

(4) Shows evidence of authentication of the signer's identity such as the text "digitally signed by" along with the software provider's seal/watermark, date and time of execution; or, have an authentication code or key identifying the software provider; and

(5) Has a font, size and color density that is clearly legible and reproducible when reviewed, copied and scanned into a black on white format.

Documents digitally signed in the forgoing manner will be considered facially valid and will be acceptable for review and consideration by the FAA Civil Aircraft Registry, Aircraft Registration Branch (the Aircraft Registry) for recordation and registration purposes.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 13, 2016.

John S. Duncan,
Director, Flight Standards Service.

[FR Doc. 2016-09069 Filed 4-19-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2014-0071]

Hours of Service of Drivers: McKee Foods Transportation LLC, Exemption; FAST Act Extension of Expiration Date

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

ACTION: Notice; extension of exemption.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces the extension of the exemption granted to McKee Foods Transportation, LLC, (MFT) on March 27, 2015, for transportation by their team drivers utilizing the sleeper-berth (S/B). The Agency extends the expiration date from March 27, 2015, to March 27, 2020, in response to Section 5206(b)(2)(A) of the "Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act" (FAST Act). That section extends the expiration date of hours-of-service (HOS) exemptions in effect on the date of enactment of the FAST Act to 5 years from the date of issuance of the exemptions. The MFT exemption from the Agency's S/B requirement is limited to team drivers employed by MFT to allow these drivers to split S/B time into two periods totaling at least 10 hours, provided neither of the two periods is less than 3 hours in length. The Agency previously determined that the commercial motor vehicle operations of MFT drivers under this exemption would likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to or greater than the level of

safety that would be obtained in the absence of the exemption.

DATES: This limited exemption is effective from March 27, 2015, through March 27, 2020.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Legal Basis

FMCSA has authority under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315 to grant exemptions from certain parts of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. FMCSA must publish a notice of each exemption request in the **Federal Register** [49 CFR 381.315(a)].

Section 5206(b)(2)(A) of the FAST Act requires FMCSA to extend any exemption from any provision of the HOS regulations under 49 CFR part 395 that was in effect on the date of enactment of the Act to a period of 5 years from the date the exemption was granted. The exemption may be renewed. Because this action merely implements a statutory mandate that took effect on the date of enactment of the FAST Act, notice and comment are not required.

MFT Exemption

MFT, a private motor carrier, applied for an exemption to eliminate the requirement that S/B time include a period of at least 8 but less than 10 consecutive hours in the S/B and a separate period of at least 2 but less than 10 consecutive hours either in the S/B or off duty, or any combination thereof [49 CFR 395.1(g)(1)(ii)(A)(1)]. The exemption is limited to team drivers, and these team drivers are allowed to split S/B time into two periods totaling at least 10 hours, provided neither of the two periods is less than 3 hours in length.

FMCSA reviewed MFT's application and the public comments and concluded that granting the exemption would likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by the current regulation. A Notice of Final Determination granting the MFT exemption was published on March 27, 2015 [80 FR 16503].

The substance of the exemption is not affected by this extension. The exemption covers only the split S/B requirement [49 CFR 395.1(g)(1)(ii)(A)(1-2)]. The exemption is restricted to MFT team drivers, who utilize electronic logging devices to track records of duty status; have a minimum 26-hour off-duty period, at home, from Friday night to Saturday night; and are limited to 10 hours of driving following their required 10 consecutive hours off duty, or the S/B equivalent.

The FMCSA does not believe the safety record of any driver operating under this exemption will deteriorate. However, should deterioration in safety occur, FMCSA will take all steps necessary to protect the public interest, including revocation of the exemption. The FMCSA has the authority to terminate the exemption at any time the Agency has the data/information to conclude that safety is being compromised.

Issued on: April 13, 2016.

