trailer-mounted electronic brake controllers provides a level of safety that is equivalent to the level of safety achieved without the exemption. As noted earlier, the use of a trailer-mounted electronic brake controller does not alter the braking capability of a trailer equipped with electric brakes; instead, it alters the method by which the trailer’s electric brakes are applied. The Agency emphasizes that the exemption should not be construed as an exception to the brake performance requirements under §393.52; motor carriers using trailer-mounted electric brake controllers must ensure that any commercial motor vehicle, or combination of commercial motor vehicles, complies with the brake performance requirements under §393.52 when operated in interstate commerce.

FMCSA has decided to grant Innovative Electronics’ exemption application. The FMCSA encourages any party, including Innovative Electronics, having information that motor carriers utilizing this exemption are not achieving the requisite level of safety immediately to notify the Agency. If safety is being compromised, or if the continuation of the exemption is not consistent with 49 U.S.C. 31315(b) and 31136(e), FMCSA will take immediate steps to revoke the temporary exemption.

Terms and Conditions for the Exemption

Based on its evaluation of the application for an exemption, FMCSA has decided to grant Innovative Electronics’ exemption application. The Agency believes that the level of safety that will be achieved using a trailer-mounted electric brake controller during the 2-year exemption period will likely be equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety without the exemption.

The Agency hereby grants the exemption for a two-year period, beginning November 29, 2011 and ending November 29, 2013.

During the temporary exemption period, motor carriers must meet the hydraulic surge brake requirements of §§393.48(d) and 393.49(c), substituting “trailer-mounted electric brake controller” for “surge brake” as follows:

393.48 Brakes to be operative.
* * * * *
(d)(1) Trailer-mounted electric brake controllers are allowed on:
(i) Any trailer with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 12,000 pounds or less, when its GVWR does not exceed 1.25 times the GVWR of the towing vehicle; and
(ii) Any trailer with a GVWR greater than 12,000 pounds, but less than 20,001 pounds, when its GVWR does not exceed 1.25 times the GVWR of the towing vehicle.

[2] The gross vehicle weight (GVW) of a trailer equipped with a trailer-mounted electric brake controller may be used instead of its GVWR to calculate compliance with the weight ratios specified in paragraph (d)(1) of this section when the trailer manufacturer’s GVWR label is missing.

(3) The GVW of a trailer equipped with a trailer-mounted electric brake controller must be used to calculate compliance with the weight ratios specified in paragraph (d)(1) of this section when the trailer’s GVW exceeds its GVWR.

(4) The trailer equipped with a trailer-mounted electric brake controller must meet the requirements of §393.40.

393.49 Control valves for brakes.
* * * * *
(c) Trailer-mounted electric brake controller exception. This requirement is not applicable to trailers equipped with trailer-mounted electric brake controllers that satisfy the conditions specified in 393.48(d).

Interested parties possessing information that would demonstrate that motor carriers using the exemption for trailer-mounted electric brake controllers are not achieving the requisite statutory level of safety should provide that information to FMCSA, and that information will be placed in Docket No. FMCSA–2011–0022. Placement of information in the docket is addressed at 75 FR 33667, June 14, 2010. The Agency will evaluate any such information placed in the docket and, if safety is being compromised or if the continuation of the exemption is not consistent with 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(4) and 31136(e), will take immediate steps to revoke this exemption, if warranted.

Preemption

During the period the exemption is in effect, no State shall enforce any law or regulation that conflicts with or is inconsistent with this exemption to allow commercial motor vehicle operators to use trailer-mounted electric brake controllers which monitor and actuate electric trailer brakes based on inertial forces developed in response to the braking action of the towing vehicle.

Issued on: November 18, 2011.

Anne S. Ferro,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2011–30739 Filed 11–28–11; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910–EX–P
The border commercial zones as detailed in the Agency’s April 13, 2011, Federal Register notice [76 FR 20807]. The pilot program is a part of FMCSA’s implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) cross-border long-haul trucking provisions in compliance with section 6901(b)(2)(B) of the Act. FMCSA reviewed, assessed, and evaluated the required safety measures as noted in the July 8, 2011, notice and considered all comments received on or before May 13, 2011, in response to the April 13, 2011, notice. Additionally, to the extent practicable, FMCSA considered comments received after May 13, 2011.

