

Vehicle & Motor Carrier Services' First Quarter 2016 Newsletter

Commercial vehicle titles
Fuel and registration trip permits
International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA)

Travel authority
Permits for over dimensional loads
International Registration Plan (IRP)

April 2016



IFTA First quarter 2015 tax return deadline Monday, May 2

Online processing is required for all IFTA quarterly tax returns, requests for more decals, and IRP renewals and supplements.

Supported Internet browsers are Microsoft® Internet Explorer® (IE) Google Chrome™, or Mozilla® Firefox® – newer IE versions may need to run in the compatibility mode. You must allow **pop-up windows for the online IFTA/IRP applications to work.**

Use the same Account ID (client ID) and password you use to file your IRP renewal and supplements online. **Don't wait until the last minute to request a password – all you have to do is** email omcs@dot.iowa.gov and provide your Client ID number, your email address where a temporary password can be emailed, and your telephone number.

To file online: 1) Go to www.iowadot.gov/iftairp; and 2) The next window to appear is the "hub" of the online application where you will sign in to the application and find the "IFTA online reference guide." It is recommended you go through the reference guide and FAQs for any questions you may have. Detailed steps on completing the IFTA tax return begin on page 5 and end on page 11 of the guide. Follow each step until you receive the message "**Record successfully updated.**"

Payments should be made in full and in a timely manner to avoid penalty and interest. Acceptable methods of payment are:

- Dwolla (online payment option).
- Escrow account (online payment option).
- Check, money order, or cashier check.
- *Credit card or electronic check number (\$2.50 or 3.75 percent fee added, whichever is greater).
- *T-check, Comcheck, or electronic funds source (EFS) check number.

*Call 515-237-3268 to use these options.

Charter buses are no longer exempt from IRP requirements as of Jan. 1, 2016. Prior to Jan. 1, 2016, registration in the IRP for chartered buses has been optional. As of Jan. 1, 2016, non-government-owned buses transporting chartered parties to any destination outside of Iowa is required to be registered under the IRP and display the corresponding "apportioned" plates.

Change in IRP late payment and late file penalty: Legislation passed a bill to change the IRP penalty for late-file and late payment to 5% of the **Iowa fees only**, effective Jan. 1, 2016. This change is **NOT** retroactive.

Unified Registration System (URS): Federal rule making has created the URS system to be implemented in stages through Dec. 31, 2016. The purpose of the URS is to replace certain existing federal systems with a single, online, federal system. Below are some of the changes that have gone into effect and will go into effect at a later date:

- If your USDOT number has not been updated according to the FMCSA biennial schedule, you may be subject to a citation at roadside, and your registration denied. You will receive an update letter from FMCSA, once received it is recommended the update process be completed at that time.
- **Effective Dec. 12, 2015:** A new MCSA-1 form has replaced the current MCS-150 form for new applicants.

- Any paper applications received after 12/11/15 will be sent back to the applicant.
- Existing entities will continue to use the current process.

TIME IS FAST APPROACHING!

- **Effective Sept. 30, 2016:**
 - URS will be fully operational.
 - The USDOT number is the sole identifier, Docket (MC, FF, MX) numbers will no longer be issued.
 - Electronic applications only – paper forms will no longer be accepted.
 - Registration will cost \$300 per registration requested on an application, including a separate fee for safety registration. See below for an example:

Fees: All new applications for USDOT Numbers and operating authority will be \$300 each. For example, if the applicant registers for a USDOT No., and registers as both a motor carrier and a broker, the fee will be \$300 each, or \$900 total.

- (USDOT numbers for **INTRASTATE** carriers will remain at no charge).
- **Effective Dec. 31, 2016:**
 - Insurance filings for existing private HAZMAT and exempt-for hire carriers must be on file.
 - Service of process agent filings for existing private and exempt-for hire carriers (BOC-3) must be on file. (A process agent is an entity that is identified for the purpose of serving legal papers. It is a legal presence in each state the carrier operates).

All carriers need a Portal account with FMCSA to access URS. For training and information go to: <https://portal.fmcsa.dot.gov/training/Company>

As of Jan. 11, 2016 the Davenport IRS began appointment services. Taxpayers in need of service at the Davenport IRS Taxpayer Assistance Center have a new number to call to schedule an appointment. However, they should first see if their answer is available at IRS.gov. Taxpayers requiring assistance should call 1-844-545-5640 to schedule an appointment.

Effective Jan. 1, 2016: The fees for Oversize/Overweight (OS/OW) permits increased to the following:

- Annual Oversize \$50.00
- Annual OS/OW \$400.00
- Single Trip \$35.00
- All systems Permit \$160.00

Motor Carrier Responsible for Safety (MCRS)

All IRP commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) registered within a PRISM State must have a MCRS assigned to it.

