

**City of San Antonio
Vehicle Inspection Guidelines**

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

**GROUND
TRANSPORTATION
VEHICLE INSPECTION**

GUIDELINES

City of San Antonio

Vehicle Inspection Guidelines

The City of San Antonio's Police Departments Ground Transportation Unit has established the following Vehicle Inspection Guidelines as a reference source for both industry members and staff. These guidelines are not intended to be absolute for each vehicle or industry and other items may be inspected that are not discussed within these guidelines.

The Vehicle Inspection Guidelines are to enhance the requirements of Chapter 33 and the Rule and Regulations. These guidelines shall be the same guidelines for all industries that are governed by Chapter 33.

The Vehicle Inspection Guidelines are broken down into 3 sections; each section is designed to give an overview of what that specific inspection should entail. The Inspections and sections are listed below:

- **INFORMAL INSPECTIONS (Section 100):** Shall provide an overview for inspectors performed without notice, primarily, but not limited to, inspections done on the streets, stands, or other opportunities. Deficiencies found during an informal inspection shall result in either:

A correction notice being issued, which allows for 10 business days for repairs to be conducted the vehicle, or

Being placed Immediately Out of Service (IOS) for safety reasons. Examples of these deficiencies are listed in section 100 and 200 as (IOS) at the end of the inspection item.

- **FORMAL INSPECTIONS (Section 200):** Shall provide an overview for inspections that are scheduled between the Industry member and the Ground Transportation Unit (GTU). Each month vehicles will be random selected from the pool of active vehicles by GTU and schedule for an inspection. Deficiencies found during a formal inspection shall result in the corrective action as listed above.
- **ANNUAL INSPECTIONS (Section 300):** Shall provide an overview for the inspections that shall be conducted annually by a mechanic. All deficiencies shall be corrected by the vehicles owner in a timely manner. Upon request by GTU, a vehicle owner shall provide proof of this annual inspection.

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SECTION 100: INFORMAL INSPECTIONS

101. HORN:

- Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with an OEM horn in good working order and capable of emitting a sound. (IOS)

102. Windshields and Windows:

- Windshields and windows shall be made from safety glass. (IOS)
- Windshields and windows must be present and shall be free from any cracks, chips or any damage as to impair vision or present a risk. (IOS)
- Windows must be operational as originally intended.
- Side window to the right and left of the driver shall have tint with less than Thirty Three (33) percent light transmission.
- Window tint shall be free from bubbling, distortions, or fading.
- Windshields shall be free from any aftermarket sun screening material.

103. WINDSHIELD WIPERS:

- All wipers shall be present and properly installed. (IOS)
- All wipers shall be operational sound as to adequately clean rain or any other moisture from the windshield. (IOS)
- Wiper blades shall not be damaged hardened, badly worn, torn, or have the metal blade holder bent. (IOS)

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104. MIRROR:

- Mirrors shall be present, properly mounted, installed, and operational as designed.(IOS)
- Mirrors shall be free from cracks, breaks, peeling, or tarnish.
- Mirrors shall be OEM.

105. SEAT BELTS:

- Vehicles shall have a seat belt for each rated passenger as OEM. (IOS)
- Seat belt webbing shall not be frayed, split, or torn. (IOS)
- Seat belt anchors shall not be loose, corroded, or missing. (IOS)
- Seat belt anchors shall be properly installed to the vehicle Chassis.(IOS)
- Seat belt buckles shall not be loose or inoperative.(IOS)
- Seat belts shall be retractable, allow for proper fit, and function as designed. (IOS)
- Horse Carriages and Pedicabs are exempt from this requirement.

106. TIRES:

A tire shall be in safe operating condition if it meets the following visual and tread depth requirements:

- Tire Tread shall have more than two thirty seconds (2/32).(IOS)
- Tires shall be free from sidewall cracks and cuts.(IOS)
- Tires shall not have visible bumps, bulges, or knots. (IOS)
- Tires shall not have any visible tread separation or cords. (IOS)
- Tires shall not be regrooved, recut, or retreads.
- Tires shall not be marked as "Not for highway use", "Farm Use Only" or any other restriction. (IOS)
- Dual wheel tires shall not be in contact with each other.
- Tires shall be equal to OEM Size

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107. WHEEL ASSEMBLY:

The inspection of all wheels and rims will be visual. Covers or hubcaps may be removed from the vehicle if probable cause or reason to believe that wheel or rim defects exists.

- Wheel assembly shall OEM and be properly secured to the vehicles hub, with no loose, missing, or damaged wheel studs, bolts, nuts, or lugs. (IOS)
- Wheel assembly shall be the same on all wheels; exceptions shall be vehicles that are required to be different due to manufactures specifications.
- Wheel assembly shall not be cracked, bent, welded or damaged.(IOS)
- Wheel assembly covers or hubcaps must be present on all wheels,free from cracks,or missing parts.
- Wheel assembly covers or hubcaps must be present (if required) and secured properly.

108. LIGHTS AND LIGHT COVERS:

- Lights must be OEM and properly secured,wired, and installed.
- Lights must be present and operate as designed.(IOS)
- Light covers must be present and free from cracks, paint, discoloration, or hazing.
- Lights or light covers shall not have moisture or liquid on the inside of the light or light cover.
- Lights on Horse Carriages and Pedicabs shall be working.

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109. REFLECTORS:

Vehicles, to include horse carriages and pedicabs that are required to have reflectors shall have reflectors so mounted as to be visible at night from such vehicle when directly in front of the lawful lower beams of headlamps.

- Reflectors must be present and properly secured.
- Reflectors must be free from cracks, paint or discoloration.

110. VEHICLE INSPECTION STICKER:

- All Vehicles to shall have a valid inspection sticker affixed to the front windshield as mandated by the TxDMV.(IOS)

111. REGISTRATION STICKER:

- All vehicles shall have a valid Registration Sticker. (IOS)
- Vehicles shall have a valid TxDMV Registration if they are:

Operate a vehicle with a gross weight of or exceeding 26,000 lbs.

Operate a vehicle designed to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver.

112. VEHICLE FOR HIRE PERMIT:

- TNC companies shall affix a vehicle for Hire Permit (approved by the Director) to the windshield of each vehicle. This permit shall be affixed to the lower corner of the passenger's side windshield as to be seen from the exterior of the vehicle. (IOS)

Company's permits must have the companies name and serial numbers.

- Taxicabs, limousine, Tour and Charter be issued a permit for each vehicle by the Ground Transportation Unit. (IOS)

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113. VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:

- Motor vehicles shall have a vehicle identification number on the vehicle.

114. VEHICLE INTERIORS:

- **CLEANLINESS**

Vehicles shall be free from excess dirt, grime, grease, stains, smoke film, odors, loose materials, or other items that could be a hazard.

- **SEATS**

All Seats shall be free from stains, dirt, burns, rips, tears, or cuts.

All seats shall be in good condition.

All seats must be present and OEM.

- **CARPET /FLOORBOARDS /FLOOR COVERS**

All carpet, floorboards, or floor covers shall be free from stains, dirt, rips tears, or burns.

Floorboards shall be free from holes or soft spots

No more than 1 floor mat or cover shall be used.

- **HEADLINERS / SUN VISORS**

Headliners and sun visors shall be present, clean, free of tacks, staples, tape, and shall be properly secured as designed and manufactured.

Headliners and sun visors shall be free from rips, tears, burns, or sagging.

- **DASHBOARDS**

Dashboards shall be free from loose items.

Dashboards shall be free from discoloration, cracks or tears.

Dashboards shall be free from any objects that could harm a passenger.

Dashboards shall be free from fans or other objects mounted on the dashboard, exception shall be rate meters, license displays or memo pads approved by the department.

Dashboards shall be OEM and equal to the color scheme of the vehicles interior.

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- **INSTRUMENTATION**

All instruments panel lights and gauges shall be in proper working condition.

Instruments panel warning lights shall not be activated.

115. AIR CONDITIONER AND HEATER:

- All Vehicles shall have fully functioning AC/heating units sufficiently cools/heats the passenger compartments as originally designed and manufactured. (IOS)
- Vehicles AC units shall cool to a minimum of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Vehicles heating units shall heat to a minimum of 75 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Vehicles shall be equipped with an interior defrosting device.
- All AC/heating controls must work properly and be properly labeled.
- A/C Compressor noise shall not be excessive.

116. DOORS:

- All vehicles shall have doors that are fully functional from both the inside and outside of vehicles. Doors shall open and close as originally designed and manufactured. (IOS)
- All door locks shall function as originally designed. (IOS)
- Door arm rests and panels shall be free from rips, tears, or any other damage.
- All weather stripping shall not be missing , torn, defective, cracked or loose.
- All weather stripping shall be properly installed.

117. FIRE EXTINGUISHERS:

- All vehicles shall be equipped with ABC fire extinguishers that are fully operable and mounted in a visible location. (IOS)
- Taxicabs, Tour Vans, and luxury vehicles shall have at least a 2.5lbs ABC fire extinguisher mounted in the vehicle.
- Stretch Limousines, Charters, and Tour shall have at least a 2.5lbs ABC fire extinguisher mounted in the vehicles driver's area.

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118. DISPATCH EQUIPMENT:

- All Taxicabs and TNCs shall have a working radio, computer dispatching, smart phones, or other approved systems.

119. FARE RATE DECALS:

- Taxicabs shall have a Fare Rate Decal on the left and right rear passenger door windows on both the inside and outside of the windows.
- Rate Decals shall be approved by the GTU.

120. SAFETY SHIELDS:

- Safety shields may be installed in any taxicab at the option and the expense of the driver or permit holder.
- Safety shields shall be designed and installed in the vehicle so that the shield not only provides protection for the driver but also ensures the environmental comfort of the rear seat passengers.

121. TAXI METER / SEALS / OPERATION:

- Taxicabs shall have a rate meter installed that is accurately calculating the approved fare.
- Taxicabs shall have a rate meter installed that has been sealed by GTU.
- Taxicabs rate meters shall illuminate as designed as to be visible to the passenger.

