WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR PRISM…

Under the Federal Performance and Registration Information Systems Management (PRISM) guidelines, the California Department of Motor Vehicle’s (DMV) International Registration Plan (IRP) will require that all PRISM requirements are met prior to issuing registration documents.

PRISM is a cooperative Federal-State safety program developed to reduce commercial vehicle accidents on our highways. You must be registered with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and obtain a USDOT number.

If you do not already have a USDOT number you will be required to obtain one from the FMCSA. You can do this by visiting the site at www.safer.fmcsa.dot.gov or by contacting the FMCSA at 800-832-5660.

♦ On What Forms Do You Indicate Your USDOT Number

Identify the USDOT number and Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) to be used at the account and fleet level (Schedule A/B) and vehicle level (Schedule C). The TIN may be either the Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) or Social Security Number (SSN) as designated on your MCS-150 form supplied to FMCSA. It is important to specify the USDOT number and the TIN responsible for safety for each vehicle listed on your renewal documents. If you (the IRP applicant) are not responsible for safety at the vehicle level, you are still required to have your own USDOT number. This number will then be indicated at the account/fleet level on Schedule A/B.

The USDOT number and TIN given for the motor carrier responsible for the safety of each vehicle will be used to track all commercial safety infractions.

♦ UPDATE YOUR MCS-150

Once you have a USDOT number, it is your responsibility to keep your information current. Prior to submitting your renewal documents, update your USDOT filing MCS-150 information on the FMCSA website at www.safer.fmcsa.dot.gov or contact the FMCSA at 800-832-5660.

No temporary operating authority will be issued until DMV has been notified by the FMCSA that your MCS-150 information has been updated. Your MCS-150 must be updated within the last 12 months prior to the first day of the renewal period.
What Do You Do If You Have An FMCSA PRISM Suspension

If the FMCSA has suspended the USDOT number responsible for the safety of your vehicle(s), you must surrender all registration and plates to DMV within 24 hours of suspension notification. Upon clearance of the suspension with FMCSA, a $150 reinstatement fee for each vehicle suspended will be collected prior to reinstating operating privileges. In addition, new plates and stickers will need to be issued and any fees associated with such will need to be paid.

No interstate or intrastate authority will be granted until the suspension is cleared, the $150 fee per vehicle is paid, and all other IRP fees and/or requirements are submitted.

If you have any questions concerning PRISM, contact the IRP Operations Section at 916-657-7971.