

Commercial Vehicle Inspections in Alberta

National Safety Code Standard 11, Part B
Alberta Transportation October 2001

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This compilation and arrangement of the mandatory periodic Commercial Vehicle Inspection Program (CVIP), Inspection Methods and Standards Manual, has been reproduced by Alberta Transportation under a contractual agreement with the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators (CCMTA).

Forward for Alberta Inspection Technicians

Alberta is adopting new CVIP inspection standards.

Alberta is adopting the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators' (CCMTA) December 2000 Periodic Motor Vehicle Inspection (PMVI) criteria, also known as the National Safety Code (NSC) Standard 11 Part B, as our Commercial Vehicle Inspection Program (CVIP) Inspection Methods and Standards Manuals. Every technician licensed to perform CVIP inspections by Alberta Transportation must purchase a copy of Alberta's Inspection Methods and Standards Manual for the type of vehicles that they inspect. Two manuals are available: one for trucks, truck tractors, trailers, semi-trailers, and c-dollies, and another for buses including school buses, commercial buses, and motorcoaches.

Changes in the new Inspection Methods and Standards Manual

This new CVIP Inspection Methods and Standards Manual changes the way commercial vehicles are inspected and certified in Alberta. As a licensed CVIP inspection technician it is your responsibility to ensure that you know and understand the contents of this new manual. Check over your new Inspection Methods and Standards Manual carefully.

Commercial vehicles must comply by April 1, 2002.

Commencing April 1, 2002, licensed technicians are to ensure that all commercial vehicles that they inspect are in compliance with the requirements of this CVIP Inspection Methods and Standards Manual.

You must register your new inspection manual(s).

Each CVIP inspection technician must own an original copy of Alberta's CVIP Inspection Methods and Standards Manual for the type of inspections that they perform. (Other copies, for example purchased from the CCMTA, will not be considered acceptable.) To continue your participation in Alberta's CVIP as an inspection technician you must register this Inspection Methods and Standards Manual as belonging to you. Each manual has an individual serial number, along with a matching registration card, that must be returned to Alberta Transportation to register this manual as being owned by you. Only Alberta's licensed CVIP technicians, who purchase and register a new Inspection Methods and Standards Manual, will be

allowed to continue performing CVIP inspections. To register your new manual, complete and forward the registration card provided with this manual to Alberta Transportation. Please ensure that you provide your name, technician number, and your complete home mailing address.

Two examples of significant changes

While our new CVIP Inspection Methods and Standards Manuals are similar to the previous ones dated July 1, 1991, there are a number of significant changes. Please familiarize yourself with this manual to ensure that the inspections you perform meet the program requirements.

First example: to meet the new requirements, a commercial vehicle originally manufactured with automatic slack adjusters cannot have had these replaced with manual slack adjusters.

Second example: to meet the new requirements, a commercial vehicle that does not have removable brake backing plates, or have a suitable inspection hole, must have its wheels removed at least once every 24 months to inspect the condition of the internal brake components.

Our partnership arrangement

Alberta Transportation relies upon our licensed inspection stations and technicians to ensure that CVIP inspections are done in accordance with Alberta's regulations, our Inspection Methods and Standards Manuals, and good trade practices. As an inspection technician you should never sign a CVIP certificate for a vehicle that you know is unsafe.

Continuing Competency

You are responsible to ensure that you maintain your technical skills and upgrade them when vehicle manufacturers introduce new technology. New technology, for example antilock brake systems, may leave you behind. Do not sign a CVIP certificate for a vehicle if you do not believe that you are qualified or have sufficient experience to inspect that vehicle.

Commercial Vehicle Inspection Program (CVIP) objectives

Carriers and operators are responsible to ensure that the vehicles they own and operate are in safe operating condition whenever they are on a highway in Alberta. By requiring a periodic inspection, Alberta's CVIP ensures the effectiveness of each carrier's vehicle maintenance program. As an inspection technician you should only sign a CVIP certificate when you know that the vehicle you inspected is in compliance with the inspection standards.

Commercial Vehicle Inspection Program (CVIP) record of inspection forms

Those handy "blue" records of inspection are back! (There is a copy of this form, and instructions for its use, at the end of this section.) These have been updated to reflect the changes in this Inspection Methods and Standards Manual. Feel free to make your own copies as you need them, or you may purchase pads of these forms from IKON Document Services. As a CVIP technician you are responsible to ensure that you keep an accurate record of the inspections you perform.

Commercial Vehicle Inspection Regulations

As a CVIP inspection technician you must know and understand Alberta's commercial vehicle inspection legislation. Commercial vehicles are required to be maintained and inspected under the following Regulations:

- Commercial Vehicle Inspection Regulation, Alberta Regulation 414/91.
- Bus Safety Regulation, Alberta Regulation 235/82.
- Commercial Bus Inspection, Equipment and Safety Regulation, Alberta Regulation 428/91.
- Commercial Vehicle Maintenance Standards Regulation, Alberta Regulation 118/89.

For a copy of these regulations please contact the Alberta Queen's Printers:

Main Floor, Park Plaza
10611 - 98 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5K 2P7
Phone: (780) 427-4952
Fax: (780) 452-0668

Main Floor, McDougall Centre
455 - 6th Street SW, Calgary, AB T2P 4E8
Phone: (403) 297-6251
Fax: (403) 297-8450

Or visit the Queen's Printer's website at: www.qp.gov.ab.ca

Progressive discipline process

Be aware that as an inspection technician if you do not perform inspections in compliance with the program requirements Alberta Transportation may do some or all of the following:

- Revoke the CVIP certificate and decal requiring your customer to have their vehicle re-inspected.
- Write you a warning letter indicating that you must perform CVIP inspections in accordance with program requirements. We may require you to sign such a letter.
- Write you a letter requesting that you explain your actions.
- Place conditions on the type of inspections or how you perform inspections.
- Revoke your CVIP technician's license or the CVIP station license where you are employed.

As a CVIP inspection technician you must only sign the CVIP inspection certificate after having inspected a vehicle in accordance with the regulatory requirements. Be advised that any of the following infractions will result in the revocation of your CVIP technician's license, or of the revocation of the

CVIP inspection station license:

- Signing an inspection certificate prior to the completion of an inspection.
- Issuing an inspection certificate or decal for a vehicle that has not been inspected.
- Inspecting a commercial vehicle at a place other than a licensed inspection station.
- Placing an inspection certificate within a vehicle for which it was not issued.
- Securing an inspection decal to a vehicle for which it was not issued.

Suggestions? Comments? Questions?

Please let us know if you have any Suggestions, Comments, or Questions concerning Alberta's CVIP. You may wish to complete and forward the handy Suggestions, Comments, or Questions card provided with this manual to Alberta Transportation.

For questions concerning Alberta's Commercial Vehicle Inspection Program contact:

Alberta Transportation
Vehicle Safety Section
Commercial Vehicle Inspection Program
Main Floor, 4999-98th Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
T6B 2X3

Tel.: (780) 427-8901

Fax.: (780) 422-3682

Web: <http://www.trans.gov.ab.ca>

At Alberta Transportation's homepage (www.trans.gov.ab.ca), go to the section entitled "Operating Commercial Vehicles", click on "Inspections", then "Commercial Vehicle Inspection Program".