122. VEHICLE EXTERIOR:

- The exterior portion of all vehicles shall be free of dirt, body damage, tears, rips, gouges, holes, grime, tar, rust, oil, dents and excessive scratches. The vehicle paint shall not be faded, blistered, cracked, checked or peeling.
- Loose pieces hanging from the vehicle body are not permitted. Fenders, bumpers, hood, doors, trunk and body trim shall be securely fixed and shall be in correct alignment to the vehicle as OEM (original equipment manufacturer). No unrepaired body damage shall be allowed. Vehicles will be subject to rejection if three (3) or more body panels have been repaired with the use of body fillers or "bondo".

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123. LICENSE PLATES:

- All vehicles shall have license plates displayed as required by the state the vehicle is registered in.
- All license plates shall be mounted as originally designed and manufactured.
- All license plates shall be located in the originally intended location and attached securely with screws, bolts and fasteners as originally designed.
- License plates may not be attached to the front end grill nor attached at any location with wire, string or other like material.

124. TRUNK/LUGGAGE COMPARTMENT:

- Each vehicle trunk interior, rear luggage compartment, and/or any storage areas shall be free of dirt, grime, oil, foreign matter, offensive odors and litter. The area shall also be free of protruding metal or any material or objects that could soil or damage luggage. The trunk carpet or mat shall be present and secured to the floor as originally manufactured.
- Each vehicle shall have a functioning locking mechanism to ensure that the trunk or rear access doors remain closed during travel.
- In order to allow maximum space for passenger's luggage and belongings, the trunk, compartment or storage area shall be kept empty except for a spare tire, personal container for the driver and emergency equipment.
- All trunk lids or tailgates which are originally designed and intended to be assisted by or supported in an open position with a hydraulic support strut or shock mechanism shall be equipped with a support strut that operates as originally designed and equipped.

125. ENGINE & ENGINE ACCESSORIES:

- Vehicles engine shall be free from blue, black, gray or white smoke or haze emanating from the engine, crankcase ventilation system, exhaust system or tailpipe for a time period that exceeds two minutes after engine start up.

126. OIL LEAKS:

- The engine may not leak to the extent of dripping noticeable quantities of fluid from any part of the engine or related systems.

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SECTION 200: FORMAL INSPECTIONS

201. HORN:

- Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with an OEM horn in good working order and capable of emitting a sound. (IOS)

202. Windshields and Windows:

- Windshields and windows shall be made from safety glass. (IOS)
- Windshields and windows must be present and shall be free from any cracks, chips or any damage as to impair vision or present a risk. (IOS)
- Windows must be operational as originally intended.
- Side window to the right and left of the driver shall have tint with less than Thirty Three (33) percent light transmission.
- Window tint shall be free from bubbling, distortions, or fading.
- Windshields shall be free from any aftermarket sun screening material.

203. WINDSHIELD WIPERS:

- All wipers shall be present and properly installed. (IOS)
- All wipers shall be operational sound as to adequately clean rain or any other moisture from the windshield. (IOS)
- Wiper blades shall not be damaged hardened, badly worn, torn, or have the metal blade holder bent. (IOS)

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204. MIRROR:

- Mirrors shall be present, properly mounted, installed, and operational as designed.(IOS)
- Mirrors shall be free from cracks, breaks, peeling, or tarnish.
- Mirrors shall be OEM.

205. SEAT BELTS:

- Vehicles shall have a seat belt for each rated passenger as OEM. (IOS)
- Seat belt webbing shall not be frayed, split, or torn. (IOS)
- Seat belt anchors shall not be loose, corroded, or missing. (IOS)
- Seat belt anchors shall be properly installed to the vehicle Chassis.(IOS)
- Seat belt buckles shall not be loose or inoperative.(IOS)
- Seat belts shall be retractable, allow for proper fit, and function as designed. (IOS)
- Horse Carriages and Pedicabs are exempt from this requirement.

206. TIRES:

A tire shall be in safe operating condition if it meets the following visual and tread depth requirements:

- Tire Tread shall have more than two thirty seconds (2/32). (IOS)
- Tires shall be free from sidewall cracks and cuts.(IOS)
- Tires shall not have visible bumps, bulges, or knots.(IOS)
- Tires shall not have any visible tread separation or cords. (IOS)
- Tires shall not be regrooved, recut, or retreads.
- Tires shall not be marked as "Not for highway use", Farm Use Only" or any other restriction. (IOS)
- Dual wheel tires shall not be in contact with each other.
- Tires shall be equal to OEM Size.

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SPARE TIRES

- All vehicles for hire shall be equipped with a jack, tire tool and spare tire (donut or space saver tires are acceptable as spare tires only), or have proof of prompt road service. The road service contract shall indicate the appropriate vehicle number on the contract.
- The spare tire shall be properly inflated and ready for use at all times. It shall be properly secured and covered in the area or compartment designed for that purpose as manufactured.

207. WHEEL ASSEMBLY:

The inspection of all wheels and rims will be visual.

Covers or hubcaps may be removed from the vehicle if probable cause or reason to believe that wheel or rim defects exist.

- Wheel assembly shall be OEM and be properly secured to the vehicle's hub, with no loose, missing, or damaged wheel studs, bolts, nuts, or lugs. (IOS)
- Wheel assembly shall be the same on all wheels; exceptions shall be vehicles that are required to be different due to manufacturer's specifications.
- Wheel assembly shall not be cracked, bent, welded or damaged. (IOS)
- Wheel assembly covers or hubcaps must be present on all wheels, free from cracks, or missing parts.

Wheel assembly covers or hubcaps must be present (if required) and secured properly.

208. LIGHTS AND LIGHT COVERS:

- Lights must be OEM and properly secured, wired, and installed.
- Lights must be present and operate as designed. (IOS)
- Light covers must be present and free from cracks, paint, discoloration, or hazing.
- Lights or light covers shall not have moisture or liquid on the inside of the light or light cover.
- Lights on Horse Carriages and Pedicabs shall be working.

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209. REFLECTORS:

Vehicles, to include horse carriages and pedicabs that are required to have reflectors shall have reflectors so mounted as to be visible at night from such vehicle when directly in front of the lawful lower beams of headlamps.

- Reflectors must be present and properly secured.
- Reflectors must be free from cracks, paint or discoloration.

210. VEHICLE INSPECTION STICKER:

- All Vehicles to shall have a valid inspection sticker affixed to the front windshield as mandated by the TxDMV.(IOS)

211. REGISTRATION STICKER:

- All vehicles shall have a valid Registration Sticker. (IOS)
- Vehicles shall have a valid TxDMV Registration if they are:

Operate a vehicle with a gross weight of or exceeding 26,000 lbs.

Operate a vehicle designed to transport more than 15 passengers,including the driver.

212. VEHICLE FOR HIRE PERMIT:

- Limousine, Tour, Charter, and TNC companies shall affix a vehicle for Hire Permit (approved by the Director) to the windshield of each vehicle. This permit shall be affixed to the lower corner of the passenger's side windshield as to be seen from the exterior of the vehicle. (IOS)

Company permits must have the companies name and serial numbers.

- Taxicabs shall be issued a permit for each vehicle by the Ground Transportation Unit. (IOS)

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213. VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:

- Motor vehicles shall have a vehicle identification number on the vehicle.

214. VEHICLE INTERIORS:

- **CLEANLINESS**

Vehicles shall be free from excess dirt, grime, grease, stains, smoke film, odors, loose materials, or other items that could be a hazard.

- **SEATS**

All Seats shall be free from stains, dirt, burns, rips, tears, or cuts.

All seats shall be in good condition.

All seats must be present and OEM.

- **CARPET /FLOORBOARDS /FLOOR COVERS**

All carpet, floorboards, or floor covers shall be free from stains, dirt, rips tears, or burns.

Floorboards shall be free from holes or soft spots

No more than 1 floor mat or cover shall be used.

- **HEADLINERS / SUN VISORS**

Headliners and sun visors shall be present, clean, free of tacks, staples, tape, and shall be properly secured as designed and manufactured.

Headliners and sun visors shall be free from rips, tears, burns, or sagging.

- **DASHBOARDS**

Dashboards shall be free from loose items.

Dashboards shall be free from discoloration, cracks or tears.

Dashboards shall be free from any objects that could harm a passenger.

Dashboards shall be free from fans or other objects mounted on the dashboard, exception shall be rate meters, license displays or memo pads approved by the department.

Dashboards shall be OEM and equal to the color scheme of the vehicles interior.

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- **INSTRUMENTATION**

All instruments panel lights and gauges shall be in proper working condition.

Instruments panel warning lights shall not be activated.

215. AIR CONDITIONER AND HEATER:

- All Vehicles shall have fully functioning AC/heating units sufficiently cools/heats the passenger compartments as originally designed and manufactured. (IOS)
- Vehicles AC units shall cool to a minimum of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Vehicles heating units shall heat to a minimum of 75 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Vehicles shall be equipped with an interior defrosting device.
- All AC/heating controls must work properly and be properly labeled.
- A/C Compressor noise shall not be excessive.

216. DOORS:

- All vehicles shall have doors that are fully functional from both the inside and outside of vehicles. Doors shall open and close as originally designed and manufactured. (IOS)
- All door locks shall function as originally designed. (IOS)
- Door arm rests and panels shall be free from rips, tears, or any other damage.
- All weather stripping shall not be missing , torn, defective, cracked or loose.
- All weather stripping shall be properly installed.

217. FIRE EXTINGUISHERS:

- All vehicles shall be equipped with ABC fire extinguishers that are fully operable and mounted in a visible location. (IOS)
- Taxicabs, TNCs, Tour Vans, and luxury vehicles shall have at least a 2.5lbs ABC fire extinguisher mounted in the vehicle.
- Stretch Limousines, Charters, and Tour shall have at least a 2.5lbs ABC fire extinguisher mounted in the vehicles driver's area.

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218. DISPATCH EQUIPMENT:

- All Taxicabs and TNCs shall have a working radio, computer dispatching, smart phones, or other approved systems.