- If the MCRS is not going to change during the registration period, the carrier information will be printed on the cab card. If the MCRS does change during the registration period, this information must be changed to the vehicle(s) affected.
- If the MCRS is going to change during the registration period, that information will not be placed on the cab card. This means the driver must have in his or her possession appropriate documentation to present when stopped at the roadside.
- It is important for IRP account holders to notify our office when the MCRS changes from an OOS carrier to another carrier. Otherwise, the carrier will continue to be stopped when traveling the interstate, due to the vehicle data still being linked to the OOS carrier.

IRP Reporting periods and credential display information

1. The distance reporting period for registrants whose IRP renewal is September 2015 or after, the distance reporting period is **July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015.**
2. The 2290 reporting period is **July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.**
3. 2017 credentials must be displayed on/before your current credentials expire. If the 2016 credentials are displayed prior to your current credentials expiring, both the 2016 **and** 2017 cab cards must be carried in the vehicle.

Vehicle & Motor Carrier Services Contact Information:

- **Mailing address:**
P.O. Box 10382, Des Moines, Iowa 50306-0382
- **Physical address:**
6310 SE Convenience Blvd., Ankeny, Iowa 50021 (exit 89 on Interstate 35)
- **Counter hours:** 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
New registrant customers must arrive by 2 p.m.
- **Email:** omcs@dot.iowa.gov
- **Website:** www.iowadot.gov/iftairp
- Commercial vehicle titles 515-237-3110
515-237-3056 Fax
- Motor carrier audits 515-239-1030
515-239-1874 Fax

For questions regarding OS/OW, Fuel & Trip Permits, IFTA, IRP, UCR and Travel Authority, visit our website at www.iowadot.gov. If your questions are not answered you may either email us at omcs@dot.iowa.gov or call us at one of the numbers below.

- Fuel and trip permits, and
Oversize/Overweight permits 515-237-3264
515-237-3257 Fax
- IFTA fuel tax, IRP registration,
UCR and Travel authority 515-237-3268
515-237-3225 Fax

URGENT: Safety Recall Initiated by Volvo Trucks

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) is issuing this bulletin based upon a safety recall initiated by Volvo Trucks affecting nearly 20,000 Class 8 motor vehicles, with more than 17,000 affected vehicles in the United States ([click here to view Volvo Trucks' "Safety Recall Alert"](#)). FMCSA has become aware of a critical safety defect that could severely affect the safe operation of these vehicles due to a faulty two-piece steering shaft. This condition can lead to separation of the steering shaft without warning and an immediate loss of steering ability and control which may lead to a vehicle crash. Operators of vehicles affected by the Volvo recall should **take the vehicles out of service as soon as possible**. FMCSA is publishing this advisory bulletin to raise awareness of this issue in order to prevent serious crashes.

FMCSA and State inspectors are advised that certain 2016 and 2017 Volvo and Mack Titan model trucks may be affected by the recall. Volvo has advised that carriers contact the Volvo Customer Support line below to determine what, if any, action is necessary. If FMCSA or State inspectors identify a potentially affected vehicle, the driver should be directed to call the number below *prior* to proceeding, and to follow the instructions provided by Volvo.

Volvo Customer Support

1-877-800-4945: Option 1

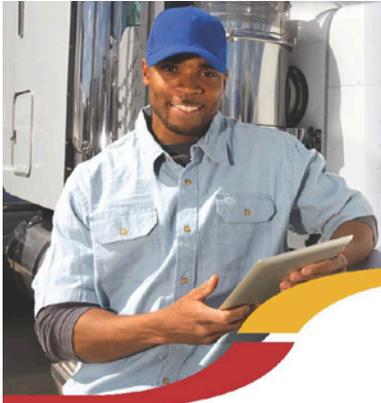
In addition to being a serious safety issue, continuing to operate these vehicles could be considered a violation of 49 C.F.R. § 3.6.7, which prohibits operation of a vehicle in a condition likely to cause an accident or a breakdown. Safety demands that operators of these vehicles take prompt and appropriate action to ensure this issue is addressed. Motor carriers that violate applicable regulations may face enforcement action including, but not limited to, civil penalties and a finding that the defect constitutes an out-of-service condition.

Filing Schedule

If your USDOT number ends in:	You must file by the last day of:
1	January
2	February
3	March
4	April
5	May
6	June
7	July
8	August
9	September
0	October

If the next-to-last digit of your USDOT number is odd, file your update every odd-numbered calendar year.

If the next-to-last digit of your USDOT number is even, file your update every even-numbered calendar year.



What You Should Know About the Phased Unified Registration System Rollout

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has begun a phased rollout of the new Unified Registration System (URS).



Who Is Impacted

Everyone regulated by **FMCSA** will need to use the **URS** — interstate motor carriers, freight forwarders, brokers, intermodal equipment providers (IEPs), hazardous materials safety permit (HMSP) applicants, and cargo tank facilities.

