

**SUBJECT: Additional Weight Tolerance for Auxiliary Power Units (APUs)**

Managers, Victoria	Carrier Safety Inspectors	Driver Services Centres
Motor Vehicle Inspectors	Government Agents	MOT (Director, Chair
Passenger Transportation Board	Trucking Industry	Transportation Policy)
Deputy Director, CVSE	Law Enforcement Agencies	Supt of Motor Vehicles
Regional CVSE Managers	Commercial Transport Insp.	
Managers, Licensing	(Inspection Stations)	
ADM (Compliance and Consumer Services)		
Passenger Transportation Branch		

**PURPOSE OF CIRCULAR**

To advise industry, staff and the general public about the additional weight tolerance allowed for Auxiliary Power Units (APUs) installed on truck tractors and straight trucks. The weight tolerance is only permitted on the steering axle and drive axle group to a combined maximum weight allowance of 225kg (500lb).

**BACKGROUND**

An APU provides power for heating, AC and ancillary devices when a truck tractor or straight truck is parked, saving fuel and reducing greenhouse gases by eliminating the need to idle the vehicle's engine. Currently, 25 US states provide weight allowances for APUs.

The BC Trucking Association (BCTA) and the Trucking Sector Climate Action Working Group (TSWG) have recommended Commercial Vehicle Safety & Enforcement (CVSE) allow a weight exemption for BC truck tractors and straight trucks equipped with these APUs.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

CVSE has agreed to the recommendation by BCTA and TSWG and has developed the following procedure companies/drivers are to follow in order to get the weight exemption:



- Driver must report to the closest inspection station for a one time only verification the truck tractor or straight truck is equipped with an APU.
- Once a CVSE Inspector confirms an APU has been installed, a decal (as shown on the left) will be affixed to the passenger side window to indicate the unit is equipped with an APU.

## **MORE INFORMATION**

For more information on APUs, please visit the US Environmental Protection Agency website at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/smartway/transport/index.htm>

Once at the site, follow the steps outlined below to find a list of approved products and manufacturers.

- Under Tools, click on Verified Technologies List
- Click on Idle Reduction Technologies
- Click on Auxiliary Power Units and Generator Sets

Alternatively, information can be found on the Fraser Basin Council's GreenFleets website at:  
<http://greenfleetsbc.com/content/view/49/63/>

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dawn Major". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Dawn Major,  
Deputy Director, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement Branch  
Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure