Table of Contents

39.03.05 – Rule Governing Variable Load Suspension Axles

IDAPA 39
TITLE 03
CHAPTER 05

39.03.05 – RULE GOVERNING VARIABLE LOAD SUSPENSION AXLES

000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.
This Rule is adopted under authority of Sections 40-312 and 49-1001, Idaho Code. (6-30-95)

001. TITLE AND SCOPE.
This Rule is necessary to protect the structural integrity of the bridges and pavements on the highways of this state and to implement certain requirements of Section 49-1001, Idaho Code with respect to variable load suspension axles. (6-30-95)

002. -- 009. (RESERVED)

010. DEFINITIONS.
Refer to IDAPA 39.03.01, "Rules Governing Definitions," for definitions of the terms used in this Rule. In addition to those definitions, the following definitions apply only to this Rule and to Variable Load Suspension (VLS) axles. (6-30-95)

01. Fully Raised. Fully raised means that the VLS axle is in an obvious raised position where the tires on such axle clear the roadway. (6-30-95)

02. Fully Deployed. Fully deployed means that the VLS axle is supporting a portion of the weight of the loaded vehicle(s) as controlled by the preset pressure regulation device. (6-30-95)

03. Loaded Truck. A truck or truck combination equipped with VLS axles shall be considered to be hauling a load when VLS axles need to be fully deployed to reduce loads on fixed axles and groups of axles which would otherwise exceed legally prescribed weight limits as set forth in Section 49-1001, Idaho Code. (6-30-95)

04. Pressure Regulator Valve Seal. A device or system which provides assurance that the weight being borne by a VLS axle is in accordance with a predetermined valve setting. (6-30-95)

011. -- 099. (RESERVED)

100. SEALING OF THE PRESSURE REGULATOR VALVE WHICH GOVERNS THE LOAD DISTRIBUTION TO A VARIABLE LOAD SUSPENSION (VLS) AXLE.
Section 49-1001, Idaho Code sets forth qualification criteria in order for a VLS axle to be included in the computation of gross vehicle or axle weight limits. One of those qualification requirements provides for the pressure regulator valve to be set and sealed by the owner of the vehicle. This Rule addresses the sealing requirement by allowing three alternatives. (6-30-95)

01. Locked Pressure Regulator Valve. Under this alternative the pressure regulator valve must be adequately secured by means of a key lock, combination lock, lead seal lock or other mechanical device to preclude the vehicle operator from unauthorized adjustments of the pressure regulator valve. (6-30-95)

02. Permanently Mounted Plate (Seal) Adjacent to the Pressure Regulator Valve. Under this alternative, the plate (seal) shall be located near the pressure regulator valve and be readily accessible and visible to enforcement and compliance personnel. The plate may be an integral part of the vehicle such as the frame. The plate shall be clearly embossed with the owner specified axle regulator pressure. More than one (1) pressure setting will be allowed to be shown on the plate provided that at each pressure setting, the plate also shows the corresponding VLS axle weight clearly embossed on the plate. The pressure gauge shall also be readily accessible and visible to enforcement and compliance personnel. (6-30-95)

03. Pre-Qualified VLS Axle. VLS axles which have been pre-qualified as set forth in Section 49-1001 (6), Idaho Code and Rule 39.03.08 shall be considered to meet the requirements for sealing of the pressure regulator valve. Copies of the pre-qualification form(s) shall be kept in the cab of the motor vehicle. (6-30-95)

101. -- 999. (RESERVED)

Subject Index