

Commercial Motor Vehicle Marking And Identification Regulations

Federal Regulation Part 390.21 requires the following marking rules for all ****qualifying** Interstate for hire and private commercial motor vehicles (CMV):

- The legal name or single trade name of the carrier operating the motor vehicle as it appears on the MCS-150;
- Their assigned US DOT Number
- If a name other than the name of the operating carrier appears on the vehicle, the words "operated by" must precede the name of the operating carrier. This applies to both interstate and intrastate marking rules.

**** A qualifying CMV** is defined for this purpose by Federal Regulation 390.5 as any vehicle that transports property or passengers in interstate commerce and:

- Has a GVW or GVWR of 10,001 or more; or
- Transports more than 8 passengers (including driver) for hire; or
- Transports more than 15 passengers (including driver) not for hire; or
- Transports haz mat in a quantity requiring placards

Statutory Regulations generally follow the Federal Regulations (unless so noted) as they pertain to Interstate operations but may require additional signage pertaining to intrastate operations or intrastate operating authority.

The states may vary in their requirement that vehicle weight be displayed, therefore many carriers display their empty and gross weight automatically.

All USDOT numbers used in intrastate only operations must have the state's abbreviation following the number. Example: USDOT 9321456 NY. Unless noted, a states definition of a qualifying commercial motor vehicle is the same as the federal definition set forth in part 390.5 (see above)

MC Numbers are no longer required to be displayed on a CMV. Carriers are not required to remove existing MC numbers from their vehicles but are encouraged not to display the MC# on new or repainted CMV's.

Check each state's requirements:

Alabama

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .

Intrastate: Same as Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by AL.

Arizona

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .

Intrastate: : Must display name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by AZ. Pertains to all intrastate vehicles with a GVWR or GCWR of 18001 pounds or more.

Arkansas

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21

Intrastate: All intrastate common or contract (for hire) carriers must display the name and certificate or permit number of the carrier on both sides of the power unit.

California

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .

Intrastate: All intrastate household goods carriers must display the CA intrastate ID Number (T#) issued by the PUC on both doors of the power unit so it is clearly visible from a distance of 50 feet. All other intrastate carriers must obtain and display a California Identification number issued by the Ca highway patrol.

Colorado

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

In addition, all power units must also display the last 8 digits of the vehicles VIN # on the passenger side of the power unit. The VIN marking must be visible from 50 feet away in a contrasting color to the cab.

Intrastate: Same as Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by CO.

In addition, all power units must also display the last 8 digits of the vehicles VIN # on the passenger side of the power unit. The VIN marking must be visible from 50 feet away in a contrasting color to the cab.

Connecticut

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Intrastate motor carriers must display the name of motor carrier and are required to obtain and display a USDOT number followed by CT on both sides of all commercial motor vehicles if the CMV:

- Has a manufacturer's GVWR exceeding 18,001 or more **or**
- Transports placarded haz mat shipments **or**
- Is designed to transport 15 or more passengers (including the driver) for compensation

Delaware

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Must display name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by DE if vehicle:

- Has a GVW of 26001 or more **or**
- Transports placarded haz mat shipments

Florida

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Intrastate motor carriers are required to obtain and display a USDOT number followed by FL on both sides of all commercial motor vehicles if the CMV:

- Has a GVW of 26001 or more **or**
- Transports placarded haz mat shipments **or**
- Transports Haz mat in a vehicle with a gross wt. rating of 10,001 pounds or more **or**
- Is designed to transport 15 or more passengers (including the driver) for compensation

Georgia

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Same as Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by GA

Idaho

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: All CMV's conducting intrastate operations with a GVWR of 26,001 or greater, or which transports placarded haz mat or which transport more than 8 passengers must list on both sides of the power unit the name of the motor carrier and a USDOT #. Both the motor carriers name and USDOT # must be in letters at least 2" high.

Illinois

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21. In addition to the federal requirements, any interstate carrier that also operates intrastate must display the Illinois authority ID (IL ICC #) number on both sides of the power unit.