219. FARE RATE DECALS:

- Taxicabs shall have a Fare Rate Decal on the left and right rear passenger door windows on both the inside and outside of the windows.
- Rate Decals shall be approved by the Ground Transportation Unit (GTU).

220. SAFETY SHIELDS:

- Safety shields may be installed in any taxicab at the option and the expense of the driver or permit holder.
- Safety shields shall be designed and installed in the vehicle so that the shield not only provides protection for the driver but also ensures the environmental comfort of the rear seat passengers.

221. TAXI METER / SEALS / OPERATION:

- Taxicabs shall have a rate meter installed that is accurately calculating the approved fare.
- Taxicabs shall have a rate meter installed that has been sealed by GTU.
- Taxicabs rate meters shall illuminate as designed as to be visible to the passenger.

222. VEHICLE EXTERIOR:

- The exterior portion of all vehicles shall be free of dirt, body damage, tears, rips, gouges, holes, grime, tar, rust, oil, dents and excessive scratches. The vehicle paint shall not be faded, blistered, cracked, checked or peeling.
- Loose pieces hanging from the vehicles body are not permitted. Fenders, bumpers, hood, doors, trunks and body trim shall be securely affixed and shall be in correct alignment to the vehicle as OEM (Original equipment manufacturer). No unrepaired body damage shall be allowed. Vehicles will be subject to rejection if 3 or more body panels have been repaired with the use of body fillers or "bondo".
- Door, trunk, and hood jams shall be painted the predominate color of the vehicles exterior, interior, or maybe white or black. All jams must be the same color.

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223. LICENSE PLATES:

- All vehicles shall have license plates displayed as required by the state the vehicle is registered in.
- All license plates shall be mounted as originally designed and manufactured.
- All license plates shall be located in the originally intended location and attached securely with screws, bolts and fasteners as originally designed.
- License plates may not be attached to the front end grill nor attached at any location with wire, string or other like material.

224. STEERING:

- Steering shall be free from obstruction, which would include tires too large or damaged fenders that would interfere with a full right or left turn. (IOS)
- Steering will shall be free from binding or jamming.
- Steering shall be free from visible leaks in power steering unit or hoses.

225. SUSPENSION:

- Vehicles shall have the required number of shocks absorbers as originally manufactured and shock absorbers and struts shall be in proper working order and shall have no oil leaks, damage, worn bushings or mounting hardware. Shock absorbers shall maintain the ability to eliminate suspension bouncing under normally accepted shock absorber bounce field tests. This test consists of physically, by force, bouncing each corner of the vehicle until the maximum shock absorber extension or cycle has been reached and then releasing the vehicle. The vehicle should not continue to bounce more than two (2) additional shock absorber cycles or extensions.

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226. BRAKES:

- All vehicles for hires shall be equipped with brakes acting on all wheels; exception shall be Horse Carriages and Pedicabs. All vehicles shall have a fully functioning braking system with all components installed and properly operational as originally designed and manufactured. (IOS)
- Each vehicle shall have and be maintained at all times, a brake system that is free from defects and excessive wear and is in proper working condition.
- Each vehicle that is originally manufactured and equipped with "Anti-Lock Brakes" or other similar devices shall maintain those devices in proper operating order as designed and manufactured at all times and in addition, those devices or systems will be operated as recommended by the manufacturer. (IOS)
- Service brake performance tests should be conducted on a substantially level, dry, hard, smooth surface road or area that is free from loose material, oil, or grease. Using the service brake only, the stopping ability of the vehicle should be tested by one of the following methods:

On Road (Road Test): At a speed of twenty (20) mph apply service brakes firmly, observe whether vehicle comes to a smooth stop within the distance prescribed. Tester should have firm control of the steering wheel throughout the test.

- While vehicle is stopped, pedal shall hold for at least one minute when moderate foot force is applied. (IOS)
- Vehicle must be equipped with required service brakes. (IOS)
- There is visible leakage or audible seepage in hydraulic lines and cylinders or any other part of the service brake system.
- Fluid level in the master cylinder is more than one (1) inch below the top of the reservoir or below manufactures recommended level.
- Brake rods or mechanical parts are, missing, broken, badly worn or misaligned. (IOS)
- Any part of the service brake system has been removed, disconnected, rendered inoperative. (IOS)
- There is an obvious metal to metal contact sound when brakes are applied, and upon investigation, drums or disc rotors are being scored.

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- Brakes do not meet requirements for stopping distance for the class of vehicle.
- Brake warning lamp or signal comes on during test. (IOS)
- Brakes emit any abnormal noises such as grinding, popping, excessive squeaking or rattling.
- Brakes do not stop in a straight line or pull in any direction during stopping.
- Power brake booster assist mechanism is inoperative, leaks or shows any sign of weak operation.
- Brake malfunction warning indicators or lights are illuminated or have been disconnected (including anti-lock malfunction lights).
- Anti-lock braking system is inoperative, disconnected or malfunctioning in any manner. (IOS)
- Brakes surge, vibrate, shudder or pulsate on stops.

PARKING BRAKES

- Motor vehicle shall be equipped with a parking brake, unless originally designed without a parking brake.
- Parking brake shall hold the vehicle when fully applied while in drive.
- Actuating mechanism shall release the brake when release control is operated.
- Parking brake light shall indicate the parking brake has been applied.

227. FOOTPEDAL PADS:

- All vehicles shall be equipped with OEM (original equipment manufacturer) rubber pads on all foot controls.
- Foot pedal pads shall be present and be free from wear, tears, holes, or other damage.

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228. HOOD MECHANISMS:

- Vehicles shall be equipped with an OEM (original equipment manufacturer) hood that covers the entire engine compartment. (IOS)
- his hood shall be retained and locked with hinges and a mechanism of OEM (original equipment manufacturer) design and manufacture.
- Hood latch and safety catch mechanisms shall secure the hood. (IOS)
- Hood shall be properly aligned.

229. TRUNK/LUGGAGE COMPARTMENT:

- Each vehicles trunk interior, rear luggage compartment, and/or any storage areas shall be free of dirt, grime, oil, foreign matter, offensive odors and litter. The area shall also be free of protruding metal or any material or object that could soil or damage luggage. The Trunk carpet or mat shall be present and secured to the floor as originally manufactured.
- Each vehicle shall have a functioning locking mechanism to ensure that the trunk or rear access doors remain closed during travel.
- In order to allow maximum space for passenger's luggage and belongings, the trunk, compartment or storage area shall be kept empty except for a spare tire, personal container for the driver and emergency equipment.
- All trunk lids and tailgates which are originally designed and intended to be assisted by or supported in an open position with a hydraulic support strut or shock mechanism shall be equipped with a support strut that operates as originally designed and equipped.

230. ENGINE & ENGINE ACCESSORIES:

- All engines installed in vehicles shall perform as originally designed and intended by the manufacturer and shall perform with sufficient power, acceleration and response as to power the vehicle to all posted speed limits in an efficient and timely manner. All vehicles that perform with less than normal power, acceleration or response shall be subject to rejection.
- The engine compartment on all vehicles shall be clean and free from contained combustible materials. A vehicle shall be subject to rejection if the engine dies, misses, backfires or performs erratically during normal operation. An engine shall not emit excessive smoke of any kind from the engine, crankcase ventilation system or exhaust system.(IOS)
- For the purpose of this section, excessive smoke shall be defined as blue, black, gray or white smoke or haze emanating from the engine, crankcase ventilation system, exhaust system or tailpipe for a time period that exceeds two minutes after engine start up. (IOS)

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231. OIL LEAKS:

- The engine may not leak to the extent of dripping noticeable quantities of fluid from any part of the engine or related systems.

232. EXHAUST SYSTEM:

- Vehicle shall at all times be equipped with a muffler and exhaust system in good working order, the exhaust system includes the manifolds, gaskets, exhaust lines, muffler (or mufflers), resonators, tail piping, catalytic converter, and supporting hardware.
- Vehicles cannot be equipped with a muffler which is perforated or which was perforated and has been repaired, either by a muffler repair jacket or by patching or in any other way.
- Vehicles exhaust system shall not have any loose joints or leaks, including manifolds.
- Vehicles exhaust system shall not be cracked, broken, or have holes.
- Vehicles exhaust system shall not be modified as to produce excess noise.
- Vehicles exhaust system shall not release excessive smoke, flames, gas, oil, or fuel residue.

233. BATTERY AND BATTERY SYSTEM:

- Battery and battery connections shall be free of corrosion and mounted correctly as manufactured.
- If a separate battery is located within the passenger or cargo space, it shall be securely mounted and equipped with non-spill filler caps and a venting system which is sufficient to vent battery acid fumes out of the passenger compartment and to the exterior of the vehicle.

234. ENGINE COOLING SYSTEM:

- Vehicles shall be equipped with an operating engine cooling system at all times. This system shall be capable of maintaining a normal engine temperature without engine overheating.
- Vehicles shall not leak or drip water or coolant from the cooling system.
- Vehicles shall not have swollen, ruptured, or collapsed hoses. Hoses shall not be repaired with tape, repair kits, or any other materials.

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235. FUEL SYSTEM:

- Vehicle shall not have any fuel leaks. (IOS)
- Vehicles shall have fuel cap installed.

236. TRANSMISSION:

- The transmission shall not leak fluid to the extent of dripping noticeable quantities of fluid.
- Vehicle shall shift as normal and shall be free from hard shifting or transmission slippage.

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SECTION 300: ANNUAL INSPECTIONS

Annual inspections shall include sections listed below from section 200 and all items listed in section 300.

- 201. HORNS:
- 202. WINDSHIELD AND WINDOWS:
- 203. WINDSHIELD WIPERS:
- 204. MIRRORS:
- 205. SEAT BELTS:
- 210. VEHICLE INSPECTION STICKER:
- 211. REGISTRATION STICKER:
- 214. VEHICLE INTERIORS:
- 216. DOORS:
- 217. FIRE EXTINGUISHERS:
- 222. VEHICLE EXTERIOR:

301. HEAD LAMPS:

Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with at least two (2) head lamps, at least one (1) on each side of the front of the motor vehicle, which head lamps shall comply with the requirements and limitations set forth in these regulations.

