name
- The motor carrier's identification number preceded by USDOT for interstate carriers and followed by UT for intrastate carriers.

## **How can I update my USDOT record?**

You can update your USDOT Number over the Internet at <http://safer.fmcsa.dot.gov> by filing a MCS-150 (Motor Carrier Identification Report). To update online you will need a Personal Identification Number (PIN) but the good news is that you can also apply for your PIN online at [https://li-public.fmcsa.dot.gov/LIVIEW/PKG\\_PIN\\_START.PRC\\_INTRO](https://li-public.fmcsa.dot.gov/LIVIEW/PKG_PIN_START.PRC_INTRO) You may also update your USDOT record by filing a MCS-150 by mail. You may mail the forms to FMCSA, MCMIS Team, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590. Please put "update" on the MCS-150 form and make all necessary changes. You can also call our toll free number at 1-800-832-5660 to have an MCS-150 form mailed to you.

## **Where can I get the MCS-150 form?**

Electronic filing is the preferred filing method, however, you may get the form from the FMCSA's website at:

<http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/forms/print/r-l-forms.htm>

This does not automatically update your USDOT number, it must be faxed to (801) 965-4847. Please call customer service at (801) 965-4892 for additional information.

I want to inactivate or reactivate my USDOT Number. Can I do this online?

You are allowed to inactivate your USDOT Number online, using your Personal Identification Number (PIN). However, you cannot reactivate your USDOT Number online.

To reactivate a USDOT Number, you will need to send a signed letter on your company's letterhead, listing your USDOT Number, the name, address and phone number of the company, and a request asking us to reactivate your USDOT Number to:

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE,  
Washington, DC 20590  
or fax it to 703-280-4003

