

Commonly Used Acronyms in the Transportation Industry

AAMVA	American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators - A non-profit organization developing model programs in motor vehicle administration, law enforcement and highway safety. The association also serves as an information clearinghouse in these areas, and acts as the international spokesman for these interests. AAMVA represents the state and provincial officials in the United States and Canada who administer and enforce motor vehicle laws. http://www.aamva.org/
ATA	American Trucking Associations – An advocate for the trucking industry. Through a federation of state associations, affiliated conferences and individual members, ATA works with policymakers and the general public on economic, highway safety and environmental matters. http://www.trucking.org/
BMCS	Bureau of Motor Carrier Safety
CCMTA	Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators - Coordinates all matters dealing with the administration, regulation and control of motor vehicle transportation and highway safety within Canada. Membership includes representation from provincial and territorial governments as well as the federal government of Canada. http://ccmta.ca/en/
CDL	Commercial Driver's License – A driver's license required to operate large or heavy vehicles. The CDL can come with a range of class types and/or endorsements which identify the size or type of vehicle that the driver is qualified to operate.
CDLIS	Commercial Driver License Information System
CLP	Commercial Driver Learner's Permit – Used to practice driving for an eventual commercial driver's license.
CNG	Compressed Natural Gas - Methane stored at high pressure which can be used in place of gasoline, diesel fuel and propane/LPG.
CVIEW	Commercial Vehicle Information Exchange Window
CVISN	Commercial Vehicle Information Systems and Networks
CVR	Computerized Vehicle Registration –Process allowing a registrant to self-process registration and title transactions using a third party system that interfaces with a jurisdiction's transaction processing system.
CVSA	Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance – A non-profit association comprised of local, state, provincial, territorial and federal commercial motor vehicle safety officials and industry representatives. The CVSA's goal is to achieve uniformity, compatibility and reciprocity of commercial motor vehicle inspections and enforcement. http://cvsa.org/
DL	Driver's License – A document permitting a person to operate a motor vehicle.
DOT	Department of Transportation – The department in a jurisdiction that oversees programs and policies affecting highways, urban and rural public transportation, airports, railroads, ports and waterways. In some jurisdictions the DOT may also be responsible for the issuance of drivers licenses, motor vehicle titles, motor vehicle registrations as well as the administration of either or both the IRP and the IFTA programs.
ELD	An Electronic Logging Device (ELD) is an electronic device designed to comply with FMCSA's criteria to accurately record a driver's driving time for hours of service compliance.
EOBR	Electronic On-Board Recorder - An electronic device which is used to record the amount of time a vehicle is being driven.
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation - The domestic intelligence and security service of the United States. It simultaneously serves as the nation's prime federal law enforcement agency. https://www.fbi.gov/

FDHS	Federal Department of Homeland Security – A department of the U.S. federal government with responsibilities in public security. https://www.dhs.gov/
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency – An agency within the U.S. federal government whose primary purpose is to coordinate the response to a disaster that has occurred in the United States and that overwhelms the resources of local and state authorities. https://www.fema.gov/
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration – An agency within the U.S. federal government that provides stewardship over the construction, maintenance and preservation of United States highways, bridges and tunnels. FHWA also conducts research and provides technical assistance to state and local agencies in an effort to improve safety, mobility, and livability, and to encourage innovation. https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/
FIPS	Federal Information Processing Standards - Publicly announced standards developed by the United States federal government for use in computer systems by non-military government agencies and government contractors. They are intended to establish requirements for various purposes such as ensuring computer security and interoperability and are intended for cases in which suitable industry standards do not already exist.
FMCSA	Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
FTP	File Transfer Protocol - A standard network protocol used to transfer computer files from a computer to a network.
GVW	Gross Vehicle Weight - The combined weight of the vehicle and all passengers and cargo.
GVWR	Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (max weight) - The maximum operating weight of a vehicle as specified by the manufacturer including the vehicle's chassis, body, engine, engine fluids, fuel, accessories, driver, passengers and cargo but excluding that of any trailers.
HAZMAT	Hazardous Material - A material (as flammable or poisonous material) that would be a danger to life or to the environment if released without precautions.
HOS	Hours-Of-Service – The limit placed on number of hours allowed to be worked by a driver in order to reduce the possibility of driver fatigue.
HVUT	Heavy Vehicle Use Tax
IRS	Internal Revenue Service – The U.S. federal government tax collection agency and administers the Internal Revenue Code enacted by Congress. https://www.irs.gov/
ISO	International Standards Organization – An international standard-setting body composed of representatives from various national standards organizations. The organization promotes worldwide proprietary, industrial and commercial standards. http://www.iso.org/iso/home.html
ISP	Internet Service Provider - An organization that provides services for accessing and using the internet.
IFTA	International Fuel Tax Agreement
IRP	International Registration Plan
IT	Information Technology - The application of computers and internet to store, study, retrieve, transmit, and manipulate data, or information.
ISTEA	Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas – A natural gas that has been cooled to a liquid state, at about -260° F, for shipping and storage. The volume of natural gas in its liquid state is about 600 times smaller than its volume in its gaseous state.
LPR	License Plate Reader (or Recognition) – Image processing technology that utilizes fixed or mobile cameras and optical character recognition (OCR) to identify license plates.