Every head lamp upon every motor vehicle shall be located at a height of not more than fifty four (54) inches nor less than twenty four (24) inches to be measured from the center of such lamp to the level ground upon which the vehicle stands when such vehicle is without a load. (VCS 6701d-Uniform Act, Article XIV, Section 110)

Dual Head Lamp System:

Each unit of the four (4) or dual head lamp system is composed of two (2) five three quarter (5 3/4) inch head lamps designated as type one (1) (upper beam) and type two (2) (combination upper and lower beam head lamp) or two (2) rectangular lamps designated as type one (1) and type two (2). All four (4) lamps shall burn simultaneously on the "high" beam. Only two (2) lamps shall turn on the "low" beam.

Headlight Hi-Beam Indicator:

The headlight high beam indicator shall be so designed and located that when lighted, it will be readily visible without glare to the driver of the vehicle so equipped (VCS 6701d-Uniform Act, Article XIV, Section 126-C)

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INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

- Check lamp operation and condition visually

INSPECTION FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 1) Lamps required but not present.
- 2) Lamp is not securely mounted and properly located.
- 3) Lamp does not emit required color, lens or bulb painted.
- 4) Lamp lens is cracked, broken, discolored, or missing.
- 5) Lamp is not visible from distance of five hundred (500) feet.
- 6) Wiring is shoddy or electrical connections are poor.
- 7) Lens is cracked or broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated, permitting light from the bulb to emit through the crack or break.
- 8) Headlamp lens or internal reflector is corroded or moisture has collected inside the light assembly.
- 9) Vehicle not equipped with a beam indicator.
- 10) Improper switching indication.
- 11) Produces glaring light.
- 12) Inoperative for any reason.

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302. TURN SIGNAL LAMPS:

Any motor vehicle in use on a highway shall be equipped with electric turn signal lamps when the distance from the center of the top of the steering post to the left outside limit of the body, cab, or load of such motor vehicle exceeds twenty four (24) inches, or when the distance from the center of the top of the steering post to the rear limit of the body or load or combination thereof exceeds fourteen (14) feet. (VCS 6701d-Uniform Act, Article XIV, Section 69b)

Required turn signal lamps shall be visible to the front and to the rear of the vehicle.

All turn signal lamps shall flash on and off on order to clearly indicate an intention to turn

INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

- Check operation and conditions visually

INSPECT FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 1) Lamps are required and not present.
- 2) Device is not securely mounted or properly located on the vehicle.
- 3) Device is not of a type meeting Department standards.
- 4) Lamp lens are cracked, broken, discolored, or missing.
- 5) Wiring is shoddy or electrical connection poor.
- 6) Switch is not convenient to driver or indicator light does not operate.
- 7) Signal shows any color other than white or amber to the front or signal shows any color other than red or amber in the rear.
- 8) Signal is not clearly visible to the front and the rear of the vehicle.
- 9) Lens is cracked or broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated, permitted light from the bulb to emit through the crack or break.

Note: Selector switch shall lock in proper turn position when applied but need not cancel automatically.

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303. STOP LAMPS:

At least two (2) stop lamps are required on all motor vehicles.

A stop lamp shall emit a red or amber light, or any shade of color between red and amber, and be visible from a distance of not less than three hundred (300) feet to the rear in normal sunlight. The stop lamp shall be actuated upon application of the service (foot) brake and which may, but need not, be incorporated with one or more other rear lamps.

Stop lamp lens shall be of a type meeting Department of Public Safety standards.

A crack is defined as any break, separation, or missing part that permits light from the bulb to emit through the crack or break.

INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

- Check operation and condition visually.

INSPECT FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 1) Required lamp or lamps are not present.
- 2) Lamp is not securely mounted to the vehicle.
- 3) Lamp does not emit a red or amber light which is actuated on application of the service (foot) brake.
- 4) Lamp is not visible from a minimum distance of three hundred (300) feet to the rear of the vehicle to which it is attached.
- 5) Lamp lens is cracked, broken, painted, missing, discolored, or does not fit properly.
- 6) Wiring is shoddy or electrical connections are poor.
- 7) Lamp produces a glaring or a dazzling light.
- 8) Lamp is not mounted on rear of vehicle.
- 9) Lamp is cracked or broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated, permitting light from the bulb to emit through the crack or break.

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304. TAIL LAMPS:

Tail lamps shall be mounted on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable (VCS 6701d-Uniform Act, Article XIV, Section 111)

Every tail lamp upon every vehicle shall be located at a height of not more than seventy two (72) inches or less than fifteen (15) inches. Tail lamps are used only to designate the rear of a vehicle.

A crack is defined as "any break, separation, or missing part that permits light from the bulb to emit through the crack or break."

INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

- Check lamp operation and condition visually.

INSPECT FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 1) Required lamp or lamps are not present.
- 2) Lamp is not securely mounted to vehicle.
- 3) Lamp does not completely emit a red light plainly visible one thousand (1000) feet to the rear.
- 4) Lamp lens is cracked, broken, painted, missing, discolored, or does not fit properly.
- 5) Wiring is shoddy or electrical connections are poor.
- 6) Lamp is not wired so as to be lighted when head lamps or auxiliary driving lamps are lighted.
- 7) Lamp is obstructed by any part of the body.
- 8) Lamp lens is not red color.
- 9) Lamps are not mounted on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable.
- 10) Lamps are not mounted on the rear of the vehicle.
- 11) Lens is cracked or broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated permitted light from the bulb to emit through the crack or break.

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305. BACK UP LIGHTS:

- All vehicles shall be equipped with two (2) back up lights as originally designed and manufactured. Back up lights are intended to not only provide rear lighting when backing at night but to also warn pedestrians and others that the vehicle is backing up during the day as well as the night.
- All back up lights shall be activated by means of a mechanism that automatically illuminates the backup lights upon placing the vehicles gearshift selector lever into reverse gear. These back up lights shall be operable and in proper working order at all times.
- Vehicles originally designed and manufactured with only one back up light are not required to have two back up lights.
- Vehicles may, at the option of the permit holder, equip a vehicle with an audible back up warning horn, in addition to, but not in lieu of, a backup light. Vehicles shall have a Back up warning horn if the vehicle is required according to TxDot Regulations.

INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

- Check back up light for operation and condition visually.

INSPECT FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 1) Required back up light or lights are not present.
- 2) Back up light is not securely mounted to vehicle.
- 3) Back up light does not completely emit a white light plainly visible to the rear.
- 4) Back up light lens is cracked, broken, painted, missing, discolored, or does not fit properly.
- 5) Wiring is shoddy or electrical connections are poor.
- 6) Back up light is not wired so as to be lighted when the vehicle is placed into the reverse gear.
- 7) Back up light is obstructed by any part of the body.

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306. LICENSE PLATE LAMP:

Either a tail lamp or a separate lamp shall be so constructed and placed as to illuminate with a white light the rear registration plate and render it clearly legible for a distance of fifty (50) feet to the rear. Any such lamp shall be so wired as to be lighted when the head lamps or auxiliary driving lamps are lighted. (VCS 6701d Uniform Act, Article XIV, Section 111c)

INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

- Check lamp operation and condition visually.

INSPECT FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 1) Lamp is not present.
- 2) Lamp is not securely mounted to the vehicle.
- 3) Lamp is not placed to illuminate with a white light the rear registration plate.
- 4) Wiring is shoddy or electrical connections are poor.
- 5) Lamp is not wired so as to be lighted when head lamps or auxiliary driving lamps are lighted.
- 6) Lamps emit a glaring light to the rear.
- 7) Lens is cracked or broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated.
- 8) Lamp is not wired so as to be lighted when head lamps or auxiliary driving lamps are lighted.
- 9) Lamp emits a glaring light to the rear.

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307. REAR RED REFLECTORS:

Every reflector upon any vehicle shall be of such size and characteristics and so mounted as to be visible at night from all distances within six hundred (600) feet to one hundred (100) feet from such vehicle when directly in front of the lawful lower beams of headlamps, except that reflectors on passenger cars, motorcycles, and motor-driven cycles manufactured or assembled prior to January 01, 1972, shall be visible at night from all distances within three hundred fifty (350) feet to one hundred (100) feet when directly in front of lawful upper beams of the head lamps.

Reflectors on passenger cars, motorcycles, motor-driven cycles, and mopeds shall be mounted at a height of not less than fifteen (15) inches or more than sixty (60) inches measured from the center of such reflectors to the level ground upon which the vehicle stands when the vehicle is without a load.

On commercial vehicle that height shall not be less than twenty four (24) inches and not higher than sixty (60) inches above the ground on which the vehicle stands.

If the highest part of the permanent structure of the vehicle is less than the height required, the reflector shall be mounted as high as that part of the permanent structure will permit,

Rear reflectors on a vehicle shall reflect a red color.

Red reflectors required on the rear of a vehicle may be incorporated with the tail-lamp assembly.

Required rear reflectors may be suspended on straps of not more than six (6) inches in length.

Required rear reflectors shall be mounted with one (1) on each side of the vehicle.

INSEPTION PROCEDURES:

- Check condition and mounting

INSPECTION FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 1) Reflector is not present.
- 2) Reflector is not of red color.
- 3) Reflector is not properly and/or securely mounted the vehicle.
- 4) Reflector is cracked to the extent that reflecting ability is impaired.
- 5) Reflector is discolored, deteriorated, or painted.
- 6) Visibility distance is not as required.