In accordance with section 6901(b)(2)(B)(i) of the Act, FMCSA is required to publish in the Federal Register, and provide sufficient opportunity for public notice and comment comprehensive data and information on the PASAs conducted of motor carriers domiciled in Mexico that are granted authority to operate beyond the border commercial zones. This notice serves to fulfill this requirement.

FMCSA is publishing for public comment the data and information relating to one PASA that was completed on October 7, 2011. FMCSA announces that the Mexico-domiciled motor carrier in Table 1 successfully completed its PASA. Notice of this completion was also published in the FMCSA Register.

Tables 2, 3 and 4 “Successful Pre-Authorization Safety Audit (PASA) Information” set out additional information on the carrier(s) noted in Table 1. A narrative description of each column in the tables is provided as follows:

A. Row Number in the Appendix for the Specific Carrier: The row number for each line in the tables.

B. Name of Carrier: The legal name of the Mexico-domiciled motor carrier that applied for authority to operate in the United States (U.S.) beyond the border commercial zones and was considered for participation in the long-haul pilot program.

C. U.S. DOT Number: The identification number assigned to the Mexico-domiciled motor carrier and required to be displayed on each side of the motor carrier’s power units. If granted provisional operating authority, the Mexico-domiciled motor carrier will be required to add the suffix “X” to the ending of its assigned U.S. DOT Number for those vehicles approved to participate in the pilot program.

D. FMCSA Register Number: The number assigned to the Mexico-domiciled motor carrier’s operating authority as found in the FMCSA Register.

E. PASA Initiated: The date the PASA was initiated.

F. PASA Completed: The date the PASA was completed.

G. PASA Results: The results upon completion of the PASA. The PASA receives a quality assurance review before approval. The quality assurance process involves a dual review by the FMCSA Division Office supervisor of the auditor assigned to conduct the PASA and by the FMCSA Service Center New Entrant Specialist designated for the specific FMCSA Division Office. This dual review ensures the successfully completed PASA was conducted in accordance with FMCSA policy, procedures and guidance. Upon approval, the PASA results are uploaded into the FMCSA’s Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS). The PASA information and results are then recorded in the Mexico-domiciled motor carrier’s safety performance record in MCMIS.

H. FMCSA Register: The date FMCSA published notice of a successfully completed PASA in the FMCSA Register. The FMCSA Register notice advises interested parties that the application has been preliminarily granted and that protests to the application must be filed within 10 days of the publication date. Protests are filed with FMCSA Headquarters in Washington, DC. The notice in the FMCSA Register lists the following information:

a. Current registration number (e.g., MX–123456);

b. Date the notice was published in the FMCSA Register;

c. The applicant’s name and address;

d. Representative or contact information for the applicant.

The FMCSA Register may be accessed through FMCSA’s Licensing and Insurance public Web site at http://li-public.fmcsa.dot.gov/, and selecting FMCSA Register in the drop down menu.

I. U.S. Drivers: The total number of the motor carrier’s drivers approved for long-haul transportation in the United States beyond the border commercial zones.

J. U.S. Vehicles: The total number of the motor carrier’s power units approved for long-haul transportation in the United States beyond the border commercial zones.

K. Passed Verification 5 Elements (Yes/No): A Mexico-domiciled motor carrier will not be granted provisional operating authority if FMCSA cannot...
verify all of the following five mandatory elements. FMCSA must:

a. Verify a controlled substances and alcohol testing program consistent with 49 CFR part 40.
b. Verify a system of compliance with hours-of-service rules of 49 CFR part 395, including recordkeeping and retention;
c. Verify the ability to obtain financial responsibility as required by 49 CFR parts 383 and 391, including confirming the validity of each driver’s Licencia Federal de Conductor and English language proficiency.
d. Verify records of periodic vehicle inspections; and

e. Verify the qualifications of each driver the carrier intends to use under such authority, as required by 49 CFR parts 383 and 391, including confirming the validity of each driver’s license requirements as defined in § 383.5 is based in the United States.

