

## Motor Carrier-Related Glossary

---

**Ad Valorem** - a tax charged by some states in proportion to the estimated value of the vehicle.

**Allocated Vehicle** - vehicle to which a particular state's basic registration plate is attached upon payment of the state's full basic registration fee.

**Applicant** - person, firm, or corporation in whose name(s) a vehicle or fleet will be properly registered.

**Apportionable Fee** - any periodic recurring fee required for license or registering vehicles, such as, but not limited to, registration fees, license and weight fees.

**Apportionable Vehicle** - any vehicle used or intended for use in two or more member jurisdictions that allocate or proportionally register a vehicle designed, used, or maintained primarily for the transportation of property or passengers.

**Apportioned Registration** - registration that allows commercial vehicles to comply with registration requirements of more than one jurisdiction and pay registration fees based on the percentage of operation in those jurisdictions.

**Audit** - physical examination of carrier's records, including source documents, to verify fleet mileage and accuracy of record keeping.

**Axle** - a supporting shaft or member upon which a wheel or wheels revolve.

**Axle Weight** - the weight transmitted to the highway by an axle unit.

**Base Jurisdiction** - a jurisdiction where the registrant has an established place of business, where mileage is accrued by the fleet, and where the operational records of the fleet are maintained or can be made available.

**Base Plate** - the plate issued by the base jurisdiction and is the only registration identification plate issued for the vehicle by any member jurisdiction. Base plates shall be identified by having the word "APPORTIONED" and the jurisdiction's name on the plate.

**Brand New Vehicle** - first time registered.

**Bus (BS)** - a motor vehicle designed to carry more than 10 passengers.

---

## Motor Carrier-Related Glossary

---

**Cab Card** - a registration card issued for a vehicle of an apportioned fleet which identifies the specific vehicle for which it was issued, the base jurisdiction of the fleet, the registered weight of the vehicle in each apportioned jurisdiction, and the jurisdiction(s) where the vehicle is properly registered.

**Carrier** - individual, partnership, or corporation engaged in the business of transporting persons or property.

**Chartered Bus** - a motor vehicle used as a limited passenger vehicle exclusively for the conveyance of a person or group of persons to whom or for whose use the vehicle is chartered at a fixed price for the use of the whole vehicle.

**Chartered Party** - a group of persons who, pursuing a common purpose, under a single contract, and at a fixed charge, has acquired the exclusive use of a passenger-carrying motor vehicle to travel together as a group to a specified destination or for a particular itinerary.

**Combination of Vehicles** - two or more vehicles coupled together.

**Combined Gross Weight** - total empty weight of a combination of vehicles plus the total weight of the maximum load carried on that combination of vehicles.

**Commercial Vehicle** - vehicle that is used for the transportation of persons for compensation or profit; or, is designed or used primarily for the transportation of property.

**Converter Gear** - auxiliary axle undercarriage assembly with a fifth wheel and tow bar used to convert a semitrailer to a full trailer.

**Credentials** - the registration plate, cab card, and sticker issued to reflect the apportioned registration of a vehicle.

**Double Bottom Combination** - a combination of a power unit pulling two (2) semitrailers or a semitrailer and a full trailer.

**Dump Truck (DT)** - a truck whose contents are unloaded by tilting the truck bed backwards with the tailgate open.

**Empty Weight** - weight of a vehicle fully equipped for service, excluding the weight of any load.

**Established Place of Business** - a physical structure owned, leased, or rented by a fleet registrant and designated by street number or road location, and which is open during normal business hours and in which are located:

- a telephone or telephones publicly listed in the name of the fleet registrant, and
- a person or persons conducting the fleet registrant's business, and
- the operational records of the fleet or where the records can be made available.

**FHWA** - Federal Highway Administration (formerly ICC)

**Federal Heavy Vehicle Use Tax** - tax paid to the Internal Revenue Service by all carriers with vehicles having a gross weight of 55,000 pounds or more.

**Fifth Wheel Coupler** - a device that is mounted on the vehicle chassis and that consists of a skid plate, associated mounting brackets, and latching mechanism that couples or connects to a kingpin located on the other vehicle or component.

**Fleet** - One or more vehicles registered for operation in the same jurisdictions.

**Full Trailer** - vehicle without motive power pulled by a motor vehicle, and so constructed that no part of its weight rests on the pulling vehicle.

**Gross Vehicle Weight** - The total weight of a vehicle or combination of vehicles and load.

**Heavy Trailers** - trailers weighing in excess of 8,000 pounds loaded weight (axle weight when loaded).

**Hunter Permit** - Temporary registration credential issued by a member jurisdiction that is honored as a valid registration in all other IRP jurisdictions. The registration is for a minimum fee. Vehicle and/or combination must be empty.

**ICC** - Interstate Commerce Commission (now FHWA).

**IRP** - International Registration Plan.

**Identification** - see credentials.

**In-Jurisdiction Miles** - the total number of miles operated by a fleet of apportioned vehicles in a jurisdiction during the preceding year.

**International Registration Plan** - an agreement between member jurisdictions for prorating or apportioning registration fees based on fleet mileage traveled in each jurisdiction.

**Interstate** - vehicle movement between or through two or more jurisdictions.

**Intrastate** - vehicle movement from one point within a jurisdiction to another point within the same jurisdiction.

**Jurisdiction** - state or province of a country.

**Lease** - written document vesting exclusive possession, control of and responsibility for the operation of the vehicle to a lessee for a specific period of time.