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308. TOP LIGHT / TELL TALE LIGHT:

- On top of every taxicab shall be an electric light sign (top light) advertising the holder's business. Said light sign shall be connected directly to the vehicles parking and headlight switch in such a manner that when the taximeter flag is in a vacant or nonearning position, the sign will illuminate automatically.
- This top light shall be maintained in proper working condition, with no cracks or breaks in the lamp housing and the housing shall flush and securely mounted to the roof of the vehicle.
- Each taxicab shall be equipped with a device which shall plainly indicate to a person outside the taxicab whether the taximeter is in operation or is not in operation.
- This device shall be a tell-tale light and shall be located on the top exterior portion of every taxicab. The tell-tale light shall be connected directly to the taximeter's "on/off" switch such that when the taximeter is in an occupied or earning position, the tell-tale light will illuminate automatically.
- No taxicab shall be equipped with any switch, toggle or otherwise, capable of interrupting or ceasing operation of the taximeter throughout a trip's duration.

309. WINDSHIELD:

Windshields shall be constructed of safety glass materials.

All vehicles shall be required to have a windshield. Horse Carriages and Pedicabs shall be exempt from this requirement.

INSPECTION PROCEDURES:

- Check condition and mounting

INSPECTION FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 1) Windshield is not equipped with safety glass material of a type approved by the department of public safety.
- 2) Windshield is chipped or is damaged as to impair, obstruct or reduce the driver's clear view through the windshield.
- 3) Windshield shall be free from any cracks.
- 4) Windshield shall not be equipped with an aftermarket sun screen.
- 5) Windshield is properly installed and all gaskets and seals shall be complete and free from cracks, rips, or tears.

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310. TIRES:

Every motor vehicle registered in this state and operated on the streets and highways of this state is required to be inspected and shall be equipped with tires in proper and safe condition. (VCS 6701d Uniform Act- Article XV, Section 142)

INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

- Tires should be inspected visually and the tread should be measured with a tread depth gauge calibrated in 32nds of an inch if it does not have tread wear indicators.
- A tire shall be in safe operating condition if it meets the visual and tread depth requirements set forth in these regulations.
- The tread depth requirement of these regulations shall apply to both tires of each set of dual wheels. The other requirements will also apply to both tires in each set of dual wheels.
- Dragster tires or racing slicks without sufficient tread or which have had all tread removed are not acceptable.

INSPECTION FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 1) Any tire with a localized worn spot that exposes the ply or cord through the tread.
- 2) Any tire with tread or sidewall cracks, cuts, or snags (as measured on the outside of the tire) in excess of one (1) inch in any direction and deep enough to expose the body cord
- 3) Any tire which has any visible bumps, bulges, or knots apparently related to tread or sidewall separation or partial failure of the tire structure, including bead area.
- 4) Any tire which has been regrooved or recut below the original groove depth, except special (regroovable) tires which have extra under tread rubber for this purpose (commercial vehicles only) and are identified as such.
- 5) Any dual wheel assembly where the side of one tire is in contact with the other. (Any dual tires that contact each other.)
- 6) Any tire that is marked "NOT for Highway Use", "Farm Use Only", "and For Racing Purposes Only" or with other use restrictions that would indicate the tire is not meant for highway use. This includes temporary spares, inflatable, or small high pressure spares.
- 7) Any tire which has been repaired temporarily by the use of blowout patches and boots. Nail hole plugs or patches are not cause for rejection.
- 8) Tire repair plugs insidewall,
- 9) Missing lug nuts (shall be in place and secured) and

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- 10) Any tire that is recut or regrooved which is not DOT approved for regrooving.
- 11) Any tire without tread wear indicators worn so that less than two thirty seconds (2/32) one sixteenth (1/16) of an inch of tread design depth remains when measured (with a tread depth gauge) at the lowest points in any two (2) adjacent major grooves in the center or middle of the tire.
- 12) Any tire with tread wear indicators worn so that the tread wear indicators contact the road in any two (2) adjacent major grooves in the center or middle of the tire.
- 13) Tires that are larger, smaller, taller, shorter, wider, and narrower or alters the correct registration of the speedometer, odometer or taximeter on any manner shall be rejected. All vehicles shall have tires that are the correct size and style as OEM (original equipment manufacturer).

SPARETIRES

- All vehicles for hire shall be equipped with a jack, tire tool and spare tire (donut or space saver tires are acceptable as spare tires only), or have proof of prompt road service. The road service contract shall indicate the appropriate vehicle number on the contract.
- The spare tire shall be properly inflated and ready for use at all times. It shall be properly secured and covered in the area or compartment designed for that purpose as manufactured.

311. WHEEL ASSEMBLY:

The wheels on all vehicles shall be in compliance with Section 03.22.00 Wheel Assembly of the State of Texas Inspection Procedures.

Matching wheel covers and hubcaps shall be on all wheels for which wheel covers or hubcaps are standard manufacturer's equipment.

Each wheel shall be securely fastened to the wheel hub with the required number of lug bolts or lug nuts as originally manufactured.

INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

- Examine visually
- The inspection of all wheels and rims will be visual.
- Wheels covers or hubcaps may be removed from the vehicle if the certified inspector has probable cause or reason to believe that wheel or rim defects exist.

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INSPECT FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 4) Loose, missing, or damaged wheel studs, bolts, nuts, or lugs.
- 5) Any part of the wheel bent, cracked, welded, or damaged so as to affect safe operation of the vehicle.
- 6) Wheel nuts, studs, and clamps which are loose, broken, missing, or mismatched. Adequate thread engagement is imperative. Stud and nut threads on wheel lugs shall engage completely through the entire threaded portion of the nut.
- 7) Rims and rings which are mismatched, bent, sprung, or otherwise damaged. Check for evidence of rims slippage, this is an indication of wear or loose lug nuts.
- 8) Disc wheels with elongated bolts, holes, or cracks between hand holes or stud holes, or both.
- 9) Cast wheels with cracks, evidence of wear in the clamp area, or both.
- 10) Rims have defects or cracks to the extent that they impair the safe mounting and proper retention of tires.
- 8) Any wheels cannot be securely fastened to the hub of the vehicle.

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312. BRAKES:

All vehicles for hires shall be equipped with brakes acting on all wheels; exception shall be Horse Carriages and Pedicabs. All vehicles shall have a fully functioning braking system with all components installed and properly operational as originally designed and manufactured.

The brake system is intended to include, but not limited to, disc pads, disc rotors, calipers, brake shoes, brake drums, wheel cylinders, master cylinder, power brake booster, hydraulic lines, cables, actuators anti-lock computers, sensors, indicators and associated hardware.

Each vehicle shall have and be maintained at all times, a brake system that is free from defects and excessive wear and is in proper working condition.

Each vehicle that is originally manufactured and equipped with "Anti-Lock Brakes" or other similar devices shall maintain those devices in proper operating order as designed and manufactured at all times and in addition, those devices or systems will be operated as recommended by the manufacturer.

INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

- Service brake performance tests should be conducted on a substantially level, dry, hard, smooth surface road or area that is free from loose material, oil, or grease. Using the service brake only, the stopping ability of the vehicle should be tested by one of the following methods:

SERVICE BRAKE TEST:

- On Road (Decelerometer): Mount an approved decelerometer at centerline of vehicle, Level the decelerometer, at a speed of twenty (20) mph apply service brake firmly, observe decelerometer reading.
- On Road (Road Test): At a speed of twenty (20) mph apply service brakes firmly, observe whether vehicle comes to a smooth stop within the distance prescribed. Tester should have firm control of the steering wheel throughout the test. **NOTE:** front wheel drive vehicles are to be checked by road test only

INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

- Test brake hydraulic system for leakage: While vehicle is stopped, Inspector should be able to apply a moderate foot force (40-60 pounds in non-powered systems and 15-20 pounds in power-assisted systems) and maintain the same pedal height for one minute.
- Test Pedal Reserve: While the vehicle is stopped, depress brake pedal under moderate foot force (40-60 pounds in non-powered systems and 15-20 pounds in power-assisted systems).
- Condition of Vacuum System: Visually inspect system for collapsed, broken, badly chafed and improperly supported hoses and tubes, and loose or broken hose clamps.

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INSPECT SERVICE BRAKES FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 1) Vehicle is not equipped with required service brakes.
- 2) Upon first application, there is less than two (2) inches of pedal reserves as determined by the use of an accurate measurement on the fully applied brake pedal of vehicle equipped with conventional brakes.
- 3) Upon first application, there is less than one (1) inch of pedal reserve as determined by the use of an accurate measurement on the fully applied brake pedal of vehicles with power brakes (power must be on and operating when tested).
- 4) On service brakes that cannot be checked with the use of an accurate measurement, there is less than a reserve of one third (1/3) of total travel distance of the brake actuator.
- 5) Brake pedal height cannot be maintained under moderate foot force (40-60 pounds for conventional 15 to 20 pounds) for power for a period of one (1) minute.
- 6) There is visible leakage of audible seepage in hydraulic line and cylinders or any other part of the service brake, system.
- 7) Fluid level in the master cylinder is more than one (1) inch below the top of the reservoir or below manufactures recommended level.
- 8) Hoses or cables are restricted, abraded, crimped, cracked, leaking, frayed, or broken.
- 9) Brake rods or mechanical parts are, missing, broken, badly worn or misaligned.
- 10) Brake operation levers or control cables do not operate freely, improperly positioned, or misaligned.
- 11) Any part of the service brake system has been removed, disconnected, rendered inoperative.
- 12) There is an obvious metal to metal contact sound when brakes are applied, and upon investigation, drums or disc rotors are being scored.

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- 13) The service brakes do not develop the required total braking force as determined by machine tests.
- 14) Brakes do not meet requirements for stopping distance for the class of vehicle.
- 15) The brakes are not equalized as determined from road testing or by machine tests of the vehicle.
- 16) Brake warning lamp or signal comes on during test.
- 17) Brakes emit any abnormal noises such as grinding, popping, excessive squeaking or rattling
- 18) Brakes do not stop in a straight line or pull in any direction during stopping
- 19) Power brake booster assist mechanism is inoperative, leaks or shows any sign of weak operation.
- 20) Brake malfunction warning indicators or lights are illuminated or have been disconnected (including anti-lock malfunction lights).
- 21) Anti-lock braking system is inoperative, disconnected or malfunctioning in any manner.
- 22) Brakes surge, vibrate, shudder or pulsate on stops.

