Glossary

air mile (nautical mile). A measure of distance between two locations when traveling by air or water. An air mile is equal to 6,076 ft. A statute mile is equal to 5,280 ft. Thus, 100 air miles is equal to 115.08 statute miles.

commercial motor vehicle (CMV). As it pertains to HOS, any self-propelled or towed motor vehicle used on a public roadway in interstate/intrastate commerce to transport passengers or property when the vehicle:

(1) Has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight, of 4,536 kg. (10,001 lb.) or more, whichever is greater; or

(2) Is designed or used to transport more than 8 passengers (including the driver) for compensation; or

(3) Is designed or used to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver, and is not used to transport passengers for compensation; or

(4) Is used in transporting material found by the Secretary of Transportation to be hazardous under 49 USC 5103 and transported in a quantity requiring placarding under regulations prescribed by the Secretary under 49 CFR, subtitle B, chapter I, subchapter C. (49 CFR §390.5)

consecutive hours. In reference to HOS, a duty shift that is uninterrupted, regardless of the off-duty time taken within the shift window. When operating under an on-duty limit that is consecutive, the shift is NOT extended by taking a break.

cumulative hours. In reference to HOS, a duty shift that does NOT need to be a continuous window. Driving and on-duty (not driving) time are added together to get the on-duty total. When operating under an on-duty limit that is cumulative, the shift IS extended by taking a break.

Department of Transportation (DOT) shift. Comprised of the hours that count toward a driver's maximum on-duty hours. A DOT shift continues until the driver has taken the required consecutive hours off duty (based on the rule set), thereby resetting the DOT shift. Can also be called DOT hours or HOS hours.

electronic logging device (ELD). A device or technology that automatically records a driver's driving time and facilitates the accurate recording of the driver's hours of service. It is connected to the power unit's engine and the driver uses an installed app on a smartphone, tablet, or some other dash-mounted device to access a record keeping and reporting interface.

gross vehicle weight (GVW). See gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR).

gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR). The loaded weight of a single motor vehicle, as specified by the manufacturer. Loaded weight is the weight of the vehicle plus fluids, fuel, accessories, the driver, passengers, and cargo but does not include trailers or cargo on trailers. The GVWR is commonly found on a metal plate on the inside of the driver's door. (49 CFR §390.5)

gross combination weight (GCW). See gross combination weight rating (GCWR).

gross combination weight rating (GCWR). The sum of the GVWRs (or GVWs) of the motor vehicle and the trailer and cargo in the trailer. (49 CFR §390.5)



interstate commerce. Trade, traffic, or transportation in the United States:

(1) Between a place in a state and a place outside of such state (including a place outside of the United States);

(2) Between two places in a state through another state or a place outside of the United States; or

(3) Between two places in a state as part of trade, traffic, or transportation originating or terminating outside the state or the United States. (49 CFR §390.5)

intrastate commerce. Any trade, traffic, or transportation in any state which is not described in the term "interstate commerce." (49 CFR §390.5)

minimum call. The minimum number of hours for which a driver shall be paid.

non-commercial motor vehicle. A motor vehicle or combination of motor vehicles not defined by the term "commercial motor vehicle", or a vanpool vehicle (as defined below), or when used for purposes other than traveling to and from a work location and transporting not more than 10 persons including the driver. (49 CFR §383.5 and CVC §34509)

normal work-reporting location. The location where a driver reports to and is released from work. (49 CFR §395.1(p))

paid shift. Includes all the hours for which a driver is being paid, which may be greater than the number of hours worked. It might be called work hours or a work shift.

sleeper berth. A designated area for sleeping or resting within a vehicle. This area can only be used for sleeping or resting. It cannot be part of the cargo space. A sleeper berth must conform to standards of size, shape, access, location, exits, equipment, ventilation, occupant restraint, and ability to communicate with the driver. The back of a truck, the cargo space of a van, or a reclined seat do not qualify as sleeper berths. (49 CFR §393.76)

statute mile (road mile). The distance between two locations when traveling over land. An air mile is equal to 6,076 ft. A statute mile is equal to 5,280 ft. Thus, 100 air miles is equal to 115.08 statute miles.

vanpool vehicle. Any motor vehicle, other than a motor truck or truck tractor, designed for carrying more than 10 but not more than 15 persons including the driver, which is maintained and used primarily for the not-for-hire, work-related transportation of adults for the purposes of ridesharing. (CVC §668)