If FMCSA cannot verify one or more of the five mandatory elements outlined in 49 CFR part 365, Appendix A, Section III, this column will specify which mandatory element(s) cannot be verified.

Please note that for items L through P below, during the PASA, after verifying the five mandatory elements discussed in item J above, FMCSA will gather information by reviewing a motor carrier’s compliance with “acute and critical” regulations of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) and Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMRs). Acute regulations are those where noncompliance is so severe as to require immediate corrective actions by a motor carrier regardless of the overall basic safety management controls of the motor carrier. Critical regulations are those where noncompliance relates to management and/or operational controls. These regulations are indicative of breakdowns in a carrier’s management controls. A list of acute and critical regulations is included in 49 CFR part 385, Appendix B, Section VII.

Parts of the FMCSRs and HMRs having similar characteristics are combined together into six regulatory areas called “factors.” The regulatory factors are intended to evaluate the adequacy of a carrier’s management controls.

M. Passed Phase 1, Factor 1: A “yes” in this column indicates the carrier has successfully met Factor 1 (listed in part 365, Subpart E, Appendix A, Section IV(f)). Factor 1 includes the General Requirements outlined in parts 387 (Minimum Levels of Financial Responsibility for Motor Carriers) and 390 (Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations—General).

N. Passed Phase 1, Factor 2: A “yes” in this column indicates the carrier has successfully met Factor 2, which includes the Driver Requirements outlined in parts 382 (Controlled Substances and Alcohol Use and Testing), 383 (Commercial Driver’s License Standards; Requirements and Penalties) and 391 (Qualifications of Drivers and Longer Combination Vehicle (LCV) Driver Instructors).

O. Passed Phase 1, Factor 3: A “yes” in this column indicates the carrier has successfully met Factor 3, which includes the Operational Requirements outlined in parts 392 (Driving of Commercial Motor Vehicles) and 395 (Hours of Service of Drivers).

P. Passed Phase 1, Factor 4: A “yes” in this column indicates the carrier has successfully met Factor 4, which includes the Vehicle Requirements outlined in parts 393 (Parts and Accessories Necessary for Safe Operation) and 396 (Inspection, Repair and Maintenance) and vehicle inspection and out-of-service data for the last 12 months.

Q. Passed Phase 1, Factor 5: A “yes” in this column indicates the carrier has successfully met Factor 5, which includes the hazardous material requirements outlined in parts 171 (General Information, Regulations, and Definitions), 177 (Carriage by Public Highway, 180 (Continuing Qualification and Maintenance of Packagings) and 397 (Transportation of Hazardous Materials; driving and parking rules).

R. Passed Phase 1, Factor 6: A “yes” in this column indicates the carrier has successfully met Factor 6, which includes Accident History. This factor is the recordable accident rate during the past 12 months. A recordable “accident” is defined in 49 CFR 390.5, and means an accident involving a commercial motor vehicle operating on a public road in interstate or intrastate commerce which results in: A fatality; a bodily injury to a person who, as a result of the injury, immediately received medical treatment away from the scene of the accident; or one or more motor vehicles incurring disabling damage as a result of the accident requiring the motor vehicle to be transported away from the scene by a tow truck or other motor vehicle.

S. Number U.S. Vehicles Inspected: The total number of vehicles (power units) the motor carrier is approved to operate in the United States beyond the border commercial zones and that received a vehicle inspection during the PASA. During a PASA, FMCSA inspected all power units to be used by the motor carrier in the pilot program and applied a current Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) inspection decal. This number reflects the vehicles that were inspected, irrespective of whether the vehicle received a CVSA inspection decal as a result of a passed inspection.

T. Number U.S. Vehicles Issued CVSA Decal: The total number of inspected vehicles (power units) the motor carrier is approved to operate in the United States beyond the border commercial zones that received a CVSA inspection decal as a result of an inspection during the PASA.