All vehicle aftermarket replacement parts shall be of the same year, make and model as OEM (original equipment manufacturer).

PARKING BRAKES:

The inspection of the parking brake (auxiliary or holding) applies only to all motor vehicles beginning with the year model 1960. Exception shall be pedicabs and horse carriages that are not equipped with a parking brake.

The parking brake may be assisted by the service brakes or other source of power, provided that failure of the service brake actuating system or other- power assisting mechanism will not prevent the parking brakes from being applied. The parking brakes should be so designed that when once applied, they shall remain applied-despite exhaustion of any source of energy or leakage of any kind. If the means of applying the parking brakes and the service brakes are connected in any way, they shall be so constructed that failure of any one part shall not leave the vehicle without operative brakes.

Brake lock systems will not meet the parking brake requirement

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INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

- Set the parking brake firmly to determine the reserve travel of the hand lever or foot pedal.
- On a motor vehicle that has the automatic parking brake release when the transmission is placed in gear, the parking brake should be held down with the foot and the engine accelerated enough with the vehicle in gear to determine if it is working properly

INSPECT PARKING BRAKE FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 1) Motor vehicle is not equipped with a parking brake
- 2) Operating mechanism, when fully applied, does not hold the vehicle.
- 3) Actuating mechanism is not fully released when the release control is operated.
- 4) Any mechanical parts are missing, broken, badly worn, or not operating properly.
- 5) Pull cables are badly worn, stretched, frayed, or not operating freely
- 6) Parking brake will not hold the vehicle in place when, with the engine running, the vehicle is placed in forward gear.
- 7) Parking brake actuator does not have a reserve travel of at least 30% when the brakes are fully applied (where applicable)

313. FOOTPEDAL PADS:

All vehicles shall be equipped with OEM (original equipment manufacturer) rubber pads on all foot controls.

Rubber pads are intended to eliminate foot slippage from controls during operation and these pads shall be maintained in such a manner as to accomplish that purpose. Foot pedal pads that are missing, worn through or deteriorated are subject to rejection.

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314. CLIMATE CONTROL:

All vehicles shall have fully functioning air conditioning/heating units which sufficiently cools/heats the passenger compartment as originally designed and manufactured.

The air conditioning/heating units shall be functional at all times, depending on climate, and can only be turned off at the request of passengers.

INSPECTION FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 1) The air discharged from the air condition interior vent system shall cool to a minimum of sixty (60) degrees Fahrenheit. The air discharge from the heating system shall heat to a minimum of 75 degrees Fahrenheit.
- 2) Every vehicle shall be equipped with an interior defrosting device which is adequate to remove snow, ice, frost, fog or internal moisture from windshield as originally designed and manufactured.
- 3) All air conditioning/heating blower, temperature control and mode function controls shall operate as originally designed and manufactured with no knobs or components broken or missing. Control panel facial plates shall be present and legible.
- 4) All a/c registers shall be present with no diverters missing or broken.
- 5) A/C blower motors shall operate on all OEM (original equipment manufacturer) speeds and shall make no excessive noise as to be obtrusive to the passenger or impede normal conversation noise levels.
- 6) A/C compressor noise shall not be excessive as to be audibly present in the passenger compartment during A/C and Defrost operation.
- 7) The Federal Clean Air Act of 1990, Section 609, has determined that CFC's are responsible for the degradation of the earth's protective ozone layer. Therefore, in compliance with that act, all air conditioning systems shall be operated and maintained in full compliance with that act. Furthermore, that act states that it is a violation of the law to knowingly "vent" or "leak" CFC 12 into the atmosphere. That act also states that it is a violation of the law to inject CFC-12 into an air conditioning system that is known to be leaking.

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- 8) In compliance with Federal Clean Air Act of 1990, Section 609, all A/C systems and their components (compressors, hoses, accumulators, driers, condensers, evaporators, expansion valves, and other applicable components) shall be free from CFC-12 leakage. No aftermarket electric or recirculation fans may be installed at any point in the passenger compartment.
- 9) A/C Freon system Schrader valves, service valves and valve caps shall be present and secure with no Freon or oil leaks.
- 10) All vehicle aftermarket replacement parts shall be of same year, make and as OEM (original equipment manufacturer).

315. BODY STRUCTURE:

Vehicles shall not be altered, modified, clipped, reconditioned or reconstructed in any manner; exception to this shall be stretched limousines, for the sole purpose of extending the length of the vehicle. Vehicles may be altered to create a wheelchair accessible vehicle.

- Vehicles shall have no repaired or unrepaired frame damage, sub frame damage or floorboard damage located at or between the front and rear axles. Vehicles with salvage titles shall not be authorized to be used as a vehicle for hire
- Vehicles shall have no repaired or unrepaired roof frame damage or pillar post damage.
- Vehicles shall not be clipped, front or rear utilizing either different or same year model clips or sections.
- The structural integrity of the vehicle shall not be diminished as to pose a hazard to occupants of the vehicle. Body repairs such as metal repairs, fender or quarter panel repairs are acceptable and considered normal providing the repairs are professionally performed and meets industry standards for quality.

316. BODY CONDITION:

- The exterior portion of all vehicles shall be free of dirt, body damage, tears, rips, gouges, holes, grime, tar, rust, oil, dents and excessive scratches. The vehicle paint shall not be faded, blistered, cracked, checked or peeling.
- The vehicle shall be maintained in a reasonable clean condition so as not to obscure the approved color scheme and/or markings.

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- Loose pieces hanging from the vehicle body are not permitted. Fenders, bumpers, hood, doors, trunk and body trim shall be securely fixed and shall be in correct alignment to the vehicle as OEM (original equipment manufacturer). No unrepaired body damage shall be allowed. Vehicles will be subject to rejection if three (3) or more body panels have been repaired with the use of body fillers or "bondo".
- Body damage shall be defined as an unrepaired, dent, distortion, Depression, wrinkle, bulge, tear, bend or disfigurement that is larger than 9 square inches in a single location or combined total unrepaired body damage in all locations exceeding 25 square inches.
- The vehicle shall be ordered out of service if there are any sharp or jagged edges or if the body damage in any way affects the normal operation of the vehicle.
- All vehicle repairs and aftermarket replacement parts shall be of the same year, make and model as OEM (original equipment manufacturer).
- The undercarriage of the vehicle shall be free of rust, holes, tears, or other openings that will allow excessive road noise or harmful fumes into the passenger compartment.

317. PAINT:

- Each vehicle shall be painted and marked in accordance with the color scheme approved by the Director. The vehicle paint may not be faded or deteriorated or in a state of disrepair which might undermine the professional standards of this section.

318. HOOD MECHANISMS:

- Vehicles shall be equipped with an OEM (original equipment manufacturer) hood that covers the entire engine compartment.
- This hood shall be retained and locked with hinges and a mechanism of OEM (original equipment manufacturer) design and manufacture. Hood latch and safety catch mechanisms shall be rejected in the event that the mechanisms do not align, connect or lock into the proper position. Ropes, cords, wire or other devices may not be used to secure the hood or latch mechanisms. Only OEM (original equipment manufacturer) type mechanisms will be acceptable.

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319. TRUNK/LUGGAGE COMPARTMENT:

- Each vehicle trunk interior, rear luggage compartment, and/or any storage areas shall be free of dirt, grime, oil, foreign matter, offensive odors and litter. The area shall also be free of protruding metal or any material or objects that could soil or damage luggage. The trunk carpet or mat shall be present and secured to the floor as originally manufactured.
- Each vehicle shall have a functioning locking mechanism to ensure that the trunk or rear access doors remain closed during travel.
- In order to allow maximum space for passenger's luggage and belongings, the trunk, compartment or storage area shall be kept empty except for a spare tire, personal container for the driver and emergency equipment.
- All trunk lids or tailgates which are originally designed and intended to be assisted by or supported in an open position with a hydraulic support strut or shock mechanism shall be equipped with a support strut that operates as originally designed and equipped.

320. INNER FENDER PANELS:

All vehicles shall be equipped with front and rear inner fender panels, seals and gaskets as originally equipped. Inner fender panels, seals or gaskets that have been removed, modified, damaged or otherwise, that could allow dirt, water, dust or other elements to enter into a passenger compartment shall be subject to rejection.

321. ENGINE & ENGINE ACCESSORIES:

- Vehicles shall be equipped with an engine as designed, manufactured and installed as originally designed, equipped and manufactured by the vehicles' original manufacturer. The engine shall operate and perform to the standards as designed by the original manufacturer.
- All engines installed in vehicles shall perform as originally designed and intended by the manufacturer and shall perform with sufficient power, acceleration and response as to power the vehicle to all posted speed limits in an efficient and timely manner. All vehicles that perform with less than normal power, acceleration or response shall be subject to rejection.
- Vehicles shall be equipped and maintained with all engine accessories and engine support components as originally designed and manufactured by the original vehicles' manufacturer.

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- The engine compartment on all vehicles shall be clean and free from contained combustible materials. A vehicle shall be subject to rejection if the engine dies, misses, backfires or performs erratically during normal operation. An engine shall not emit excessive smoke of any kind from the engine, crankcase ventilation system or exhaust system.
- For the purpose of this section, excessive smoke shall be defined as blue, black, gray or white smoke or haze emanating from the engine, crankcase ventilation system, exhaust system or tailpipe for a time period that exceeds two minutes after engine start up.

322. OIL LEAKS:

- The engine may not leak to the extent of dripping noticeable quantities of fluid from any part of the engine or related systems.
- A vehicle shall be subject to rejection when oil leaks are so excessive that it effects the normal operation of the engine, if oil in the crankcase is mixed with any other fluid that is common to the engine but is intended to remain separated (i.e. water, transmission fluid, gasoline, etc...) or if any engine fluid level cannot be read on the fluid level dip stick or indicator.

