

USDOT# & VEHICLE MARKING

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE MARKING FINAL RULE

Source: <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rules-regulations/truck/vehicle/marking.htm>

1. Eliminates the marking regulations of the former Interstate Commerce Commission. (rather than within 90 days after commencing operations.)
2. Requires all interstate motor carriers to display the USDOT number.
3. Requires that CMVs be marked with the legal name, or a single trade name, of the business entity that owns or controls the motor carrier operation. This information must match the information on the motor carrier's [Form MCS-150](#).
4. Motor carriers that are currently displaying an ICC-MC number will be allowed two years to comply with the requirement to affix the USDOT number to both sides of the CMVs that they currently have in service. New and repainted CMVs must be properly marked when they are placed in service.
5. Motor carriers will be allowed five years to comply with the additional requirements to display the legal name or single trade name on their CMVs currently in service.
6. ** All new interstate motor carriers will be required to submit a [Form MCS-150](#) to the FMCSA before
7. The actual printed MCS-150 will be removed from the FMCSRs. The FMCSRs will state how to obtain the form (FMCSA Service Centers, Division Offices, Internet site, 800 number).
8. Single trade name: The FMCSA will consider requests for assignment of individual USDOT numbers to corporate divisions on a case-by-case basis. Although the FMCSA does not wish to limit an organization's flexibility or its ability to promote a trade name, the agency must still consider whether the assignment of multiple USDOT numbers to a single corporate entity would compromise the integrity of the collection and processing of safety data.
9. Principal place of business address: The final rule does not require the motor carrier to mark its motor vehicles with the city and state. It does not prohibit this practice, either.
10. Driveaway provision: The requirements of 390.407 concerning removable marking devices will be retained and incorporated into [390.21](#).

CMV = Commercial Motor Vehicle (*Generally, includes any farm truck or truck & trailer (or wagon) combination of 10,001# or more.*)

FMCSR = Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (*On the web at: <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rules-regulations/rules-regulations.htm>*)

MCS-150 = The form used to register for the USDOT#

FEDERAL RULE REQUIRING THE MARKING OF COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES

<http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rules-regulations/administration/fmcsr/fmcsrruletext.asp?chunkKey=090163348002389b>

Subpart B—General requirements and information

§390.21 Marking of CMVs.

(a) **General.** Every self-propelled CMV, as defined in [§390.5](#), subject to subchapter B of this chapter must be marked as specified in paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of this section.

(b) **Nature of marking.** The marking must display the following information:

(b)(1) The legal name or a single trade name of the motor carrier operating the self-propelled CMV, as listed on the motor carrier identification report (Form MCS-150) and submitted in accordance with [§390.19](#).

(b)(2) The motor carrier identification number issued by the FMCSA, preceded by the letters “USDOT”.

(b)(3) If the name of any person other than the operating carrier appears on the CMV, the name of the operating carrier must be followed by the information required by paragraphs (b)(1), and (2) of this section, and be preceded by the words “operated by.”

(b)(4) Other identifying information may be displayed on the vehicle if it is not inconsistent with the information required by this paragraph.

(b)(5) Each motor carrier shall meet the following requirements pertaining to its operation:

(b)(5)(i) All CMVs that are part of a motor carrier’s existing fleet on July 3, 2000, and which are marked with an ICCMC number must come into compliance with paragraph (b)(2) of this section by July 3, 2002.

(b)(5)(ii) All CMVs that are part of a motor carrier’s existing fleet on July 3, 2000, and which are not marked with the legal name or a single trade name on both sides of their CMVs, as shown on the Motor Carrier Identification Report, Form MCS-150, must come into compliance with paragraph (b)(1) of this section by July 5, 2005.

(b)(5)(iii) All CMVs added to a motor carrier’s fleet on or after July 3, 2000, must meet the requirements of this section before being put into service and operating on public ways.

(c) **Size, shape, location, and color of marking.** The marking must—

(c)(1) Appear on both sides of the self-propelled CMV;

(c)(2) Be in letters that contrast sharply in color with the background on which the letters are placed;

(c)(3) Be readily legible, during daylight hours, from a distance of 50 feet (15.24 meters) while the CMV is stationary; and

(c)(4) Be kept and maintained in a manner that retains the legibility required by paragraph (c)(3) of this section.

(d) **Construction and durability.** The marking may be painted on the CMV or may consist of a removable device, if that device meets the identification and legibility requirements of paragraph

(c) of this section, and such marking must be maintained as required by paragraph (c)(4) of this section.

(e) **Rented CMVs.** A motor carrier operating a self-propelled CMV under a rental agreement having a term not in excess of 30 calendar days meets the requirements of this section if:

(e)(1) The CMV is marked in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section; or

(e)(2) The CMV is marked as set forth in paragraph (e)(2)(i) through (iv) of this section:

(e)(2)(i) The legal name or a single trade name of the lessor is displayed in accordance with paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section.

(e)(2)(ii) The lessor’s identification number preceded by the letters “USDOT” is displayed in accordance with paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section; and

(e)(2)(iii) The rental agreement entered into by the lessor and the renting motor carrier conspicuously contains the following information:

(e)(2)(iii)(A) The name and complete physical address of the principal place of business of the renting motor carrier.

(e)(2)(iii)(B) The identification number issued the renting motor carrier by the FMCSA, preceded by the letters “USDOT,” if the motor carrier has been issued such a number. In lieu of the identification number required in this paragraph, the following may be shown in the rental agreement:

(1) Information which indicates whether the motor carrier is engaged in “interstate” or “intrastate” commerce; and

(2) Information which indicates whether the renting motor carrier is transporting hazardous materials in the rented CMV;

(e)(2)(iii)(C) The sentence: “This lessor cooperates with all Federal, State, and local law enforcement officials nationwide to provide the identity of customers who operate this rental CMV”; and

(e)(2)(iv) The rental agreement entered into by the lessor and the renting motor carrier is carried on the rental CMV during the full term of the rental agreement. See the leasing regulations at [49 CFR 376](#) for information that should be included in all leasing documents.

(f) **Driveaway services.** In drive away services, a removable device may be affixed on both sides or at the rear of a single driven vehicle. In a combination drive away operation, the device may be affixed on both sides of any one unit or at the rear of the last unit. The removable device must display the legal name or a single trade name of the motor carrier and the motor carrier’s USDOT number.

[53 FR 18052, May 19, 1988; 53 FR 27689, July 22, 1988, as amended at 53 FR 47543, Nov. 23, 1988; 55 FR 6993, Feb. 28, 1990; 57 FR 3142, Jan. 28, 1992; 60 FR 38744, July 28, 1995; 62 FR 49942, Sept. 24, 1997; 65 FR 35296, June 2, 2000]

Note: Some Key Factors:

- Large enough to be legible at 50 feet
- On power units only, not required on trailers
- May be displayed using a temporary (i.e.: magnetic) sign
- Name is required (same as appears on Form MCS-150)
- City & State are optional