

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY STANDARDS

INSPECTION & MAINTENANCE

Trip Inspection Reports

Application — Ontario's pre-trip inspection regulations went into effect on July 1, 2007, with a six-month soft enforcement period through December 31, 2007. The regulations apply to all commercial motor vehicles with a gross weight or registered gross weight of more than 4,500 kilograms.

The regulations do not apply to commercial motor vehicles with a gross weight or registered gross weight of 4,500 kilograms or less, and vehicles such as, but not limited to, ambulances, mobile cranes, motor homes, commercial motor vehicle leased for 30 days or less by an individual for personal use, historic vehicles, pick-up trucks being used for personal purposes, or buses used for personal purposes without compensation. Also exempt from the requirements are vehicles such as emergency vehicles, vehicles providing relief in a flood, drought, etc., 2- or 3-axle vehicles used to transport farm products, or commercial motor vehicles being road-tested for the purposes of repairs within 30 kilometres of the repair facility.

Requirements — Drivers (or in some cases designated inspectors) are required to inspect vehicles prior to operating the vehicles. Pre-trip inspections are valid for 24 hours.

Ontario regulations contain inspection "schedules" that drivers must use when inspecting the vehicles. The inspection schedules list vehicle parts and what defects would be considered minor defects or major defects of those vehicle parts. A carrier is free to add items or remove items from the schedules to make the inspection list more applicable to the carrier's operations and to assist in vehicle inspections. The following inspection schedules are available in Ontario Regulation 199/07, Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspections:

- Schedule 1, Daily Inspection of Trucks, Tractors and Trailers
- Schedule 2, Daily Inspection of Buses and of Trailers Drawn by Buses
- Schedule 3, Daily Inspection of Motor Coaches
- Schedule 5, Daily Inspection of School Purposes Buses
- Schedule 6, Daily Inspection of School Purposes Vehicles

Schedule 4, Under-Vehicle Inspection of Motor Coaches, applies to the motor coach under-vehicle inspection required every 30 days or 12,000 kilometres (this inspection is only valid in Ontario if it is performed by a truck and coach technician holding a valid certificate of qualification issued under the Apprenticeship and Certification Act, 1998).

If a motor coach is inspected according to Schedule 3 above, then the driver must also be in possession of a valid inspection report, documenting an inspection performed in accordance with Schedule 4.

Inspection Reports — Carriers are required to provide inspection forms and the applicable inspection schedules to drivers (or designated inspectors).