For the purpose of this section, excessive oil leaks shall be defined as oil or fluid leaks that are visually observed:

- 11) Dripping at a rate of, or in excess of, one (1) drip in three (3) minutes while engine is running.
- 12) Leakage from the engine has "blown back" onto the chassis components or underside of the vehicle
- 13) Contaminating or saturating engine components or other chassis components that may become damaged as a result of oil saturation, (i.e. motor mounts, steering components, suspension components, etc...)
- 14) Severe to the point as to create a risk of fire.
- 15) Creating an odor which may be detected in the passenger compartment or when entering or exiting the passenger compartment.
- 16) Affecting the normal operation of the vehicle in any way.
- 17) Creating a lack of oil or fluid level on the appropriate measuring device.

All vehicle aftermarket replacement parts shall be of same make, model and year as OEM (original equipment manufacturer).

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323. STEERING:

The steering system of the vehicle shall be inspected to determine if excessive wear and/or maladjustment of the steering linkage and/or steering gear exists. Wear and adjustment of the steering system will be checked by measuring lash or free play. Vehicle must be on a dry surface.

INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

- Lash or Free Play With road wheels in straight ahead position, turn steering wheel until the turning motion can be observed at the road wheels.
- Steering shall be free from obstruction, which would include tires too large or damaged fenders that would interfere with a full right or left turn.

INSPECT FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 1) There is more than two (2) inches of lash measured on the outside periphery of steering wheel rims eighteen (18) inches or less in diameter.
- 2) There is more than three (3) inches of lash measured on the outside periphery of steering wheel rim over eighteen (18) inches in diameter.
- 3) It is impossible to turn the steering wheel from full right to full left without binding or jamming other than at wheel stops.
- 4) Steering mechanism is not firmly attached and free of frame cracks or missing bolts.
- 5) Modifications of the steering system so as to affect the proper steering of the vehicle or steering wheel has been modified or replaced with one that is noticeably smaller than original factory equipment.
- 6) Any excessively worn or broken parts in the steering system.
- 7) Visible leaks in power steering unit or hoses.
- 8) On vehicles equipped with flexible couplings, or energy absorbing steering columns, when it is obvious through a visual inspection of the vehicle that the column has been damaged and is in an unsafe condition, it should be rejected. Tilt steering wheels must lock into position. Steering wheel must be securely mounted to the steering shaft.

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324. SUSPENSION:

- Each vehicle shall have a fully functioning suspension system with all components installed and properly operational as originally designed and manufactured.
- Each vehicle shall have and be maintained at all times, a suspension system that is free from defects and excessive wear and is in proper working condition. The suspension system shall not be damaged, bent, broken, misaligned, worn, collapsed, and weak, as to cause body or chassis sagging or deteriorated bushings and attachment hardware. The suspension shall be properly maintained and lubricated as to prevent activation noises such as squeaking, rattling, popping, grinding and creaking and prevent excessive motion when the vehicle is in operation.
- A vehicle suspension system is intended to include, but is not limited to, coil springs, leaf springs, shock absorbers, control arms, air bags, air shocks, radius rods, axles, ball joints, control arms, control arm bushings, spindles, struts torsion bars and all of the associated hardware.
- The ride height of all vehicles shall not vary from side to side in excess of one (1) inch. Coil and leaf springs shall not have aftermarket helpers or spacers installed within them in order to increase ride height or attain a level suspension system. Air bags and air shocks are acceptable providing that ride height does not exceed three (3) inches from front to rear. Vehicles that have been modified to operate with a hydraulic suspension system will be rejected.
- Vehicles shall have the required number of shocks absorbers as originally manufactured and shock absorbers and struts shall be in proper working order and shall have no oil leaks, damage, worn bushings or mounting hardware. Shock absorbers shall maintain the ability to eliminate suspension bouncing under normally accepted shock absorber bounce field tests. This test consists of physically, by force, bouncing each corner of the vehicle until the maximum shock absorber extension or cycle has been reached and then releasing the vehicle. The vehicle should not continue to bounce more than two (2) additional shock absorber cycles or extensions.
- All vehicle aftermarket replacement parts shall be of the same make, model and year as OEM (original equipment manufacturer).

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325. EXHAUST SYSTEM:

Every motor vehicle shall at all times be equipped with a muffler and exhaust system in good working order and in constant operation. (VCS 6701D-Uniform Act, Article XIV, Section 134)

The exhaust system includes the manifolds, gaskets, exhaust lines, muffler (or mufflers), resonators, tail piping, and supporting hardware

Motor vehicles cannot be equipped with a muffler which is perforated or which is perforated and has been repaired, either by a muffler repair jacket or by patching or in any other way.

In those cases where a muffler is perforated at the time of an inspection or has been perforated and has been repaired previous to the inspection, the muffler shall be replaced or the vehicle rejected.

Dual exhaust systems may be modified to single exhaust systems and single exhaust systems to dual exhaust systems.

The catalytic converter will be considered as a part of the exhaust system on all vehicles prior to 1984 year model and will be inspected only visually (if present) for leakage. On 1984 and later model light truck and passenger vehicles, the catalytic converter will be inspected.

The inspection of the exhaust system covers the discharge of exhaust fumes and is not concerned with the noise level.

INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

- The exhaust system shall be examined visually while the engine is running to determine efficiency of the system.

INSPECT FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 18) Vehicle is not equipped with a muffler.
- 2) Any joint is loose or leaking, including manifolds. Does not include minor leakage at exhaust control valve (manifold damper or heat riser valve).
- 3) Manifold is cracked or broken causing leakage,
- 4) Holes, leaking seams, or patches on the muffler, resonators, exhaust pipe, or tail pipe.

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- 5) Exhaust system is not secured to the vehicle by mounting brackets designed for exhaust system (wire is not acceptable).
- 6) All components making up the exhaust system (i.e. hangers, mufflers, tail pipes, converters, extensions, etc...) shall be securely mounted, to the vehicle, as originally manufactured.
- 7) Any brackets or loose, broken, or missing.
- 8) There is excessive vibration of exhaust line.
- 9) Any part of the exhaust system passes through the passenger compartment.
- 10) The tail pipe is broken, pinches, or eroded to extent to allow exhaust fumes to penetrate into the interior of the passenger compartment.
- 11) The tail pipe fails to discharge exhaust from the rear or sides or top of the passenger compartment of the vehicle. Note: Holes in the exhaust system made by the manufacturer for drainage are not cause for rejection. The tail pipe shall direct the exhaust fumes out from under the passenger compartment.
- 12) No motor vehicle shall be operated in a manner resulting in the escape of excessive smoke, flames, gas, oil, fuel residue, or noise.

326. EXHAUST EMISSION SYSTEM:

The owner or operator of any new motor vehicle or new motor vehicle engine beginning with the year model 1968 equipped with an exhaust emission system shall maintain the exhaust emission system in good operable condition and shall use it at all times that the motor vehicle or motor vehicle engine is operated.

The owner or operator of the motor vehicle or motor vehicle engine shall not remove or intentionally make inoperable within the State of Texas the exhaust emission system or any part thereof, except where the purpose of removal of the exhaust emissions system or any part thereof, which is intended to be equally effective in reducing atmospheric emissions from the vehicle or engine. (VCS 6701d-Uniform Act, Article XIV section 134-d)

The catalytic converter shall be considered a part of the exhaust emission system. On all 1984 and later model vehicles. Converter shall be inspected as a part of the exhaust system on prior to 1984 model vehicles.

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INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

- Examine visually.

INSPECT FOR AND REJECT IF:

- 1) The exhaust emission system has been removed.
- 2) The exhaust emission system has been disconnected.
- 3) The plumbing is loose, broken, leaking, or improperly routed. 4)
- 4) Air pump (air injection type) belt is loose or removed.
- 5) The exhaust emission system has been altered in any manner to make it ineffective.
- 6) The catalytic convertor has been removed, leaking, or disconnected on a 1984 or later model vehicle.

327. BATTERY AND BATTERY SYSTEM:

- Battery and battery connections shall be free of corrosion, and mounted correctly as manufactured. Unless the battery is a sealed unit, all batteries shall have cell inspection caps or cell covers as originally designed. The battery shall be properly secured as originally designed and manufactured. Tie-downs such as ropes, cords, wire or other devices are not acceptable. Only OEM (original equipment manufacturer) type hold-downs will be permitted.
- If a separate battery is located within the passenger or cargo space, it shall be securely mounted and equipped with non-spill filler caps and a venting system which is sufficient to vent battery acid fumes out of the passenger compartment and to the exterior of the vehicle

328. ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:

- Vehicles shall be equipped with a functioning, electrical generating device (or alternator) that is capable of providing sufficient electrical power as to operate any and all electrical consuming devices or accessories installed on the vehicle in addition to recharging the vehicles battery at all times. This generating device shall be securely affixed to the engine of the vehicle as originally equipped and the driving belt to the device shall be in proper working condition.

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329. ENGINE COOLING SYSTEM:

- Vehicles shall be equipped with an operating engine cooling system at all times. This system shall be capable of maintaining an engine temperature of no more than two hundred thirty (230) degrees and without engine overheating.
- This system shall be equipped as originally designed and manufactured, consisting of a water pump, radiator, cooling fans, fan clutches, hoses, thermostats, heater core, coolant/antifreeze and the related and associated hardware for these components.
- A vehicle shall be rejected if water or coolant is visually observed leaking or dripping from the engine or any cooling system components.
- A vehicle shall be rejected if any cooling system hoses are ruptured, swollen, deteriorated, collapsed or indicate any other signs of impending failure. Hoses installed in the cooling and heater system shall be specifically designed and constructed for that purpose. Hoses that have been repaired or patched with tape, repair kits or any other material are not acceptable.

All vehicle aftermarket replacement parts shall be of the same make, model and year as OEM (original equipment manufacturer).

330. BELTS:

- Vehicles shall have installed the correct number of accessory drive belts as originally designed and manufactured. Belts that are frayed, excessively cracked, dry rotted, glazed, oil saturated, slipping, twisted, missing or display any other signs of impending failure shall be subject to rejection.
- Belt tension shall be maintained within the tolerance level as specified by the manufacturer.
- For the purposes of the section, excessive cracking shall be defined as a belt with cracks in excess of three cracks in three (3) inches.

