

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD - TRANSPORT REFRIGERATION UNIT (TRU) REGULATIONS

Background: TRUs are refrigeration systems that are powered by diesel internal combustion engines (inside the same housing) designed to control the environment of temperature-sensitive products that are transported in trucks, trailers, shipping containers, and railcars. The emissions from these units are a source of unhealthy air pollutants including particulate matter, toxic air contaminants, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, and hydrocarbons, that all pose a potential threat to both public health and the environment. These units often congregate in large numbers at California distribution centers, grocery stores, cold storage warehouses, intermodal facilities, packing houses, and other facilities where they run for extended periods of time to ensure their perishable contents remain cold or frozen. These distribution and loading facilities are often in close proximity to schools, hospitals, and residential neighborhoods. In 2004, the TRU Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) was adopted by the Board to reduce diesel particulate matter emissions from TRUs and TRU gen set engines. Amendments were adopted by the Board in November 2010 and October 2011.

On February 26, 2016, the California Air Resources Board released the following advisory notice as a reminder to brokers, forwarders, shippers, receivers, carriers, and drivers on transport refrigeration unit requirements:

Brokers, forwarders, shippers and receivers that hire refrigerated carriers to transport perishable goods on California highways and railways are reminded that they must only hire carriers that have certified to the hiring business entity that they will only dispatch TRUs that are in compliance with California Air Resources Board's (ARB or Board) Transport Refrigeration Unit (TRU) Regulation.

The compliance deadline for model year 2008 TRU and TRU generator set engines to meet the TRU Regulation's in-use performance standards was December 31, 2015. Model year 2001 and older TRU and TRU generator set engines that previously met a less stringent in-use performance standard would also have to meet a more stringent in-use performance standard if they are to continue operating in California. Some TRU and TRU genset engines have not been brought into compliance by the December 31, 2015, deadline, so they cannot legally be hired to operate in California.

Brokers, forwarders, shippers and receivers that hire refrigerated carriers that will operate in California must use due diligence in hiring only compliant carriers and must provide documents to the carriers they hire that show who hired them.

Refrigerated carriers must only dispatch compliant equipment if it will operate in California and they must provide their drivers with documents showing who hired them. Drivers must, upon request by authorized personnel, provide those documents showing who hired them.

TRU Advisory 13-25 provides more detailed information about enforcement of these requirements and is available at:

http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/tru/documents/advisory_13_25.pdf

The Spanish version of TRU Advisory 13-25 is at:

http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/tru/documents/advisory_13_25_span.pdf

ARB has prepared a template that brokers, forwarders, shipper and receivers may use to notify refrigerated motor carriers that they must comply with ARB's TRU Regulation and that before they can be hired they must certify to the hiring business entity that they will only dispatch compliant TRUs. This notice should be sent out to carriers annually, after a compliance deadline has passed.

The notice template is available at:

http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/tru/documents/template_notice_to_carriers.pdf

Where can I get more information?

Guidance for Brokers, Forwarders, Shippers, Receivers, Carriers and Drivers for Hiring and Contracting TRU-Carrier Transport of Perishable Goods on California Highways and Railways is at:
http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/tru/documents/guidance_broker-shipper-receiver.pdf

The Spanish version of this Guidance is at:
http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/tru/documents/guidance_broker-shipper-receiver_span.pdf

For general information about the TRU Regulation, the TRU Website is at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/tru/tru.htm>

The ARBER registration website is at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/arber/arber.htm>

ARBER Registration Help pages are at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/arber/trureg/trureg.htm>

TRU Advisories are listed at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/tru/advisories.htm>

If you have questions about compliance or registration in ARBER, please call the TRU Help Line at 1-888-878-2826 or call 1-916-327-8737.