



Short-Term Rental Exemption from ELDs

On October 11, 2017, FMCSA released an additional exemption to the ELD mandate. This exemption is based on a request for exemption filed by the Truck Rental and Leasing Association (TRALA) and will allow carriers to operate property-carrying commercial vehicles rented under a “rental agreement” of 8 days or less without having to install an AOBDR/ELD in the vehicle. Drivers using the rented vehicle during this 8-day period will be allowed to use paper logs, rather than an AOBDR or ELD.

Recent additional clarification of the Hi Rail exception in §395.1(w)

Instead of extending the 14-hour limit by up to 2 hours per day, the hi-railer may exclude from the calculation of the 14-rule and the 60/70-hour rule, up to 2 hours per day/ 30 hours per month, time spent in transportation to/from a duty assignment. There is no reference to the 8-hr/30-minute break provision and it is not impacted for hi-railers.

Note that “transportation to/from a duty assignment” does not necessarily mean that driver is operating a hi-rail vehicle at that time. There could be various reasons the driver would be transported by a van or other passenger vehicle to the job site while on duty.

Examples of supporting documents for drivers of passenger-carrying vehicles

Supporting documents that are unique to the passenger industry can include and are not limited to charter orders and itineraries, parking and tour permits issued by destinations, on-road lavatory service documents, driver hotel receipts, entertainer operations “Day Sheets”, and posted schedules/tours on websites (departure, arrival, etc.).