

INFORMATION BULLETIN



February 11, 2025

REMOVAL OF MOTORTRUCKS IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 34500(j) OF THE CALIFORNIA VEHICLE CODE FROM THE BASIC INSPECTION OF TERMINALS PROGRAM

The purpose of this Information Bulletin (IB) is to provide clarification of changes to Sections 34500, 34501.12, and 34505.5 of the California Vehicle Code (CVC) resulting from Assembly Bill 3278, which was signed into law September 12, 2024.

Effective January 1, 2025, motortrucks identified in Section 34500(j) CVC (hereafter referred to as J-trucks), are no longer subject to the Basic Inspection of Terminals (BIT) program. However, J-trucks remain subject to Title 13, California Code of Regulations (CCR) requirements related to the safe operation of commercial motor vehicles including, but not limited to, driver hours of service (Sections 1212, 1212.5, and 1213), driver fatigue (Section 1214), vehicle condition (Section 1215), driving proficiency (Section 1229), unlawful operation (Section 1230), vehicle maintenance (Section 1232), required records for motor carriers (Section 1234), and CVC requirements such as Section 34500.7 CVC, which mandates compliance with certain Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations contained in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations. Additionally, terminals from which J-trucks are operated remain subject to inspections by the CHP to determine compliance with applicable safety requirements pursuant to Section 34501(a)(4) CVC, and Title 13 CCR 1202(a).

Specific changes to the CVC affecting J-trucks and the BIT program, effective January 1, 2025, are as follows:

- Section 34500(j) CVC is amended by removing “not specified in subdivisions (a) to (h), inclusive, or subdivision (k)”, clarifying that a vehicle defined in another subsection of Section 34500 CVC can also meet the definition of a J-truck.
- Section 34501.12(a) CVC is amended by removing (j) from “Vehicles and the operation thereof, subject to this section, are those described in subdivision...”, thereby removing J-trucks from BIT and the terminal inspection selection procedures explained in Section 34501.12(c)(2) CVC.
- Section 34501.12(c)(2) CVC is amended by removing the reference to a six-year inspection interval for BIT terminals assigned a satisfactory compliance rating,



allowing the CHP to focus on terminal inspections for motor carriers whose safety data indicates compliance issues, who have never been inspected, or who transport hazardous materials. However, the amendment does not preclude the CHP from inspecting terminals previously issued satisfactory compliance ratings as deemed necessary.

- Section 34505.5(a) CVC is amended by removing (j) from “Every motor carrier operating any vehicle described in subdivision...”, eliminating the requirement for motor carriers to conduct and document periodic safety inspections at least every 90 days on J-trucks.

The BIT program changes notwithstanding, motor carrier terminals from which J-trucks are operated will still be identified by the CHP and inspected to ensure compliance with statutory/regulatory requirements relative to vehicle maintenance, driver management, and associated recordkeeping. During BIT terminal inspections, if J-trucks are also operated from that terminal, a non-BIT inspection may be conducted on the J-truck operation, and at the conclusion of which, a separate safety compliance rating will be issued.

Questions regarding this IB may be directed to the Commercial Vehicle Section, at (916) 843-3400.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

OPI: 062