U. Controlled Substances Collection: Refers to the applicability and/or country of origin of the controlled substance and alcohol collection facility that will be used by a motor carrier that has successfully completed the PASA.

a. “US” means the controlled substance and alcohol collection facility is based in the United States.

b. “MX” means the controlled substance and alcohol collection facility is based in Mexico.

c. “Non-CDL” means that during the PASA, FMCSA verified that the motor carrier is not utilizing commercial motor vehicles subject to the commercial driver’s license requirements as defined in 49 CFR 383.5 (Definition of Commercial Motor Vehicle). Any motor carrier that does not operate commercial motor vehicles as defined in § 383.5 is not subject to DOT controlled substance and alcohol testing requirements.

V. Name of Controlled Substances and Alcohol Collection Facility: Shows the name and location of the controlled substances and alcohol collection facility that will be used by a Mexico-domiciled motor carrier who has successfully completed the PASA.

### TABLE 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Row number in Tables 2, 3, and 4 of the Appendix to today's notice</th>
<th>Name of carrier</th>
<th>USDOT No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moises Alvarez Perez DBA Distribuidora Marina El Pescador ...</td>
<td>677516</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In an effort to provide as much information as possible for review, the application and PASA results for this carrier are posted at the Agency’s Web site for the pilot program at http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/intl-programs/trucking/Trucking-Program.aspx. Both documents were redacted so that personal information regarding the drivers is not released. Sensitive business information, such as the carrier’s tax identification number, was also redacted. In response to previous comments received regarding the PASA notice process, FMCSA also posted copies of the vehicle inspections conducted during the PASA in the PASA document.

A list of the carrier’s vehicles approved by FMCSA for use in the pilot program is also available at the above referenced Web site.

To date, no carriers have failed the PASA. The Act only requires publication of data for carriers receiving operating authority, as failure to successfully complete the PASA precludes the carrier from being granted authority to participate in the long-haul pilot program. FMCSA will publish this information to show motor carriers that FCMSA grants must be filed within 10 days of the comment closing date. Interested persons should continue to examine the public docket for new material.

In accordance with the Act, FMCSA requests public comment from all interested persons on the PASA information presented in this notice. All comments received before the close of business on the comment closing date indicated at the beginning of this notice will be considered and will be available for examination in the docket at the location listed under the ADDRESSES section of this notice. Comments received after the comment closing date will be filed in the public docket and will be considered to the extent practicable. In addition to late comments, the FMCSA will also continue to file, in the public docket, relevant information that becomes available after the comment closing date.

### TABLE 2—SUCCESSFUL PRE-AUTHORIZATION SAFETY AUDIT (PASA) INFORMATION (SEE ALSO TABLES 3 AND 4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A—row number</th>
<th>Column B—name of carrier</th>
<th>Column C—US DOT number</th>
<th>Column D—FMCSA register number</th>
<th>Column E—PASA initiated</th>
<th>Column F—PASA completed</th>
<th>Column G—PASA results</th>
<th>Column H—FMCSA register number</th>
<th>Column I—US drivers</th>
<th>Column J—US vehicles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### TABLE 3—SUCCESSFUL PRE-AUTHORIZATION SAFETY AUDIT (PASA) INFORMATION (SEE ALSO TABLES 2 AND 4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A—row number</th>
<th>Column B—name of carrier</th>
<th>Column C—US DOT number</th>
<th>Column D—FMCSA register number</th>
<th>Column E—PASA initiated</th>
<th>Column F—PASA completed</th>
<th>Column G—PASA results</th>
<th>Column H—FMCSA register number</th>
<th>Column I—US drivers</th>
<th>Column J—US vehicles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### TABLE 4—SUCCESSFUL PRE-AUTHORIZATION SAFETY AUDIT (PASA) INFORMATION AS OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2011 (SEE ALSO TABLES 2 AND 3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A—row number</th>
<th>Column B—name of carrier</th>
<th>Column C—US DOT number</th>
<th>Column D—FMCSA register number</th>
<th>Column Q—passed phase 1 factor 5</th>
<th>Column R—passed phase 1 factor 6</th>
<th>Column S—Number US vehicles inspected</th>
<th>Column T—Number US vehicles issued CVSA decal</th>
<th>Column U—Controlled substance collection</th>
<th>Column V—Name of controlled substances and alcohol collection facility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Moises Alvarez Perez DBA Distribuidora Marina El Pescador.</td>
<td>677516</td>
<td>MX–313931</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>RMC Testing Solutions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Announcement of Receipt of Applications Filed by Eight Individuals for Exemptions From the Vision Requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[DOCKET NO. FMCSA–2011–0299]

