



November 13, 2006

To: Name
Address
City, State Zip

Reference: Arizona Pilot/Escort Driver Certification
Arizona Statute 1218, Rule R17-6-305-b3

Dear, (Last Name),

As a Pilot/Escort Driver that is a current holder of a Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) Pilot/Escort Driver Certification, we would like to provide you with the factual information regarding the validity of your certification.

It has come to our attention that the following information has been recently published:

ATA has published an application form on the ATA website (<http://www.arizonatrucking.com/>) that states: Escort vehicle operators must now be trained and certified in a safety class under legislation (Senate Bill 1218) enacted during the 2006 session. The Motor Vehicle Division has posted rules governing the training and certification of pilot-car operators that escort over-dimensional, permitted loads. ATA, the authorized training entity, is the initial "Point of Entry" for operators into the certification program. Operators must download and file this application with ATA, be able to show proof to enforcement officers that they have applied for certification, and then complete the training in a timely manner. After a transition period, enforcement agencies will begin issuing warnings to any escort vehicle operator who has not applied for certification.

The statement noted above by ATA is misleading, leaving one to believe that a person must make application to ATA to be in compliance with the Arizona Law.

As noted above in R17-6-305-b3, if you hold a certification from another State that currently has a program that meets the FHWA, CVSA & SC&RA Pilot/Escort Driver Best Practices Guidelines, then you comply with this "NEW" Arizona Law. The States that currently have Pilot/Escort Driver Certification programs that meets these guidelines are: North Carolina, Florida, Oklahoma, Utah and Washington State.

Please, "DO NOT" complete an application to ATA and send the \$25.00 that is noted to accompany the application.

You are already in compliance of this new Statue and Rule and are not required to do anytime that the ATA may publish. Should you have any questions, please contact our office are any time during normal business hours.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Sorenson".

Randy Sorenson

11576 South State Street, Suite 301
Draper, Utah 84020
(801)838-8999, (801)838-8167 Fax

ARTICLE 3. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

R17-6-305. Escort Vehicles

A. Service requirement.

1. If required by the Department, a permittee of ~~an overdimensional vehicle or load~~ shall have an escort vehicle while transporting an overdimensional vehicle or load on a highway ~~prescribed~~ restricted under R17-6-412, Table 4.
2. The Department shall determine if ~~an overdimensional permitted vehicle must be accompanied by one or more escort vehicles whether one or more escort vehicles must accompany an overdimensional permitted vehicle~~ by considering the following:
 - a. Proposed transport route:
 - i. Highway width, height, road dynamics;
 - ii. Surface condition~~s~~; and
 - iii. Grade;
 - b. ~~Load size~~ Overall vehicle and load dimensions;
 - c. Need for frequent stops; ~~or~~
 - d. Concern for public safety~~s~~; and
 - e. Time of movement.
3. According to the criteria applicable under subsection (A)(2), the Department shall require two or more overdimensional permitted vehicles traveling together to be accompanied by at least one escort vehicle per load.

B. Vehicle ~~qualification~~ and operator qualifications and equipment requirements.

1. A vehicle qualifies as an escort vehicle if it:
 - a. Is a passenger car or two-axle truck ~~not exceeding 20,000 pounds, and operating as a single unit,~~
 - b. Is currently registered, and
 - c. Meets insurance requirements as provided by law.
2. An escort vehicle operator, except for a law enforcement escort, shall meet all requirements under A.R.S. § 28-1110, and maintain certification through a program that meets the escort vehicle operator training and certification standards of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance or an equivalent program, whether in this state or another state, that meets the same objectives.
3. Effective September 21, 2006, an escort vehicle operator is in compliance with subsection (B)(2), if the escort vehicle operator:
 - a. Files an application with a program that meets the escort vehicle operator training and certification standards of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance or an equivalent program that meets the same objectives, whether in this state or another state; and
 - b. Completes the training and certification program within 120 days of the date of application.
- 2-4. An escort vehicle operator shall possess all of the following equipment:
 - a. Warning flags as prescribed ~~under in~~ R17-6-302, when accompanying an overdimensional permitted vehicle ~~or~~ load;
 - b. Warning lights as prescribed ~~under in~~ A.R.S. § 28-947(D);
 - c. An "OVERSIZE LOAD" sign:
 - i. Constructed as prescribed ~~under in~~ R17-6-303(C),
 - ii. Mounted above the vehicle's roofline,
 - iii. Displayed as prescribed ~~under in~~ R17-6-303(D), and
 - iv. Not visible when not in use; Accompanied by two flags, one mounted on each side of the oversize load sign, and
 - v. Not visible when not in use;
 - d. A two-way radio:
 - i. Capable of transmitting and receiving a minimum of one-half mile, and
 - ii. Compatible with each two-way radio in an accompanying escort vehicle and each escorted ~~overdimensionally-permitted overdimensional permitted~~ vehicle; and
 - e. Emergency equipment ~~as follows to include:~~
 - i. At least eight ~~flares~~ emergency warning devices, and
 - ii. Two emergency staff-mounted warning flags manufactured to the specifications prescribed under in R17-6-302(A).

C. Operation.

1. Lighting requirement. While in service, an escort vehicle operator shall maintain continuous illumination of head-lights and overhead warning lights.
2. Lead- and follow-distance.
 - a. On an open highway, except when visual contact cannot be maintained, an escort vehicle operator shall maintain a lead- or follow-distance ~~not exceeding to exceed~~ 1,500 feet from the escorted vehicle.

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- b. In an urban setting, an escort vehicle operator shall maintain a lead- or follow-distance not ~~exceeding~~ to exceed 250 feet from the escorted vehicle.
- 3. Stop provisions at a traffic signal-controlled intersection.
 - a. When ~~a lead-bearing~~ an overdimensional permitted vehicle is required to stop, the lead-escort vehicle operator shall ~~stop safely on the right hand roadside after proceeding~~ proceed through the intersection ~~and stop safely, off of the roadway as much as is safely possible.~~ The lead-escort vehicle operator shall resume normal lead distance ~~after the lead-bearing vehicle clears the intersection~~ as soon as is safely possible.
 - b. When a following-escort vehicle is required to stop, the operator of ~~a lead-bearing~~ an overdimensional permitted vehicle shall proceed without stopping. The following-escort vehicle operator shall resume its normal distance behind the ~~lead-bearing overdimensional permitted~~ vehicle ~~as soon as is safely possible~~ after clearing an intersection.

Acceptable Certification

12/12/2006

R17-6-305. Escort Vehicles

B.

2. An escort vehicle operator, except for a law enforcement escort, shall meet all requirements under A.R.S. § 28-1110, and maintain certification through a program that meets the escort vehicle operator training and certification standards of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance or an equivalent program, whether in this state or another state, that meets the same objectives.
3. Effective September 21, 2006, an escort vehicle operator is in compliance with subsection (B)(2), if the escort vehicle operator:
 - a. Files an application with a program that meets the escort vehicle operator training and certification standards of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance or an equivalent program that meets the same objectives, whether in this state or another state; and
 - b. Completes the training and certification program within 120 days of the date of application.

To the best of my knowledge the states listed below have certification programs that will meet these requirements. Therefore, any operator with a current and valid certification or application, as prescribed above, meets the criteria for Arizona and shall be considered certified in Arizona.

Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Kansas, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Virginia, Utah, Washington

Please direct your inquires to:

escortvehicle@goodtruckstop.com

I hope this helps,
Richard Dungan
602 757-0938