Intrastate: Intrastate carriers must display on both sides of the power unit the name of the motor carrier and intrastate (ICC #) license number. Both the motor carrier's name and license number must be in letters at least 2" high.

Indiana

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Same as Federal Regulation Part 390.21 Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by IN.

Iowa

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Same as Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by IA.

Kansas

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Same as Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by KS.

Kentucky

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21. KYU number display is optional unless vehicle is leased and the lessor holds the KYU account. In this case the KYU number must be displayed in addition to the federally required signage.

Intrastate: Same as Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by KY.

KYU number display is optional unless vehicle is leased and the lessor holds the KYU account. In this case the KYU number must be displayed in addition to the required signage.

Louisiana

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: All intrastate commercial motor vehicles must display the carrier name & full address. Common and contract household goods, waste, passenger carriers, wreckers and tow trucks with intrastate

authority granted by the PSC must display the name and full address (including Street address) of the operator and his certificate or permit number.

Maine

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Intrastate Haz Mat carriers must display their USDOT number followed by ME. All other qualified intrastate CMV's are not required to display their intrastate USDOT # but have the option to do so if they wish

Maryland

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Same as Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by MD.

Massachusetts

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21. Motor vehicles based out of MA having a total height in excess of 10' must list the total height in numerals at least 4" tall in a conspicuous place on the side or front of vehicle.

Intrastate: Must display name of motor carrier or owner on both sides of vehicle. Motor vehicles based out of MA having a total height in excess of 10' must list the total height in numerals at least 4" tall in a conspicuous place on the side or front of vehicle. All marking rules apply to commercial motor vehicles with a maximum load carrying capacity of over 2,000 pounds.

Michigan

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21. MI PSC regulated carriers must also display PSC Decal & authority # at least 3" tall on both sides of cab.

Intrastate: MI has adopted the federal regulations part 390.21, therefore all vehicles defined as a commercial motor vehicle under federal regulations 390.5 must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by MI.

All commercial vehicles with a single or combination gross weight rating of 5,000 pounds to 10,000 pounds and all towing or platform bed wrecker road service vehicles operating on Michigan roads must have the company name, city and state permanently displayed on each side of the vehicle in letters at least 3" tall and located not lower than the bottom edge of door. *Vehicles in this weight group displaying a valid USDOT number and legal company name according to Federal Regulation 390.21 would be considered in compliance with this requirement.*

MI PUC regulated carriers: In addition to the above noted requirements, carriers operating under authority from the Michigan Public Service Commission must also display the MPSC decal and the authority numbers on both doors in letters at least 3" tall.

Minnesota

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21. Also requires the motor carriers City & State to be listed.

Intrastate: The following carriers must display the name of the motor carrier and the city & state on both sides of the power unit of each vehicle:

- All intrastate for hire carriers regardless of weight
- Intrastate private and exempt carriers operating vehicles over 10,000 pounds GVW
- Interstate Carriers operating CMV's as defined by Federal Regulation 49 CFR 390.5
- Building Movers as defined in Mn Stat. 221.81
- Placarded haz mat transporters
- Motor carrier of Passengers

Mississippi:

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: All intrastate motor carriers of property operating under authority granted by the Mississippi Public service commission must have the following information permanently displayed on the cab of each vehicle operating in the state:

- Name of the operator as shown on the certificate in lettering 2 ½ " high
- Certificate or permit number with the prefix MISS P.S.C. in letters 1 ½ " high
- A unit number assigned to the vehicle by the carrier 1 ½ " high

Missouri

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Same as Federal Regulation Part 390.21. Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by M0.

An intrastate motor carrier of 12 or less passengers (not including the driver) must display the USDOT # on the rear of vehicle in letters at least 2" tall.

