



Fleet Maintenance Tips for Mechanics

Mechanics keep the trucks on the road and the drivers safe. We depend on them to keep the public safe, too. Good mechanics are vital to the success of the trucking industry and to your company. Simple procedures can keep them safe at work and on the job.

Safety precautions when maintaining vehicles

- Use lock out/tag out procedures to be sure truck cannot be started while mechanic is working.
- Apply brakes.
- Chock wheels.
- Use a prop or support for raised parts (dump beds, hoods.)
- Use tire cage for inflating tires (required for split rims).
- Remove tires from wheels before welding or cutting on them.
- Protect against sparks or flames when working with greases, oils and fuels.
- Charge batteries in a well ventilated, dedicated area.
- Provide proper gloves, eye protection and eye wash station where battery charging is done.
- Assure proper training and handling of brake pads/shoes and clutch discs which can contain asbestos.

For more information

- **Qualified brake inspector**
[CFR Title 49, Part 396.25](#)
- **Safe workplace** [WAC 296-800-110](#)
- **Forklifts** [WAC 296-863-300](#)
- **Inspection, repair, and maintenance** [CFR Title 49, Parts 396.1 through 396.25](#)

Employers - Be sure employees are properly trained in maintenance procedures.

Employees - Ask for help if you're not sure how to complete a task.



Some companies use steering wheel covers as part of their lock out/tag out procedures.

www.KeepTruckingSafe.org

Produced by the Trucking Injury Reduction Emphasis (TIRES) Project with funding in part from CDC/NIOSH grant U60 OH008487.

Publication No. 90-33b-2009

SHARP Program
Dept. of Labor & Industries
PO Box 44330, Olympia, WA 98504-4330

Phone: 1-888-667-4277

E-mail: TruckingNews@KeepTruckingSafe.org