T.F. Scott Darling, III,
Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2016-09112 Filed 4-19-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2016-0130]

Commercial Driver's License: Missouri Department of Revenue (DOR); Application for Exemption

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

ACTION: Notice of application for exemption; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces that it has received an application from the Missouri Department of Revenue (DOR), Driver's License Bureau, for a limited exemption from the Agency's commercial driver's license (CDL) regulations. These regulations require a driver to pass the general knowledge test before being issued a Commercial Learner's Permit (CLP). The Missouri DOR requests an exemption from knowledge test requirement for qualified veterans who participated in dedicated training in approved military programs. The Missouri DOR states that its goal is to assist qualified veterans in obtaining employment when returning to the civilian workforce, and that granting this exemption will assist veterans who have already been through extensive military training. FMCSA requests public comment on the exemption application. In addition, because the issue raised by the Missouri DOR is not unique to that State, FMCSA requests public comment whether the exemption, if granted, should cover all State Driver's Licensing Agencies (SDLAs).

DATES: Comments must be received on or before May 20, 2016.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by Federal Docket Management System Number FMCSA-

2016–0130 by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* www.regulations.gov. See the *Public Participation and Request for Comments* section below for further information.

- *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 or Courier:* West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- *Fax:* 1–202–493–2251.

Each submission must include the Agency name and the docket number for this notice. Note that DOT posts all comments received without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information included in a comment. Please see the *Privacy Act* heading below.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments, go to www.regulations.gov at any time or visit 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., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The on-line FDMS is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year.

Privacy Act: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.dot.gov/privacy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information concerning this notice, contact Mr. Richard Clemente, FMCSA Driver and Carrier Operations Division; Office of Carrier, Driver and Vehicle Safety Standards; Telephone: 202–366–2718. Email: MCPSD@dot.gov. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, contact Docket Services, telephone (202) 366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation and Request for Comments

FMCSA encourages you to participate by submitting comments and related materials.

Submitting Comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice (FMCSA–2016–0130), indicate the specific section of this document to

which the comment applies, and provide a reason for suggestions or recommendations. You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. FMCSA recommends that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a phone number in the body of your document so the Agency can contact you if it has questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to www.regulations.gov and put the docket number, “FMCSA–2016–0130” in the “Keyword” box, and click “Search.” When the new screen appears, click on “Comment Now!” button and type your comment into the text box in the following screen. Choose whether you are submitting your comment as an individual or on behalf of a third party and then submit. If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit comments by mail and would like to know that they reached the facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. FMCSA will consider all comments and material received during the comment period and may grant or not grant this application based on your comments.

II. Legal Basis

FMCSA has authority under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315 to grant exemptions from certain Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs). FMCSA must publish a notice of each exemption request in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(a)). The Agency must provide the public an opportunity to inspect the information relevant to the application, including any safety analyses that have been conducted. The Agency must also provide an opportunity for public comment on the request.

The Agency reviews safety analyses and public comments submitted, and determines whether granting the exemption would likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by the current regulation (49 CFR 381.305). The decision of the Agency must be published in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(b)) with the reasons for denying or granting the application and, if granted, the name of the person or class of persons receiving the exemption, and the regulatory provision from which the exemption is granted. The notice must also specify the effective period and explain the terms and conditions of the exemption. The

exemption may be renewed (49 CFR 381.300(b)).

III. Request for Exemption

The Missouri DOR requests an exemption from 49 CFR 383.71(a)(2)(ii), which requires any person applying for a Commercial Learner’s Permit (CLP) on or after July 8, 2015, to have taken and passed a general knowledge test that meets the Federal standards in subparts F, G and H of part 383 for the commercial vehicle group that the applicant operates or expects to operate. The Missouri DOR requested an exemption from the knowledge test requirements for trained military truck drivers, in effect giving designated drivers credit for military training and experience.

The Missouri DOR provides a number of reasons for this request. It contends that qualified veterans who participated in the dedicated training in approved military programs have already received numerous hours of classroom training, practical skills training, and one-on-one road training that are essential for safe driving. Other reasons for the request include:

- The hours of training required by these military programs before certifying trainees to drive military vehicles is in excess of the minimum entry-level driver training required in FMCSA’s proposed rulemaking, and is comparable to the skills needed to pass the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) 2005 CDL Test Model. While the AAMVA test standard requires a passing score, the military programs offer training which is not deemed completed until all methods are applied in a practical sense;

- Veterans who participate in specialized military training are assigned duties where their driving skills are applied and used on a frequent basis and would be an asset in civilian life; and

- The trucking industry continually expresses the need for new drivers every year. Providing this incentive would assist in expediting the transition of fully trained military truck drivers to fill these jobs.

