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Friday Safety Brief®

Hazardous Materials Training

Motor Carriers who transport hazardous materials must train drivers and other employees whose job requires any part of the handling or transportation of hazardous materials. Recurrent training is required every three years.

Each Hazmat Employer Must:

- train and test drivers & all employees whose function affects HM transportation
- certify that each employed has been trained
- develop and retain records of current training (inclusive of preceding three years) for each hazmat employee (during the period of employment and 90 days thereafter)

Training Must Include:

- General awareness/familiarization
- Function-specific, training
- Safety
- Security awareness
- In-depth security training, if a security plan is required
- Driver training (for each hazmat employee who will operate a motor vehicle)

Initial Training

A new employee, or an employee who changes job functions, may perform hazmat job functions before completing training, provided:

- the employee does so under the direct supervision of a properly trained and knowledgeable hazmat employee;
- and the hazmat training is completed within 90 days of employment or change in job function.

Recurrent Training

- Is required at least once every three years. The three year period begins on the actual date of training.
- Relevant training received from a previous employer or other source may be used to satisfy the requirements, provided a current record of training is obtained from the previous employer or source (i.e., OSHA, EPA, and other Federal or international agencies). Training must address components specified in 172.704(a) of the HMR to be considered applicable.

Training Records Must Include:

- Hazmat employee's name
- Completion date of most recent training
- Training Materials (Copy, description, or location)
- Name and address of hazmat trainer
- Certification that the hazmat employee has been trained and tested.

For more assistance and detailed information, go to the PHMSA website below. This website contains training modules and many other materials for HM transporters.

<http://phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/training-outreach>

This final rule was published in the June 22, 2010 Federal Register and became effective this week on Monday, March 21, 2011.

Elimination of Cargo Insurance Requirements for most "For-hire" common carriers and Freight Forwarders.

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration eliminates the requirement for most for-hire motor common carriers of property and freight forwarders to maintain cargo insurance in prescribed minimum amounts and file evidence of this insurance with FMCSA. Household goods motor carriers and household goods freight forwarders will continue to be subject to this cargo insurance requirement.

DATES: Effective **March 21, 2011**.

For this entire final rule, click here: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2010-06-22/html/2010-14866.htm>

