



Regulatory Advisory

September 2012



Mail-Out #MSCD 12-19

TRACTOR-TRAILER GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) REGULATION CLARIFICATION OF LOW ROLLING RESISTANCE TIRE REQUIREMENTS

The purpose of this advisory is to explain how the low rolling resistance tire requirements of the Tractor-Trailer GHG Regulation (regulation) will be implemented for 2010 and older tractors. The regulation requires 2010 and older affected tractors to use U.S. EPA SmartWay verified low rolling resistance tires by January 1, 2013. This advisory clarifies that tractors using new or retreaded non-SmartWay tractor tires that were manufactured prior to January 1, 2013, can continue to use those tires for the useful life of that tread, or until January 1, 2015, whichever comes first. Any new or retreaded tire manufactured and installed on an affected tractor after January 1, 2013, must be a SmartWay verified tire. By January 1, 2015, all tires on affected tractors must be SmartWay verified.

Regulation Background

On December 12, 2008, the California Air Resources Board approved for adoption the regulation (title 17 California Code of Regulations sections 95300-95312) to reduce GHG emissions from long-haul tractor-trailer combination vehicles operating in California. The regulation applies to 53-foot or longer dry-van and refrigerated-van trailers (box-type trailers) and the tractors that pull them on California highways. The regulation requires tractor-trailers operating in California to utilize tractors and box-type trailers that are either U.S. EPA SmartWay certified, or retrofitted with SmartWay verified aerodynamic devices (typically skirts, tail devices or undercarriage devices for the trailer) and low rolling resistance tires on the tractor and trailer that meet specified fuel efficiency improvements. SmartWay verified low rolling resistance tires include new tires and retreads.

The regulation requires owners of affected tractors to meet the following requirements with respect to low rolling resistance tires:

- 2011 model year and newer affected tractors (sleeper cabs and day cabs) must use SmartWay verified low rolling resistance new tires or SmartWay verified retread tires, beginning in 2010.
- 2010 model year and older affected tractors must use SmartWay verified low rolling resistance new tires or SmartWay verified retread tires by January 1, 2013.

This Advisory clarifies that 2010 model year and older affected tractors using non-compliant tires manufactured or retreaded prior to January 1, 2013 (as determined by the date code on the tire sidewall) may continue to use those tires until the end of their

useful tread life, or until January 1, 2015, whichever comes first. After January 1, 2013, any tire on an affected tractor that must be replaced or retreaded must be a SmartWay verified low rolling resistance tire.

A listing of SmartWay verified low rolling resistance tire and retread models is available on the U.S. EPA website at: <http://www.epa.gov/smartway/technology/tires.htm>

More Information

For further information about the regulation, training, outreach efforts, compliance tools or the full text of the Tractor-Trailer GHG regulation, please visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/truckstop/truckstop.htm> or <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/hdghg/hdghg.htm> or call 866 6DIESEL (866 634-3735), or email us at 8666diesel@arb.ca.gov.