In addition, because the issue raised by the Missouri DOR is not unique to that State, FMCSA requests public comment on whether the exemption, if granted, should cover all State Driver’s Licensing Agencies (SDLAs).

A copy of the Missouri DOR’s application for exemption is available for review in the docket for this notice.

Issued on: April 13, 2016.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2016-09116 Filed 4-19-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2015-0124]

Beyond Compliance Program

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

ACTION: Notice; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act requires FMCSA to implement a "Beyond Compliance" program no later than 18 months after the enactment of the Act. Through this proposed program, the FMCSA Administrator must allow recognition, either through credit recognized by a new Beyond Compliance Behavior Analysis and Safety Improvement Category (BASIC), or an improved Safety Measurement System (SMS) percentile, for a motor carrier that: (1) Installs advanced safety equipment; (2) uses enhanced driver fitness measures; (3) adopts fleet safety management tools, technologies, and programs; or (4) satisfies other standards determined appropriate by the Administrator. The FAST Act also requires that the Agency provide the opportunity for notice and comment on a process for identifying and reviewing advanced safety equipment, enhanced driver fitness measures, fleet safety management tools, technologies, and programs, and other standards for use by motor carriers to receive recognition. This proposed program will not allow relief from regulatory requirements. This notice satisfies that requirement to seek comments on this program. Comments and data received in response to this notice will be used to further develop the Beyond Compliance program.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before June 20, 2016.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments bearing the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket No. FMCSA-2015-0124 using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to www.regulations.gov. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.
- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey

Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

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

- *Fax:* 1-202-493-2251.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Theresa Rowlett, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590, Telephone (202) 366-6406, theresa.rowlett@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Submitting Comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice (FMCSA-2015-0124), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. FMCSA recommends that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a phone number in the body of your document so that FMCSA can contact you if there are questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, put the docket number, FMCSA-2015-0124, in the keyword box, and click "Search." When the new screen appears, click on the "Comment Now!" button and type your comment into the text box on the following screen. Choose whether you are submitting your comment as an individual or on behalf of a third party and then submit.

If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit comments by mail and would like to know that they reached the facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope.

We will consider all comments and material received during the comment period and may draft an additional notice of program development based on your comments and other information and analysis.

Viewing Comments and Documents

To view comments, as well as any documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Insert the docket number, FMCSA-2015-0124, in the keyword box, and click "Search." Next, click the "Open Docket Folder"

button and choose the document to review. If you do not have access to the Internet, you may view the docket online by visiting the Docket Management Facility in Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the DOT West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Privacy Act

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its program policy development process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.dot.gov/privacy.

Background

Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee (MCSAC) Tasking

On March 30, 2015, FMCSA tasked the MCSAC with providing recommendations to the Agency on the potential benefits and feasibility of voluntary compliance and ways to credit carriers and drivers who initiate and establish programs that promote safety beyond the standards established in FMCSA regulations. The Agency specifically asked for the views of the MCSAC on this concept, with any data or analysis to support it with regard to three basic areas:

1. What voluntary technologies or safety program best practices would be appropriate for beyond compliance?
2. What type of incentives would encourage motor carriers to invest in technologies and best practices programs?
3. How would FMCSA verify the voluntary technologies or safety programs were being implemented?

The Agency received the MCSAC's letter report on September 21, 2015. The MCSAC noted that the ideas in the report were not based on a full discussion on the merits; rather, these ideas were suggested and supported by a variety of MCSAC members. It was the Committee's intention to provide FMCSA with a broad range of ideas that address the questions the Agency laid out in the Task Statement from the diverse group of stakeholders that constitute the MCSAC membership. Additionally, the MCSAC noted that the inclusion of ideas in this report was not based on a discussion of whether sufficient data exists to support the use of the relevant incentive or on cost/benefit considerations. A copy of the