

Completing the Truck/Bus Section of the UD-10

Truck crashes require additional data on the UD-10. It is important that officers complete these fields with accurate data. These fields are used to track trends in truck-related crashes.

What size trucks must be reported?

- A truck or truck tractor that has a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of more than 10,000 lbs. for the power unit.
- Any vehicle that displays a hazardous material placard, including automobiles and vans.
- Any bus designed or used to transport 8 or more passengers, including the driver.
- Any yellow and black school bus.

Carrier Identification

The most important part of completing the truck portion of the UD-10 is ensuring the correct trucking company (“motor carrier”) is identified on the crash report.

While generally the name or the USDOT Number on the truck door is in fact the carrier, this is not always the case. Many trucking operations sub-lease their vehicles for individual trips.

Ask the driver who they are “running for this trip?” Are they trip leased or permanent leased? Do they have a copy of the lease? Who do the shipping papers indicate as the carrier? Log books are not always a good source, as a driver may get a pre-printed log book from one carrier but on that day be operating for someone else.

Ask the driver, who has “direction and control” of this vehicle? Who is responsible for this load? Who signs your paycheck? Where is the carrier’s principal place of business?

Does the trucking company leave the state? The determination of interstate/intrastate is based on the carrier’s operation, not this driver or this particular load. USDOT Numbers are required for companies that cross state lines. The MPSC Number is a Michigan requirement for trucking companies that “haul for hire,” meaning they transport other people’s freight for compensation. The ICC Number is similar to the MPSC Number, but applies nationally.

Gross Vehicle Weight Rating GVWR

The GVWR is determined by the vehicle manufacturer. This number is available on the VIN plate or sticker. If it is unavailable, use the registered weight of the vehicle in question.

Commercial Driver License (CDL)

CDLs are only required for a select group of vehicles. While the requirements of the Michigan Motor Carrier Safety Act, such as medical cards and log books, apply to any vehicle over 10,000 lbs., the CDL thresholds are higher. The CDL standards are broken into three groups:

Group A CDL: Any combination of vehicles with a GCWR of 26,001 or more pounds provided the GVWR of the vehicle(s) being towed is in excess of 10,000 pounds.

Group B CDL: Any single vehicle with a GVWR of 26,001 or more pounds, or any such vehicle towing a vehicle not in excess of 10,000 pounds GVWR.

Group C CDL: Any single vehicle, or combination of vehicles, that does not meet the definition of Group A or Group B but that either is designed to transport 16 or more passengers including the driver, or is placarded for hazardous materials. If a particular group is required, then additional endorsements may apply:

- T = Double Trailers
- P = Passengers
- N = Tank Vehicles
- H = Hazardous Materials (in amount requiring placards)
- X = Combination of N and H (tankers and Haz Mat)
- S = School Bus

As always, there are a few exemptions:

- Farmers operating within 150 miles of the farm, transporting farm products or machinery, and not used for hire:
 - Single or combination vehicles where the power unit's GVWR is 26,000 lbs or less: Exempt, unless HM Placards are required.
 - Combination vehicles where the power unit's GVWR is over 26,000 lbs.: "F" Endorsement required. If HM Placards are required, a CDL is mandatory.
- Qualified Military Drivers in military vehicles
- Qualified Firefighters Operating Authorized Emergency Vehicles
 - Persons operating a motor home or a vehicle used exclusively to transport personal possessions or family members for non-business purposes.

Type and Axles Per Unit

Each unit must be coded/entered separately. Starting with the left set of boxes, enter the appropriate codes for each unit. Enter the total number of axles per unit.

If the truck is a truck tractor (designed to tow, no cargo body), a "T" should be placed in the first box. Then enter the total number of axles per unit in the second box.

If the trailer is a semi-trailer (part of the trailer rests on towing unit) place an "S" in first position, followed by the number of axles in second position.

The addition of second trailer (part of trailer does not rest on towing unit) does not require the letter "S" prior to the number of axles.

Medical Certificate

The following drivers require a medical certificate, grandfather card, or medical waiver:

- Trucks with a gross vehicle weight greater than 10,001 lbs actual weight or GVWR;
- School bus drivers;
- Commercial buses designed for carrying 16 or more passengers, including the driver; or
- Any vehicle requiring placards for hazardous materials.

Hazardous Materials

Are Hazardous Materials Placards displayed?

Is there Cargo Spillage? (Do not include vehicle fuel spillage).

Indicate the four-digit ID number from the placard or orange panel.

Indicate the 1 or 2 digit class number from the placard.

More Information

Should your agency like a presentation on how to complete the truck/bus portion of the UD-10, please contact Sgt. Lance Cook of the Michigan State Police, Traffic Safety Division at 517-336-6660 or cookLR@michigan.gov .