

Location: _____ Instructor: _____ Date/Time: _____

TOPIC C220: TRACTOR TRAILER (PRE-TRIP VEHICLE INSPECTION)

Introduction: Safety is the most important reason you inspect your vehicle.

1. Vehicle Overview: Check the general condition of your vehicle. Look for damage; look underneath for fresh oil, grease or coolant or fuel leaks.

2. Check the Engine Compartment: Check that the parking brake is on, or wheels are chocked. Take the keys out of ignition and check: the oil level, coolant level, condition of the hoses, power steering fluid, windshield washer fluid level, battery fluid level, connections and tie downs, transmission fluid level, belts for tightness and wear, cracked or worn electrical wiring insulation and the lower hood, cab, and engine compartment latches.

3. Start the Engine and Inspect the Inside of the Cab: Start the engine, listen for unusual noises and check gauges, warning lights and buzzers. Check the condition of the steering, clutch, accelerator, brake controls, horn, transmission controls, windshield wipers, defroster, all vehicle lights and flashers, the mirrors and windshield for cracks, dirt, illegal stickers or other obstructions to seeing. Check emergency equipment: spare fuses, flares or reflective triangles, fire extinguisher and seatbelts.

4. Brake Check: If your vehicle has hydraulic brakes: Pump the pedal three times, then apply firm pressure to the pedal for five seconds. The pedal should not move; if it does, there might be a leak or other problem. Get it repaired before driving. If your vehicle is equipped with a hydraulic reserve back up system, turn off the motor, depress the brake pedal and listen for the sound of the reserve system electric motor.

Air brake Check: Check the rate of air pressure build-up, check the compressor governor cut-in and cut-out pressures, test air leakage rate, test the low pressure warning signal and that the spring brakes come on automatically.

5. Turn off the engine and check lights: Turn off the engine, make sure the wheels are chocked, release the parking brake and take the key with you. Turn the headlights on low beam and four way flashers, and get out: Check that low beams and clearance lights are on and flashers work. Turn off the four way flashers. Push the dimmer switch and check high beams. Turn on the left turn signal. Go down the left side of the vehicle and check all clearance lights and turn signals. Do the same with the right signal and check the right side. Turn off the lights; leave the four way flashers on during your walk around.

6. Do a Walk Around Inspection: Inspect the wipers, coupling system, the front of the trailer, the front wheel tires suspension and brakes, the rear tractor wheels, suspension and tires, the sides of trailer, the cab area, the saddle tank area, the rear of the tractor including the clearance, and signal lights. Check your cargo, make sure it is properly blocked, braced, tied or chained, make sure the end or side gates are properly secured.

7. Before leaving the inspection area: Check that you have all the papers you need, trip manifests and permits. Make sure all loose articles in the cab are secured. Test brakes by applying the parking brake and trying to move the vehicle slowly. Release the parking brake and drive at about five miles per hour, and then apply the vehicle brakes. Repair any problems before taking the vehicle on the road.

Conclusion: A pre-trip inspection can help you find problems that could cause a crash or breakdown

Employee Attendance:(Names or signatures of personnel who are attending this meeting)

These guidelines do not supersede local, state or federal regulations, and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.