Montana

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Intrastate motor carriers are required to obtain and display the motor carriers name and a USDOT number followed by MT on both sides of all commercial motor vehicles in accordance with Part 390.21 if the CMV:

- Has a GVW of 26001 or more **or**
- Transports placarded haz mat shipments **or**
- Is designed to transport 15 or more passengers (including the driver) not for compensation **or**
- Is designed to transport 9 or more passengers (including the driver) for compensation

Montana PSC Licensed Carriers: All intrastate vehicles subject to regulation by the MT PSC having a gross weight of 10,001 pounds or more must display on both sides of each power unit the name or trade name and city and state and PSC license # of the licensed person or corporation.

Nebraska

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.
Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5.
Must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by NE.

Nevada

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Common or Contract For Hire carriers operating in intrastate commerce must have the name of the carrier and their CPCN or MV certificate or permit number displayed in letters not less than 2" tall.

Intrastate carriers of passengers or property must also follow the FMCSA marking rules of 390.21 (displaying the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by NV) if the vehicle:

- Has a GVWR, GCWR or GVW of 26001 or more **or**
- Transports placarded haz mat shipments **or**
- Is designed to transport 8 or more passengers (including the driver)

Private Carriers with an unladen weight of 10,001 or more operating in intrastate commerce must have the name of the carrier operating the vehicle displayed on each side of the power unit in letters a minimum of 2" tall

New Hampshire

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Must display name of motor carrier on both sides of the power unit.

New Jersey

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21. Also, if a CMV is either principally garaged or registered in NJ all units with a GVWR or combined gross vehicle weight rating in excess of 26,000 pounds must display the total GVWR or registered gross weight (whichever is higher) on each side of the power unit in plain sight in letters at least 3" tall.

Intrastate: Must display name of motor carrier, city & state on both sides of the power unit.

Also, if a CMV is either principally garaged or registered in NJ all units with a GVWR or combined gross vehicle weight rating in excess of 26,000 pounds must display the total GVWR or registered gross weight (whichever is higher) on each side of the power unit in plain sight in letters at least 3" tall.

New Mexico

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Intrastate motor carriers are required to obtain and display the motor carriers name and a USDOT number followed by NM on both sides of all commercial motor vehicles in accordance with Part 390.21 if the CMV:

- Has a GVW or GCWR or a gross vehicle weight in excess of 26000 pounds or more **or**
- Transports placarded haz mat shipments **or**
- Is designed to transport 15 or more passengers (including the driver) not for compensation **or**
- Is designed to transport 8 or more passengers (including the driver) for compensation

Intrastate For hire carriers with operating authority from the PRC operating a vehicle that does not qualify for a NM USDOT number (as listed above) must display on both sides of the vehicle their NMPRC (authority) number in letters at least ½ " wide and 2 ½ " tall.

New York

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Same as Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by NY.

NYS Waste Transporters: All motor carriers transporting waste which requires the carrier to operate under a NYS DEC Waste transporter permit must have the company name displayed on both sides of the vehicle and the waste transporter permit # located on each sides and the rear of the permitted vehicle. Both the company name and the permit number must be in letters at least 3" tall.

New York City

All commercial vehicles operating in any of the 5 boroughs of New York City must display their name and full address (including street address City & State.) in letters at least 3" tall.

North Carolina

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21. If holding NC UC authority, the permit number must be displayed on both sides of the power unit also.

Intrastate: Motor vehicles operated in NC holding a Carolina Utilities Commission permit or certificate must display the motor carrier name, city & state and the permit number on both sides of the power unit. The permit number is to be displayed in this manner: NC No. C-145 .

North Dakota

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: No marking requirements for intrastate only vehicles.

Ohio

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21. If motor carrier holds intrastate operating authority issued by the OH PUCO, PUCO number may be displayed on both sides of each power unit also.

Intrastate: All intrastate motor carriers (except intrastate only, private not for hire carriers, transporting non hazardous goods) must display the name of the motor carrier and the PUCO # or USDOT # in letters visible from 50' away in a contrasting color on both sides of the power unit.

Oklahoma

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .

