



**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**[4910-EX-P]**

**Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration**

**[Docket No. FMCSA-2020-0081]**

**Inspection, Repair and Maintenance; Inspector Qualifications; Application for an Exemption from the Intermodal Association of North America (IANA)**

**AGENCY:** Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of application for exemption; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) requests public comment on an application from the Intermodal Association of North America (IANA) for an exemption from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) that would allow an individual who successfully completes a training program consistent with a set of Intermodal Recommended Practices (IRPs) developed by IANA to be considered a qualified inspector for purposes of the periodic inspection rule, or a qualified brake inspector, for purposes of the brake system inspection, repair and maintenance requirements.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before [Insert 30 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER].

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments bearing the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket ID FMCSA-2020-0081 using any of the following methods:

- Web site: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the Federal electronic docket site.
- Fax: 1-202-493-2251.

- Mail: Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

- Hand Delivery: Ground Floor, Room W12–140, DOT Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. e.t., Monday-Friday, except Federal holidays.

*Instructions:* All submissions must include the Agency name and docket number for this notice. For detailed instructions on submitting comments and additional information on the exemption process, see the “Public Participation” heading below. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. Please see the “Privacy Act” heading for further information.

*Docket:* For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> or to Room W12–140, DOT Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

*Privacy Act:* In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at [www.dot.gov/privacy](http://www.dot.gov/privacy).

*Public participation:* The <http://www.regulations.gov> Web site is generally available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. You may find electronic submission and

retrieval help and guidelines under the “help” section of the <http://www.regulations.gov> Web site as well as the DOT’s <http://docketsinfo.dot.gov> Web site. If you would like notification that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard or print the acknowledgment page that appears after submitting comments online.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Luke Loy, Vehicle and Roadside Operations Division, Office of Carrier, Driver, and Vehicle Safety, MC-PSV, (202) 366-0676, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

Under 49 CFR 381.315(a), FMCSA must publish a notice of each exemption request in the **Federal Register**. The Agency must provide the public with an opportunity to inspect the information relevant to the application, including any safety analyses that have been conducted. The Agency must also provide an opportunity for public comment on the request.

The Agency reviews the safety analyses and the public comments and determines whether granting the exemption would likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to or greater than the level that would be achieved by the current regulation (49 CFR 381.305). The decision of the Agency must be published in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(b)). If the Agency denies the request, it must state the reason for doing so. If the decision is to grant the exemption, the notice must specify the person or class of persons

receiving the exemption and the regulatory provision or provisions from which an exemption is granted. The notice must specify the effective period of the exemption (up to 5 years) and explain the terms and conditions of the exemption. The exemption may be renewed (49 CFR 381.315(c) and 49 CFR 381.300(b)).

### **IANA Application for Exemption**

The FMCSRs require individuals performing (1) annual inspections of commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) under 49 CFR 396.17, or (2) inspections, maintenance, repairs, or service to the brake systems on CMVs under § 396.25, to be properly qualified to perform such inspections. Under §§ 396.19(a)(3)(ii) and 396.25(d)(3)(ii), an individual who has a combination of training or experience totaling at least 1 year as outlined in those sections is considered to be qualified to conduct those inspections. IANA has applied for an exemption to allow a chassis mechanic who has successfully completed a training program consistent with IANA's IRPs to be a qualified inspector or qualified brake inspector without having the required 1 year of training or experience. A copy of the application is included in the docket referenced at the beginning of this notice.

### **Request for Comments**

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(6), FMCSA requests public comment from all interested persons on IANA's application for an exemption from §§ 396.19(a)(3)(ii) and 396.25(d)(3)(ii) of the FMCSRs. All comments received before the close of business on the comment closing date indicated at the beginning of this notice will be considered and will be available for examination in the docket at the location

listed under the “Addresses” section of this notice. Comments received after the comment closing date will be filed in the public docket and will be considered to the

extent practicable. In addition to late comments, FMCSA will also continue to file, in the public docket, relevant information that becomes available after the comment closing date. Interested persons should continue to examine the public docket for new material.

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Larry W. Minor,  
Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2020-06886 Filed: 4/2/2020 8:45 am; Publication Date: 4/3/2020]