Phased URS Rollout at a Glance

URS REQUIREMENTS	New Registrants	Existing Registrants	New Private HM & Exempt For-Hire Carriers	Existing Private HM & Exempt For-Hire Carriers	New & Existing Private Carriers
Use of the online registration application for new registrations only	X 12/12/15				
Use of the online registration application for all reasons to file		X 9/30/16	X 9/30/16	X 9/30/16	X 9/30/16
USDOT Number as sole identifier (discontinuing issuance of all other docket numbers - excepting distinct CT numbers for cargo tank facility registration)	X 9/30/16	X 9/30/16	X 9/30/16	X 9/30/16	X 9/30/16
Safety Registration	X 9/30/16				
Evidence of Financial Responsibility (Insurance Filings and Surety Bonds/Trust)	ALREADY REQUIRED*	ALREADY REQUIRED*	X 9/30/16	X 12/31/16	
Process Agent Designation (BOC-3)	ALREADY REQUIRED*	ALREADY REQUIRED*	X 9/30/16	X 12/31/16	X 12/31/16

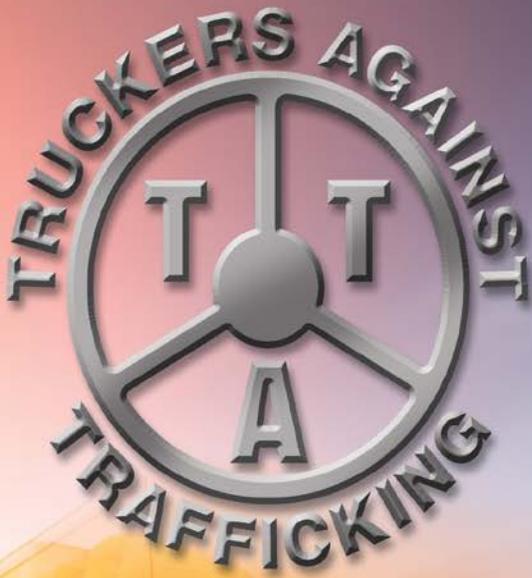
*Evidence of financial responsibility and BOC-3 are already required for entities required to have Federal operating authority (49 CFR 365).

Learn More

For more information about URS visit www.fmcsa.dot.gov/registration/unified-registration-system



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration



Why involve the trucking industry in the fight against human trafficking?

Ongoing sting operations by the FBI and other law enforcement personnel reveal that criminals and crime syndicates sell their wares at a number of locations frequented by truckers. Only in this case, their product isn't drugs, it's people – victims of human trafficking. Since 2004, these sting operations have rescued hundreds of children, recovered millions of dollars and arrested numerous perpetrators.

Whether at schools, malls, online sites, streets or neighborhoods, traffickers target our children – boys and girls, teens and young women – drugging, coercing, beating, threatening, and selling them for sex, as well as labor, and making millions. Some of these victims are as young as 11 years old ... some are even younger.

Traffickers targeting truckers as consumers continually move their “goods” along circuits that each cover multiple states.

But truckers, in the course of their daily work – and because they're continually on the move – can help stop this ... through observation, overhearing conversations, being trained in what to look for and by tools and instruction on what to do.

Truckers Against Trafficking

Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) ® began in March 2009 as an initiative of Chapter 61 Ministries to educate, equip, empower and mobilize members of the trucking industry on the critical role they can play in fighting one of the most lucrative and destructive crimes in the United States and globally.

Today, TAT is a 501c3 organization with three main goals to accomplish our mission:

- Have our TAT materials made a regular part of training/ orientation for members of the trucking industry, so when they suspect human trafficking, they'll call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) at 1-888-373-7888 and report what they know.
- Partner with law enforcement to facilitate the investigation of human trafficking.
- Marshal the resources of the trucking industry to combat this crime.

We provide a website, www.truckersagainsttrafficking.org; a trucking-industry-specific training DVD; webinars; human trafficking presentations; wallet cards truckers can carry with information to help them recognize trafficking and call the NHTRC number when it is suspected; posters and other materials the trucking industry can use for publicity and promotion; and the Freedom Drivers Project — a 48' mobile exhibit designed to educate audiences about the realities of domestic sex trafficking and how the trucking industry is combating it.

TAT also works to build coalitions between members of law enforcement, anti-trafficking organizations and key industry stakeholders, including general managers of truck stops and travel plazas, large carriers and state trucking associations, to further the apprehension of traffickers and the recovery of victims. We interact with appropriate state and national agencies to have our materials used in all venues involving trucking and strategize with state and local law enforcement and government on additional ways the trucking industry can provide invaluable help. And we continually strive to help the trucking industry develop its unique contribution and leadership in the fight against human trafficking

For more information on Truckers Against Trafficking or find out how you can help, contact

tat.truckers@gmail.com or visit our website

www.truckersagainsttrafficking.org.

Make the Call, Save Lives.

1-888-3737-888