

H.S.E. Policies & Procedures

Transportation Activities

Aims International
Transportation Division
General Health & Safety Rules and Requirements
Driving of Motor Vehicles

1. Equipment, inspection and use

1. No vehicle shall be driven unless the driver is satisfied that the following parts and accessories are in good working order, nor shall any driver fail to use or make use of such parts and accessories when and as needed:
 1. Service brakes, including trailer brakes connections
 2. Parking (hand) brake.
 3. Steering mechanism.
 4. Lighting devices and reflectors.
 5. Tires.
 6. Horn.
 7. Windshield wipers or wipers.
 8. Rear-vision mirror or mirrors.
 9. Coupling devices.

1. Driver may not operate a vehicle and may not require or permit others to operate a vehicle unless:
 1. The vehicle's cargo is properly distributed and adequately secured.
 2. The vehicle's tailgate, tailboards, doors, tarpaulins, spare tire and other equipment used in it's operation, and the means of fastening the vehicle's cargo, are secured.
 3. The vehicle's cargo or any other object does not obscure the driver's view ahead or to the right or left sides.

1. The driver of a truck or truck tractor must:
 1. Assure himself that the provisions of paragraph of this section have been compiled with before he drives that motor vehicle.
 2. Inspect the cargo and the devices used to secure the cargo within the first 50 miles after beginning a trip and cause any adjustments to be made to the cargo or load securement devices as necessary, including adding more securement devices, to ensure that cargo cannot shift on or within, or fall from the motor vehicle.

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3. Re-examine the motor vehicle's cargo and it's load securement devices during the course of transportation and make any necessary adjustment to the cargo or load securing devices, including adding more securement devices, to ensure that cargo cannot shift on.

The rules in this paragraph (2) do not apply to the driver of a sealed motor vehicle who has been ordered not to open it to inspect its cargo or to the driver of a vehicle that has been loaded in a manner that makes inspection of its cargo impracticable.

2. Ill or fatigued operator:

1. No driver shall operate a vehicle and company shall not require or permit a driver to operate a vehicle, while the driver's ability or alertness is so impaired, or so likely to become impaired, through fatigue, illness, or any other cause, as to make it unsafe for him to begin or continue to operate the vehicle. However, in a case of grave emergency where the hazard to occupants of the vehicle or other users of the highway would be increased by compliance with this section, the driver may continue to operate the vehicle to the nearest place at which that hazard is removed.

3. Schedules to conform with speed limits:

1. AIMS shall not schedule a run nor permit nor require the driver of any vehicle between points in such period of time as would necessitate the vehicle being operated at speeds greater than those prescribed by the jurisdictions in or through which the vehicle is being operated.

4. Use of seatbelts:

1. A vehicle which has a seat belt assembly installed at the driver's seat shall not be driven unless the driver has properly restrained himself with seat belt.

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5. Parking:

1. A vehicle which contains hazardous materials must not be parked under any of the following circumstances:
 1. On or within 5 feet of the traveled portion of a public street or highway.
 2. On private property (including premises of a fueling or eating facility) without the knowledge and consent of the person who is in charge of the property and who is aware of the nature of the hazardous materials the vehicle contains;
 3. Within 300 feet of a bridge, tunnel, dwelling, or place where people work, congregate, or assemble, except for brief periods when the necessities of operation require the vehicle to be parked and make it impracticable to park the vehicle in any other place.

6. Fires:

1. A vehicle containing hazardous materials must not be operated near an open fire unless its driver has first taken precautions to ascertain that the vehicle can safely pass the fire without stopping.
2. A vehicle containing hazardous materials must not be parked within 300 feet of an open fire.

7. Smoking:

1. No person may smoke or carry a lighted cigarette, cigar, or pipe on or within 25 feet of a vehicle which contains flammable materials.

8. Fueling:

1. When a motor vehicle which contains hazardous materials is being fueled:
 1. Its engine must not be operating; and.
 2. A person must be in control of the fueling process at the point where the fuel tank is filled.

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9. Tires:

1. A driver must examine each tire on a motor vehicle at the beginning of each trip and each time the vehicle is parked.
2. If, as the result of an examination a tire found to be flat, leaking , or improperly inflated, the driver must cause the tire to be repaired, replaced, or properly inflated before the vehicle is driven. However the vehicle may be driven to the nearest safe place to perform the required repair, replacement, or inflation.
3. If, as the result of an examination a tire is found to be overheated, the driver shall immediately cause the overheated tire to be removed and placed at a safe distance from the vehicle. The driver shall not operate the vehicle until the cause of the overheating is corrected.

10. Instructions and Documents:

1. If AIMS transports (explosive materials must furnish the driver of each vehicle in which the explosives are transported with the following documents:)
2. A copy of the rules in this part.
3. A document containing instructions on procedures to be followed in the event of accident or delay. The documents must include the names and telephone numbers of persons (including representatives of AIMS or shippers) to be contacted, the nature of the explosives being transported, and the precautions to be taken in emergencies such as fires, accidents, or leakages.
4. A driver who receives the documents in accordance with this section must sign a receipt for them. AIMS shall maintain the receipt for a period of 1 year from the date of signature.

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11. The general requirements for securing articles of cargo:

1. The rules in this section are applicable to the transportation of all types of articles of cargo, except commodities in bulk that lack structure or fixed shape (e.g./ liquids, gases, grain, liquid concrete, sand, gravel, aggregates) and are transported in a tank, hopper, box or similar device that forms part of the structure of a vehicle.
2. Cargo must firmly immobilized or secured on or within a vehicle by structures of adequate strength, dunnage or dunnage bags, shoring bags, tiedowns or a combination of these.
3. Articles of cargo that is likely to roll must be restrained by chocks, wedges, a cradle or other equivalent means to prevent rolling. The means of preventing rolling must not be capable of becoming unintentionally unfastened or loose while the vehicle is in transit.
4. Articles or cargo placed beside each other and secured by transverse tie downs must either:
 1. Be placed in direct contact with each other, or
 2. Be prevented from shifting towards each other while in transit.
5. The aggregate working load limit of any securing system used to secure an article or group of articles against movement must be one-half times the weight of the article or group of articles. The aggregate working load limit is the sum of:
 1. One-half of the working load limit of each associated connector or attachment mechanism used to secure a part of the article of cargo to the vehicle; and
 2. One-half of the working load limit for each end section of a tie down that is attached to an anchor point.

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12. Performance Criteria:

1. Cargo securement devices and systems must be capable of withstanding the following three forces, applied separately:
 1. 0.8 g deceleration in the forward direction;
 2. 0.5 g acceleration in the rearward direction.; and
 3. 0.5 g acceleration in a lateral direction
2. Performance criteria for devices to prevent vertical movement of loads that are not contained within the structure of the vehicle.
3. Secure systems must provide a downward force equivalent to at least 20 percent of the weight of the article of cargo if the article is not fully contained within the structure of the vehicle.
4. Prohibition on exceeding working load limits.
5. Cargo securement devices and systems must be designed, installed, and maintained to ensure that the maximum forces acting on the devices or systems do not exceed the working load limit for the devices.