

This year's International Roadcheck will focus on tractor protection systems and controlled substance and alcohol possession.

Tractor Protection and Anti-Bleed Back Systems

A commercial motor vehicle's tractor protection system consists of a tractor protection valve, trailer supply valve and anti-bleed back valve. All valves should be properly tested during a driver's trip inspection and an inspector's roadside inspection.



During the inspection of tractor protection system components, the inspector will:

- Ensure the wheel chocks are still in place and have the driver release all the brakes by pressing dash valves.
- Have the driver carefully remove the gladhands and allow air to escape.
- Ensure the air stops leaking from the supply line with at least 20 psi remaining.
- Listen and/or feel for any leaking air at the gladhand couplers on the trailer.
- Request a full service brake application by the driver.
- Listen and/or feel for leaks from both air lines.

Check the 2010-01 - Tractor Protection Systems inspection bulletin at www.cvsa.org/inspections/inspection-bulletins for the tractor protection system testing procedure.

Controlled Substance and Alcohol Possession

Controlled substance and alcohol possession by commercial motor vehicle drivers is a significant concern. In addition, the number of prohibited drivers in the U.S. Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse (DACH) is increasing. This alarming trend poses a threat to all motorists on our roadways.

While checking for the presence of alcohol or controlled substances during an inspection, inspectors will:

- Observe the driver for signs of alcohol or controlled substance use and/or impairment.
- Examine the cab and trailer for alcohol or controlled substances.
- Conduct a query in the DACH (for inspections in the U.S.).

Tips for Motor Carriers

- Establish and strictly enforce clear policies to prevent controlled substance and alcohol possession or use in the workplace.
- Regularly query the DACH to ensure your drivers are not in prohibited status.

Tips for Drivers

Do not possess, use or be under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances while on duty. Remember, you are prohibited from having any detectable presence of alcohol and cannot use alcohol within four hours of coming on duty.