- **Long term lease** - a lease of 30 days and longer
- **Short term lease** - a lease of less than 30 days which is considered a *“Rental”* in Oregon

**Lessee** - individual, partnership, or corporation having the legal possession and control of a vehicle owned by another under the terms of a lease agreement.

**Lessor** - individual, partnership, or corporation which, under the terms of a lease, grants the legal right of possession, control of and responsibility for the operation of the vehicle to another individual, partnership, or corporation.

**Light Trailers** - trailers weighing 8,000 pounds or less loaded weight (axle weight when loaded).

**Loaded Weight** - the weight transmitted to the road through an axle or set of axles when the vehicle is fully loaded.

**Mileage Reporting Year** - period of twelve (12) consecutive months immediately prior to the beginning of the registration or license year for which apportioned registration is requested. (In Oregon this period is July 1 to June 30.)

**Mobile Home Toter (MT)** - a motor vehicle designed without a fifth wheel and used exclusively for pulling a mobile home on its own axles.

**Operational Records** - documents supporting miles traveled in each jurisdiction and total miles traveled, such as VTRs, fuel reports, trip sheets and logs.

## Motor Carrier-Related Glossary

---

**Owner** - any individual, partnership, or corporation, other than a lien holder, holding legal title to a vehicle.

**Owner-Operator** - Equipment lessor (owner) who leases vehicles, with drivers, to a motor carrier.

**OWRATI** - Oregon Weight Receipt and Tax Identifier

**Power Unit** - see bus, truck, truck-tractor, road tractor, tractor, dump truck, tow truck, or mobile home toter.

**Private Carrier** - individual, partnership, or corporation which utilizes its own trucks to transport its own freight.

**Purchase Price** - actual price of the vehicle paid by the current owner, excluding trade-in sales tax and use tax, including accessories or modifications attached to the vehicle. Federal Excise Tax is also included in the purchase price.

**Reciprocity** - reciprocal granting of rights and/or privileges to vehicles properly registered under the IRP and to vehicles not so registered if such vehicles are subject to separate reciprocity agreements, arrangements, declarations, or understandings.

**Reciprocity Agreement** - an agreement, arrangement or understanding governing the reciprocal grant of rights and/or privileges to vehicles which are parties to such an agreement, arrangement, or understanding.

**Recreational Vehicle/Motor Home** - a motor vehicle designed or used primarily for accommodation during travel or recreation, but does not include a motor vehicle that has attached to it a structure

- designed or used primarily for accommodation during travel or recreation, and
- designed or intended to be detachable.

**Registrant** - see applicant.

**Registration Card** - see cab card.

**Registration Year** - the 12-month period during which the registration plates issued by the base jurisdiction are valid according to the laws of the base jurisdiction.

## Motor Carrier-Related Glossary

---

**Rental Fleet** - one or more vehicles that are rented or offered for rent without drivers and which are designated by a rental owner as a rental fleet.

**Restricted Plate** - a registration that has time (less than a full year), geographic area, mileage, or commodity restrictions (farm, log, or dealer plate).

**Road Tractor (RT)** - a motor vehicle designed without a fifth wheel and used for pulling other vehicles by means of a ball hitch and so constructed to carry only part of the weight of the vehicle being towed.

**Semitrailer (ST)** - vehicle without motive power pulled by a motor vehicle and constructed so that some part of its weight rests upon or is carried by the pulling vehicle.

**Serial Number** - see vehicle identification number.

**Service Representative** - one who furnishes facilities and services including sales, warehousing, motorized equipment and drivers under contract or other arrangements to a carrier for transportation of property by a household goods carrier.

**Sublease** - lease made to another person or company by the person or company to whom a vehicle is leased.

**Tare Weight (Unladen Weight)** - the actual weight of the vehicle including the cab, body and all accessories with which the vehicle is equipped for normal use on the highway excluding the weight of any load.

**Total Fleet Miles** - total number of miles (including nontaxable miles) operated by a fleet of apportioned vehicles registered in all jurisdictions during the mileage reporting period.

**Tow/Recovery Vehicle (TW)** - a motor vehicle designed for towing and recovering vehicles which are wrecked, damaged, disabled, abandoned, or are replacement vehicles.

**Tow Dolly** - see converter gear.

**TOWRATI** - Temporary Oregon Weight Receipt and Tax Identifier

**Tractor (TR)** - motor vehicle designed and used to pull other vehicles and NOT constructed to carry a load other than part of the weight of the pulled vehicle and its load.

## Motor Carrier-Related Glossary

---

**Trip Lease** - lease of vehicle equipment to a carrier (lessee) for a single interstate movement. The term may also include a similar movement intrastate where such movement is authorized under the laws of the state.

**Trip Permit** - temporary permit issued by a jurisdiction in lieu of regular registration.

**Trip Records** - records maintained on distances traveled for each unit on a monthly/quarterly basis and accumulated totals annually. The reporting period for actual distance traveled is July 1 to June 30 of the preceding year. The reporting period for estimated distance is for the projected registration year. These records are subject to audit by the base jurisdiction as well as host jurisdictions.

**Truck (TK)** - motor vehicle designed and used for the transportation of property; generally not designed and used to pull other vehicles.

**Truck-Trailer (TT)** - a motor vehicle designed and used for carrying a load and for pulling trailers with loads.

**Unladen Weight (Tare Weight)** - the actual weight of the vehicle including the cab, body and all accessories with which the vehicle is equipped for normal use on the highway excluding the weight of any load.

**VTR** - Vehicle Trip Record.

**Vehicle Identification Number** - identifying numbers and letters assigned to a vehicle for the purpose of titling and registration.