All vehicle aftermarket replacement parts shall be of the same make, model and year as OEM (original equipment manufacturer).

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331. FUEL SYSTEM:

- Each vehicle shall be equipped with and shall be maintained a fuel system as originally designed and manufactured.
- Any vehicle equipped with a fuel system is intended to include but not limited to, fuel tank, fuel pump, lines hoses, fuel rails, injectors, fuel filler, fuel filler cap fuel management valves and systems and associated hardware for these components.
- A vehicle shall be immediately rejected, during the inspection, if any fuel leaks exist from any portion of the fuel system.
- Vehicles shall not be parked upon or operated upon any highway, street or road, unless the fuel tank filler spout is closed by a cap or cover as originally designed and manufactured by the vehicles' manufacturer. The fuel cap or cover shall be manufactured of non combustible material.
- Vehicles which are originally equipped with a frame mounted or tank mounted electric fuel pump shall not possess a fuel pump noise level that can be audibly detected in the passenger compartment.

All vehicle aftermarket replacement parts shall be of same year, make and model as OEM (original equipment manufacturer)

332. TRANSMISSION:

- Vehicles shall be equipped with a transmission of OEM make and model. This transmission shall operate and shift smoothly and firmly with no slippage, grinding, surging, vibration or shudder.

For purposes of this section, on vehicles equipped with manual transmissions, the term "transmission" is intended to include clutches and clutch assemblies and components.

For purposes of this section, on vehicles equipped with front wheel drive transmissions, the term "transmission" is intended to include the entire front wheel drive transaxle assembly, assemblies and components.

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- The transmission shall not leak fluid to the extent of dripping noticeable quantities of fluid from any part of the transmission or cooling lines or oil coolers.
- Vehicles shall be subject to rejection in the event that the transmission leaks excessively or does not operate in the proper manner as described in this section.

Excessive oil leaks shall be defined as oil or fluid leaks that are visually observed:

- 1) Dripping at a rate of, or in excess of, 1 drip in three (3) minutes of oil or fluid
- 2) That after leakage from the transmission has “Blown Back” onto chassis components or underside of the vehicle
- 3) Contaminating or saturating drive train components or other chassis components that may become damaged as a result of oil saturation (i.e. motor mounts, steering components, suspension components, etc)
- 4) Severe to the point as to create a risk of fire
- 5) Creating an odor which may be detected in the passenger compartment or when entering or exiting the passenger compartment
- 6) Affecting the normal operation of the vehicle in any way creating a lack of oil or fluid level on the appropriate measuring device.

All vehicle aftermarket replacement parts shall be of the same year, make and model of OEM (original equipment manufacturer).

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333. DIFFERENTIAL:

- Vehicles shall be equipped with a differential of OEM (original equipment manufacturer) make, model and year. This differential shall operate smoothly and quietly with no grinding, jerking, vibration, whining, shudder or other noise that would indicate that the differential is not functioning properly.
- Vehicles equipped with front wheel drive transmissions, the term "differential" is intended to include the entire front wheel drive transaxle assembly, assemblies and components.
- The differential shall not leak fluid to the extent of dripping noticeable quantities of fluid from any part of the differential or cooling lines or oil coolers.
- Vehicles shall be subject to rejection in the event that the differential leaks excessively or does not operate in the proper manner as described in this section.

Excessive oil leaks shall be defined as oil or fluid leaks that are visually observed:

- 1) dripping at a rate of, or in excess of, 1 drip in three (3) minutes of oil or fluid
- 2) that after leakage from the differential has "blown back" onto chassis components or underside of the vehicle
- 3) contaminating or saturating drive train components or other chassis components that may become damaged as a result of oil saturation (i.e. motor mounts, steering components, suspension components, etc)
- 4) Severe to the point as to create a risk of fire
- 5) Creating an odor which may be detected in the passenger compartment or when entering or exiting the passenger compartment
- 6) Affecting the normal operation of the vehicle in any way creating a lack of oil or fluid level on the appropriate measuring device.

All vehicle aftermarket replacement parts shall be of the same year make and model of OEM.

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334. DRIVESHAFT / DRIVE AXLE SHAFTS:

- Vehicles shall be equipped with a driveshaft or drive axle shafts of OEM make and model. This drive shaft or drive axle shafts shall operate smoothly and quietly with no grinding, jerking, vibration, squeaking, popping, shudder or other noise that would indicate that the driveshaft or drive axle shaft is not functioning properly.
- Vehicles equipped with front wheel drive transmissions, the term "drive axle shaft" is intended to include the entire front wheel drive transaxle shaft assembly, including CV (Constant Velocity) joints, boots and associated components.
- All vehicles equipped with front wheel drive and/or equipped with CV boots shall maintain all CV boots in proper working condition with no splits, cracks, tears, rips or leaks. All CV boots shall be sealed tightly as to prevent grease or lubricant from exiting the CV boot and joint.
- The universal joints or CV joints connecting the driveshaft with other components of the drive train shall be in good working order and securely fastened as originally manufactured.
- Any driveshaft extending lengthwise under the floor of the passenger compartment of a vehicle, shall be protected by means of at least one guard or bracket at that end of the shaft which is provided with a sliding connection (spine or other such device) to prevent the whipping of the shaft in the event of failure thereof or of any of its components parts. A shaft contained within a torque tube shall not require any such device.

All vehicle aftermarket replacement parts shall be of same make, model and year as OEM (original equipment manufacturer).

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Reference:

Altered shall mean to make or become different the original design or structure of a vehicle or component, in a small manner.

Bead shall mean the part of the tire made of high-tensile steel wires, wrapped and reinforced by the ply cords, which is shaped to fit the rim

Bead Separation shall mean the breakdown of bond between components in the bead area

Belt shall mean a layer or layers made of fabric or other material, located under the tread area.

Brake System shall mean a combination of one (1) or more brakes and their related means of operation and control

Clipped shall mean one or more vehicles that have been cut apart in front or rear sections and reattached to each other in the middle or at section stations or attach points.

Cord shall mean textile, steel wire strands, and the like forming the piles or other structure of the tire

Cord Separation shall mean cord parting away from adjacent rubber compounds

Crack shall mean any break, separation, or a missing part

Doors shall mean all drivers and passengers' doors to include any sliding door, rear doors, or trunks.

Equalization shall mean to adjust brakes as to operate equally as practical with respect to the wheels on the opposite sides of the vehicle.

Front Clip shall mean the forward section of the vehicle located from the firewall forward.

Groove shall mean the space between two adjacent tread ribs

IOS shall mean Immediately Out of Service

Jamming shall mean any obstruction to the turning of the steering control caused by interference between some components of the steering system.

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Lash shall mean the condition in which the steering control can be turned through some part of a revolution without front wheel motion. The wheel should be loaded and positioned straight ahead

Lights shall mean but not limited to all interior and exterior lights, headlights, lamps, license Plate lights, etc.

Mirrors shall mean all interior and exterior mirrors

Modified shall mean to change, slightly or otherwise, the original design or structure of a vehicle or component.

Muffler shall mean a device consisting of a series of chambers or baffle plates or other mechanical design for the purpose of receiving exhaust gas from an internal combustion engine and/or turbine wheels for the purpose of receiving exhaust gas from a diesel engine, both of which are effective in reducing noise.

Parking Brake System shall mean a brake system used to hold and maintain the vehicle in a stationary position.

Pedal Reserve shall mean the amount of distance (total Pedal Travel) left in reserve when the pedal is depressed to the full brake applied position. This may apply to hydraulic, mechanical, or power assisted hydraulic brakes.

Ply shall mean the layer of rubber coated parallel cords forming the tire body

Ply Separation shall mean the parting of rubber compound between plies.

Rear Clip shall mean the rear section of the vehicle located rearward from either the rear seat mount station or the front seat mount station.

Reconditioned shall mean the repairing or restoring the original design or structure of a vehicle or component in a major or structural manner.

Reconditioned title shall mean a certificate of ownership for a motor vehicle in which the corresponding vehicle has been reconstructed, reconditioned, clipped, altered, modified and/or the vehicle title has been upgraded from a state salvage certificate.

Reconstructed shall mean to build up a vehicle from salvage or remains, an image or likeness of the original vehicle.

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Regroovable commercial tire shall mean a tire manufactured with an extra layer of rubber between the cord body and the original tread design which extra layer is designed for the purpose of recutting or regrooving, and which tire is specifically labeled as a regroovable tire.

Salvage title shall mean a certificate or ownership of a motor vehicle which is intended to be used, sold or dismantled for parts use purposes only and cannot be sold or operated as a motor vehicle.

Safety Glass shall mean any glazed or tempered glass so constructed, treated, or combined with other materials as to reduce substantially injury to persons by objects from exterior sources or by these safety glass materials when they may be cracked or broken

Service Brake System shall mean a brake system used for retarding, stopping, and controlling the vehicle under normal operating conditions. This brake is sometimes referred to as "footbrake".

Seat belt Anchor shall mean the threaded hole in a suitable structure to receive the seat belt attachment fittings or a circular pluck which is welded to the vehicle chassis. Self-threading bolts are inserted into the pluck to form the complete seat belt anchorage assembly.

Sidewall shall mean the portion of the tire between the tread and the bead

Travel shall mean the ability to turn the steering wheel completely from right to left without feel any binding or jamming conditions. On vehicles without power steering it may be desirable to unload front wheels slightly.

Tread shall mean the portion of the tire that comes in contact with the road

Tread Depth shall mean the thickness amount of tread designed on the tire tread depth includes both original, retread and recapped tread designed and in respect to special mileage commercial tire design

Tread separation shall mean the pulling away of the tread from the tire carcass

Tread rib shall mean the tread section running around the circumference of the tire

Weather stripping shall mean a rubber seal installed on vehicle doors and trunk areas for the purpose of sealing the unit from outside elements (i.e. moisture, dust, smoke and wind)

Windshield shall mean a transparent screen in front of the occupants of a vehicle