Intrastate: Intrastate motor carriers are required to obtain and display the motor carriers name and a USDOT number followed by OK on both sides of all commercial motor vehicles in accordance with Part 390.21 if the CMV:

- Has a GVW or GCWR or a gross vehicle weight in excess of 26000 pounds or more **or**
- Transports placarded haz mat shipments **or**
- Is designed to transport 15 or more passengers (including the driver) not for compensation **or**
- Is designed to transport 8 or more passengers (including the driver) for compensation **or**
- Is of any size and is engaged in for hire operations in intrastate commerce within OK.

Oregon

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .

Intrastate: Intrastate motor carriers are required to obtain and display the motor carriers name and a USDOT number followed by OR on both sides of all commercial motor vehicles in accordance with Part 390.21:

- Intrastate only, private carriers, operating vehicles with a GVWR of 26000 pounds or less, transporting non hazardous materials are exempted from these marking requirements.
- Intrastate carriers of passengers in vehicles with a seating capacity of 15 or more passengers, including the driver **are not exempted** from the marking requirements

Pennsylvania

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21. If motor carrier holds intrastate operating authority issued by the PA PUC the PUC Number must also be displayed on both sides of each power unit in letters not less than ½ " wide and not less 2" tall and must read as follows: PA P.U.C. NO. A219

Intrastate: All intrastate motor carriers (except intrastate only, private not for hire carriers,) must display the name and address of the motor carrier and the PUC # in letters not less than ½ " wide and not less 2" tall on both sides of the power unit and must read as follows: PA P.U.C. NO. A219.

Rhode Island

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: All intrastate commercial motor vehicles in excess of 10,000 pounds must display the name, city and state of motor carrier on both sides of the power unit in a contrasting color visible from 50' away.

South Carolina

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: All commercial motor vehicles must display the name, city and state of motor carrier on both sides of the power unit in a contrasting color visible from 50' away.

South Dakota

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Same as Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by SD.

Tennessee

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Intrastate for hire carriers must display the name of the motor carrier, a company issued unit number and their Tennessee Dept. of Safety Certificate number. Intrastate only private carriers operating commercial vehicles with a licensed or actual weight **less than** 35,000 pounds are not required to comply.

Texas

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21. If conducting intrastate operations, TX DOT number does not have to be displayed if CMV is in compliance with Part 390.21

Intrastate: Intrastate carriers meeting the compliance definition listed below must obtain a motor carrier certificate number and must display the name of the motor carrier and the certificate number to comply on both sides of each power unit. All lettering must be legible and be at least 2 " tall.

The following vehicle criteria are used to determine who must secure and display a Motor Carrier Certificate from the Texas Dept. of Transportation:

- A commercial motor vehicle that has 3 or more axles
- A truck tractor
- A road tractor
- A tow truck*

*Tow trucks must also display the city and telephone number of the operating business on both sides of each unit.

Utah

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Same as Federal Regulation Part 390.21 .Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by UT.

All vehicles registered with a gross laden weight in excess of 12,000 pounds must list on both sides of the power unit the gross laden or combined gross laden weight as listed on the vehicles registration.

Vermont

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21 for definition and marking requirements.

Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by VT.

Virginia

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: All "for Hire" CMV's over 10,000 pounds must display the name and address of the operating motor carrier on both sides of the power unit.

Washington

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: All intrastate commercial motor vehicles (except those operated by private intrastate motor carriers with a single or gross weight of less than 36,000 pounds) must display the carriers name and the WA Utilities and Transportation Commission license or permit number on both sides of each power unit. All lettering must be clearly legible in letters at least 3" tall.

West Virginia

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21 for definition and marking requirements.

Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by WV.

Wisconsin

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21 for marking requirements. Pertains to all "qualified" vehicles as defined by Federal Regulations 390.5. Must display the name of motor carrier and USDOT # followed by WI.

Wyoming

Interstate: Follows Federal Regulation Part 390.21.

Intrastate: All CMV's over 26,000 pounds must display the motor carriers name and Intrastate Operating Authority Certificate or Permit number on both sides of each power unit. If operating authority certificate or permit is not required, the name of the motor carrier must be displayed by itself. All lettering is to be visible from 50' feet away, in a contrasting color to the background on which it's placed.