QUALIFICATION OF DRIVERS; EXEMPTIONS; VISION

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of applications for exemptions; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces receipt of applications from 8 individuals for exemption from the vision requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. If granted, the exemptions would enable these individuals to qualify as drivers of commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) in interstate commerce without meeting the Federal vision requirement.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 29, 2011.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments bearing the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket No. FMCSA–2011–0299 using any of the following methods:


- Mail: Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

- Hand Delivery: West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- Fax: 1–(202) 493–2251.

Instructions: Each submission must include the Agency name and the docket numbers for this notice. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. Please see the Privacy Act heading below for further information.

For access to the docket to read background documents or comments, go to http://www.regulations.gov at any time or Room W12–140 on the ground level of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The FDMS is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. If you want acknowledgment that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard or print the acknowledgement page that appears after submitting comments on-line.

Privacy Act: Anyone may search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or of the person signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT’s Privacy Act Statement for the FDMS published in the Federal Register on January 17, 2008 (73 FR 3316), or you may visit http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/E8–785.pdf.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Elaine M. Papp, Chief, Medical Programs Division, (202) 366–4001, fmcsamedical@dot.gov, FMCSA, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Room W64–224, Washington, DC 20590–0001.
Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA may grant an exemption from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations for a 2-year period if it finds that "such exemption would likely achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to or greater than the level that would be achieved absent such exemption." FMCSA may renew exemptions at the end of each 2-year period. The 8 individuals listed in this notice have each requested such an exemption from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), which applies to drivers of CMVs in interstate commerce. Accordingly, the Agency will evaluate the qualifications of each applicant to determine whether granting an exemption will achieve the required level of safety mandated by statute.

Qualifications of Applicants

Layne C. Coscorrosa

Mr. Coscorrosa, 33, has had amblyopia in his left eye since childhood. The best corrected visual acuity in his right eye is 20/20 and in his left eye, 20/200. Following an examination in 2011, his ophthalmologist noted, "I certify that he can perform the tasks required to operate a commercial vehicle." Mr. Coscorrosa reported that he has driven tractor-trailer combinations for 12 years, accumulating 1.8 million miles. He holds a Class A Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) from Kentucky. His driving record for the last 3 years shows no crashes but one conviction for speeding in a Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV). He exceeded the speed limit by 9 mph.

Lex A. Fabrizio

Mr. Fabrizio, 39, has had complete loss of vision in his left eye, due to coat’s disease since age 3. The best corrected visual acuity in his right eye is 20/20. Following an examination in 2011, his ophthalmologist noted, "In my opinion, Lex has normal vision and can perform all visual tasks necessary in driving a commercial truck." Mr. Fabrizio reported that he has driven straight trucks for 5 years, accumulating 50,000 miles and tractor-trailer combinations for 5 years, accumulating 400,000 miles. He holds a Class A CDL from Utah. His driving record for the last 3 years shows no crashes and no convictions for moving violations in a CMV.

Mark A. Ferris

Mr. Ferris, 55, has had amblyopia in his left eye since childhood. The best corrected visual acuity in his right eye is 20/20 and in his left eye, 20/25. Following an examination in 2011, his ophthalmologist noted, "He has sufficient vision to perform the driving tasks required to operate a commercial vehicle." Mr. Coleman reported that he has driven tractor-trailer combinations for 21 years, accumulating 651,000 miles and tractor-trailer combinations for 5 years, accumulating 150,000 miles. He holds a Class A CDL...