MBUF	Mileage-based User Fees - A user charge based on miles driven in a specific vehicle. Often cited as an alternative to collecting an excise tax based on fuel consumed.
MCO/MSO	Manufacturer's Certificate (or Statement) of Origin - A document certifying the country of origin of the merchandise required by certain for tariff purposes.
MCMIS	Motor Carrier Management Information System
MCS	Motor Carrier Services – The government unit in a jurisdiction that is primarily responsible for administration of the International Registration Plan (IRP) and International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA). This unit may also oversee the Unified Carrier Registrations program and collection of the federal Heavy Vehicle Use Tax.
MCSAP	Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program
MCSIA	Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act (of 1999) - The purposes of this Act are to: a) Improve the administration of the Federal motor carrier safety program and to establish a Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) in the Department of Transportation. b) Reduce the number and severity of large-truck involved crashes through more commercial motor vehicle and operator inspections and motor carrier compliance reviews, stronger enforcement measures against violators, expedited completion of rulemaking proceedings, scientifically sound research, and effective commercial driver's license testing, recordkeeping and sanctions. https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/106/hr3419/text
MPG	Miles per Gallon – The fuel economy of a vehicle based on the relationship between the distance traveled and the amount of fuel consumed by the vehicle.
MSF	Motor Cycle Safety Foundation – An organization that actively participates in government relations, safety research, public awareness campaigns and the provision of technical assistance to state training and licensing programs related to motorcycle use. https://www.msf-usa.org/
MV	Motor Vehicle - A vehicle propelled otherwise than by muscular power, excepting such vehicles as run only upon rails or tracks and motorized bicycles.
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement - A three-country accord negotiated by the governments of Canada, Mexico, and the United States that provided for the elimination of most tariffs on products traded among the three countries.
NCIC	National Crime Information Center – A computerized index of criminal justice information (i.e. criminal record history information, fugitives, stolen properties, missing persons) available to federal, state, and local law enforcement and other criminal justice agencies. https://fas.org/irp/agency/doj/fbi/is/ncic.htm
NDR	National Driver Register – A division in the National Center for Statistics and Analysis under the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The NDR maintains the computerized database known as the Problem Driver Pointer System (PDPS) which contains information on individuals whose privilege to operate a motor vehicle has been revoked, suspended, canceled or denied or who have been convicted of serious traffic-related offenses. http://www.nhtsa.gov/Data/National-Driver-Register-(NDR)
NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration – An agency within the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) federal agency established by the Highway Safety Act of 1970, dedicated to achieving the highest standards of excellence in motor vehicle and highway safety. http://www.nhtsa.gov/
NIADA	National Independent Automobile Dealers Association – A non-profit organization representing the independent motor vehicle dealer (dealers that do not have a franchise agreement with a motor vehicle manufacturer) industry. http://www.niada.com/
NICB	National Insurance Crime Bureau – A non-profit organization dedicated exclusively to fighting insurance fraud and crime. https://www.nicb.org/
NIST	National Institute of Standard Technology – A measurement standards laboratory, and a non-regulatory agency of the United States Department of Commerce whose mission is to promote innovation and industrial competitiveness. https://www.nist.gov/

NLETS	National Law Enforcement Telecommunication System
NMVTIS	<p>National Motor Vehicle Title Information System - NMVTIS is a repository of information concerning U.S. motor vehicle titles created to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent the introduction or reintroduction of stolen motor vehicles into interstate commerce; • Protect states and consumers (individual and commercial) from fraud; • Reduce the use of stolen vehicles for illicit purposes including funding of criminal enterprises; and • Provide consumers protection from unsafe vehicles. <p>The U.S. Department of Justice is responsible for oversight of the implementation and operation of NMVTIS and works in partnership with the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA). https://www.vehiclehistory.gov/</p>
NTSB	<p>National Transportation Safety Board – A U. S. federal government entity charged with determining the probable cause of transportation accidents and promoting transportation safety and assisting victims of transportation accidents and their families. http://www.nts.gov/Pages/default.aspx</p>
RGW	Registered Gross Weight – The weight that determines the vehicle registration. It is can be based on the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating.
SAFER	Safety and Fitness Electronic Records System
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure - A set of step-by-step instructions compiled by an organization to help workers carry out routine operations.
TSA	Federal Transportation Security Administration – An agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security that has authority over the security of the traveling public in the United States. It's mission is to protect the nation's transportation systems. https://www.tsa.gov/
UCR	Unified Carrier Registration
URS	<p>Unified Registration System - The Unified Registration System is an electronic on-line registration system that streamlines and simplifies the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) registration process and serve as a clearinghouse and depository of information on all entities regulated by the Agency, including motor carriers, brokers, freight forwarders, intermodal equipment providers (IEPs), hazardous materials safety permit (HMSP) applicants/holders, and cargo tank manufacturing and repair facilities. The URS combines multiple registration processes, information technology systems and forms into a single, electronic online registration process. https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/registration/unified-registration-system</p>
USDOT	United States Department of Transportation – A federal department of the U.S. government whose mission is to Its purpose is to ensure a fast, safe, efficient, accessible, and convenient transportation system. https://www.transportation.gov/
VIN	Vehicle Identification Number – A unique code, including a serial number, used by the automotive industry to identify individual motor vehicles, towed vehicles, motorcycles, scooters and mopeds.
WDT	Weight Distance Tax
WIM	Weigh-in-Motion – Devices designed to capture and record axle weights and gross vehicle weights as vehicles are driven over a measurement site.

