



Trucking Risk Advisor

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EPA CONSIDERS CLEAN AIR ACT EXEMPTIONS FOR GLIDER TRUCKS

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed a change to the classification of glider trucks—vehicles that are built by combining a new chassis with older powertrains that are taken from damaged trucks. The EPA currently classifies glider trucks as new vehicles that must follow emission standards in the Clean Air Act. However, the agency's proposal states that the vehicles should not be classified as new because they contain recycled engines.

Glider trucks are popular with many motor carriers, as they typically cost 25 percent less than a new truck. However, critics of the proposal believe that glider trucks can emit dangerous amounts of nitrogen oxide and particulate matter.

The EPA is taking public comments on the proposed change. To make a comment or see more details about the proposal, [visit the agency's website](#).

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FMCSA EXPECTED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ELD GUIDANCE

Although the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) electronic logging device (ELD) rule came into effect on Dec. 18, 2017, the agency recently announced that it will provide guidance to drivers and motor carriers in order to ease the transition into the rule.

As a part of the guidance, the FMCSA will provide agricultural commodity transporters with a 90-day temporary waiver from ELD requirements. The agency will also provide formal guidance on the rule's personal conveyance provision, which outlines how to classify hours-of-service records when a commercial vehicle is used for personal reasons.

[Visit the FMCSA's website](#) to read the full guidance announcement.

TRUCKING FREIGHT TONNAGE REACHES 4-YEAR HIGH

New data from the American Trucking Associations (ATA) has shown that freight tonnage rose by 9.9 percent in October 2017 compared to the year before, the largest such increase since December 2013. Although freight tonnage rose steadily during all of 2017, the ATA believes that especially strong consumer demand at the start of the holiday shopping season helped give the transportation industry a boost.