

FIX-N-FAX #134

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY
AND FIRE PROTECTION

No. 134

Equipment Standard

Mandatory Compliance

Date: September 1994

Exemption No. MC 94-2 (Supersedes No. MC 90-2)

All camp crew vehicles are certified Class 1 truck/bus, constructed to meet State and Federal regulations for transportation of people.

For situations in which the completed truck/bus does not comply with the regulations, or in which the regulations are ambiguous when applied to the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) use, the Department petitions the California Highway Patrol.

The following supersedes Exemption No. MC 90-2.

California Department of Forestry
and Fire Protection
P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento CA 94244-2460

This letter provides an exemption from the provisions of Title 13, California Code of Regulations (13 CCR) Section 1267, Bus Entrances and Exits, for a certain type of bus operated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF). This exemption is subject to the following conditions:

1. The buses shall be used primarily for the transportation of fire fighters or forest maintenance crews.
2. The buses exempted from the requirements of 13 CCR 1267 each consist of a separate passenger compartment installed on the frame rails of an incomplete vehicle of the type referred to as a chassis-cab, as that term is defined in Part 567 of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR). The buses are commonly referred to by CDF as Crew Carrying Vehicles (CCVs).
3. Door operation and passenger movement shall be controlled by a person stationed at the passenger compartment door when passengers are boarding or leaving the CCV. The door shall not be locked while any person is in the passenger compartment. At least one person shall ride in the cab with the driver when any passenger is riding in the passenger compartment.

4. Each CCV shall be equipped with a signaling device which can be used by the passengers to gain the attention of the driver. The device is required under the same conditions indicated in Sections 28080 and 28081 of the California Vehicle Code (CVC) for vehicles equipped with campers.
5. Each CCV shall be equipped with a "door-open" warning device in the driver's compartment. The device shall give a continuous warning which is audible and readily visible to the driver in the normal driving position when the ignition key is in the "on" position and any floor-level passenger compartment door is not in the closed and latched position. The warning device need not operate when the ignition key is in the "accessory" position. As an alternative to the above requirement, the warning device may activate through a device that gives a continuous warning which is audible and readily visible to the driver when the vehicle parking brakes are in the released (parking brakes off) position and when any floor-level passenger compartment door is not in the closed or latched position. The brake system and all air-operated accessories and connections shall be maintained in compliance with the applicable requirements of 13 CCR 1245.
6. Each CCV shall be equipped with at least one emergency escape hatch in the roof of the passenger compartment.
7. Each side window in the passenger compartment shall be functional as an emergency exit, and may also be functional in a nonemergency mode for ventilation.
8. Tools or other property likely to cause injury in the event of an accident shall be stowed in storage compartments or firmly secured in an area unlikely to be contacted by a passenger in the event of an accident.
9. Gasoline or other fuels shall not be transported except in compliance with Exemption No. 89-3 dated September 21, 1989.
10. Each CCV shall remain in full compliance with applicable requirements of the California Vehicle Code and Title 13, California Code of Regulations in all other respects.
11. A reproduction of this letter shall be carried in each CCV at all times and shall be presented to any traffic officer or representative of the California Highway Patrol upon request.

This exemption is granted pursuant to Sections 34501 CVC and 13 CCR 1202 (f). A violation of any condition of this exemption shall be considered a violation of CVC Section 34506 and may constitute good cause to rescind the exemption. If you have any questions regarding this exemption, please contact Mr. Mike Ellis, Commercial and Technical Services Section, at the address or telephone number shown above.

Sincerely,

L. Denno, Chief
Commander
Enforcement Services Division

cc: California Highway Patrol
Field Division Motor Carrier Safety Units

[\(see FIX-N-FAX INDEX\)](#)