

- Use retarder to maintain proper speed.
- Electric drive units - check for proper voltage prior to descending grade.
- (Note: To ensure dynamic braking on electric drive trucks, the operator must check before starting down the grade to see that proper voltage is being supplied to the wheel motors. This voltage will vary between truck types, so the manufacturer's specifications must be checked and adhered to. Improper voltage will cause loss of dynamic braking.)

### **Right-of-Way Procedures**

- Follow all traffic procedures, traffic signs, and speed limits posted at the mine.
- Loaded truck generally has right-of-way.
- When in doubt, YIELD!

### **Reduction of Component Damage**

- Engine - maintain proper rpm, oil pressure, coolant temperature.
- Tires - avoid rocks in the road, know where the blind side of the truck is, maintain proper speeds and loads.
- Reduce speed when turning or traveling over rough terrain.
- Operate within the design limits of the truck.

### **Machine Systems**

Know the difference between proper operation and possible malfunction. Operators should know about the truck's

- Brake systems
- Steering systems
- Drive train
- Warning systems
- Accessories
- Emergency Shut-Down Procedures

- Fire-Suppression System
- Other vehicle-specific systems

### **Housekeeping**

- Keep the driver's compartment free of combustible materials.
- Secure all loose items in cab.
- Keep ladders, walkways, and cabs clear of extraneous material and tripping hazards.

These truck training guidelines have been developed to assist in building a knowledge and awareness of safe haul truck operation. They were designed to give the basic "How-To" operation parameters and are not a complete training program.

Note: It is important that every truck operator read and understand the operator's manual and use good common sense when operating any piece of equipment. Always report to management any changes, such as unusual sounds and operating responses, in your equipment.

# Truckers' Training Checklist



## Best Practice Series BP-12

Best Practices will provide you, the truck driver, with useful information on how to safely operate a truck. The following list of best practices gives you a starting kit of the best tools some of the safest mining companies can put together to help keep you safe. If followed, you can help maintain a safe working environment for yourself and your coworker. Remember, there are possible differences that can prevent you from using some of the best practices listed here at your mine.

Training is an opportunity to transform a work force into a safe, cost-effective, efficient, and productive team. It is up to you to provide the opportunity to make it happen and turn mining into the safest industry possible for the miner.

Training should always be done before the driver starts production work at the mine. If possible, new drivers should be tested on their knowledge after the initial hands-on training, then rechecked periodically.

At intervals, drivers should be observed to ensure that they have not developed any bad habits and to reinforce the training.

## **General Safety**

### **Personal Safety Equipment**

- Wear appropriate protective equipment, such as hard hat, steel toe boots, safety glasses, gloves, and hearing and dust protection.

### **Seat Belts**

- Seat belts are required at all times when haul truck is in use.
- Seat and seat belt should be in good working order.

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***Pre-Operation Inspection (Where applicable, all of the items below should be checked on every pre-operation inspection.) Be sure the machine is in a safe location.***

- ✓ Fluid levels - engine oil, hydraulic oil, steering oil, brake oil, coolant, and fuel
- ✓ Steering components
- ✓ Tires, lug nuts, wheels, and flanges
- ✓ Frame and bed for cracks and damage
- ✓ Mirrors, cameras, windows, windshield wipers, etc.
- ✓ Power train - engine, torque converter, transmission, differential, and final drive
- ✓ Electric drive alternators and wheel motors
- ✓ Hoist cylinders - mounts, pins, and pin keepers
- ✓ Rear hitch pin assembly - cracks, proper lubrication, missing bolts, and looseness
- ✓ Brakes - test all brakes to ensure they hold to manufacturer's specifications
- ✓ Warning devices - gauges, lights, buzzers, and backup alarm
- ✓ Fire suppression system/extinguishers - pins and keepers in place, tags current, hoses, etc.
- ✓ Wheel chocks available for use
- ✓ Ladders, handrails, and steps
- ✓ Headlights, clearance, turn signals, tail, and brake
- ✓ Heaters and defrosters
- ✓ Cab doors open and close properly
- ✓ Loose objects secured in cab
- ✓ Operator's manual
- ✓ Low air warning indicator
- ✓ Belts and guards
- ✓ Radio

***Know the Controls (Location and Operation) All Brakes, Signals, Accessories, Instrumentation, and Warning Devices***

- Know how they work, normal and abnormal readings, and what should be done if alarm sounds. (All international symbols should be explained to the operator.)

***Proper Start-Up and Shut-Down Procedures***

- Before starting engine, ensure that all is clear. (Do not proceed if visibility is impaired.)
- Warn others before starting engine.
- Warn others before moving (sound horn).
- Warn others before exiting ready-line (sound horn).
- Follow prescribed procedures for cold or warm engine starting.
- Allow time for truck to warm up before operating, and to cool down before shutdown.
- Choose safe location to park truck.
- Set park brake and turn off lights.
- Set wheel chocks if necessary.

***Truck Operation***

***Driver's Responsibilities***

- Sit in an upright position with the seat belt fastened at all times.
- Test all braking systems to ensure proper function before operating truck (check operator's manual).
- Do a function test of the braking system on a grade after the truck is loaded.
- Follow all traffic procedures signs and speed limits posted at the mine.
- Test all steering functions prior to operation (check operator's manual).

***Working Procedures***

***Operator's Responsibilities***

- Ensure safe, productive operation of the equipment with a minimum amount of down time due to mechanical failure.
- Use care and consideration around other equipment and operators to eliminate property damage and accidents.
- Report unsafe conditions immediately.

***Speed Control***

- Check throttle, retarder, brakes.
- Determine speed by road conditions or traffic control signs.

***Spotting at Loading Equipment***

- Check clearances.
- Visually check loading area on approach to be sure that no equipment or persons are behind your truck before reversing.
- Pay close attention to highwall areas.
- Watch closely for other equipment, persons, small vehicles, etc.

***Spotting at Dump Locations***

- Check approach, berm height and thickness (When backing up to a dump, use the berm as a guide only).
- Look for cracked ground/settling/bulges.
- Report any unsafe conditions immediately to the supervisor and other drivers.
- If spotters are provided, have direct communication with them.

***Operating on Grades***

- Use correct gear when descending grades.
- Follow manufacturer's grade profile charts.
- Gear down before descending the grade.