

*The Tire Inflation Regulation has been approved.
Effective September 1, 2010.*

*Frequently Asked Questions
Tire Inflation Regulation* version March 2011

Q: What is the effective date?

A: September 1, 2010.

Q: If an 18 Wheeler comes in to my shop for repairs, do I have to check all 18 tires?

A: No, this regulation only applies to vehicles with a GVWR 10,000 lbs or less.

Q: Do I have to offer a free Tire Inflation Service?

A: No, but if you do offer a free check and inflate service and that service is the only thing being performed, then the Automotive Service Provider does not need to meet the regulation requirements.

Q: Do I have to keep copies of all invoices on site for inspection?

A: No, the vehicle service invoices kept offsite must be made available to enforcement personnel within 72 hours of an official written or oral request.

Q: Will there be a grace period before the regulation is enforced?

A: There will not be a "grace period". All ASPs are expected to comply with the requirements. There is outreach and implementation period. Staff is available to help implement the regulation and answer questions regarding compliance.

Q: What type of Tire Inflation Reference do I need?

A: The most popular Tire Inflation Reference resources that are in use by ASPs are the Tire Guide and the Tire and Rim Association (TRA) Year Book. ARB does not endorse or recommend either resource. ASPs may use any reference resource of their choosing as long as it meets the regulatory requirements.

Q: Do Auto body shops have to comply with this regulation?

No, auto body and paint facilities, auto glass installers, auto parts distributors, auto wreckers or dismantlers do not have to comply with this regulation.

Q: What happens if a customer needs to fill their tires with nitrogen and I don't have a nitrogen inflation service? Do I now have to provide a nitrogen inflation service?

A: No, a customer may refuse the inflation portion of the service if a nitrogen system is not available at the time of service. ASPs are still subject to the other regulation requirements. The tires will still need to be checked and it will also need to be noted on the invoice that the nitrogen inflation service was not available at the time of the service.

Q: What do I write on the service invoice?

A: You will need to indicate on the service invoice that a tire inflation service was completed and the tire pressure measurements after the service was performed.

Q: What type of tire pressure gauge do I need to have?

A: When performing the tire pressure service you will need to use a gauge with a total permissible error no greater than ± 2 psi.

Q: What happens if a customer doesn't want me to check their tires?

A: A customer may decline the check and inflate service if they affirm that a tire pressure services has been performed in the last 30 days or they will perform a tire pressure service within the next 7 days. If a tire inflation service was not performed, the automotive service provider must indicate on the vehicle service invoice why the service was not completed.

Q: My fleet vehicle is maintained by a fleet maintenance program. Who is responsible for keeping the service invoice requirement?

A: The fleet maintenance provider must keep a copy of the vehicle service invoice.

Q: Do we have to wait until the tires are cool before performing the check and inflate service?

A: ARB acknowledges that the temperature of a vehicles tire can make a significant real-world difference when inflating the tire. Despite this fact the regulation requires that tires be inflated to the recommended pressure regardless of the tire temperature. ASPs are not required to wait until the tires reach a cool temperature before performing the service.

Q: What happens if I have multiple invoices for the same vehicle with recalls? Do I have to perform the service for each invoice?

A: As long as the service is completed and indicated on the invoice and also indicated on the others that the service was done within the last 30 days then you would be in compliance with the regulation.

Q: How does an ASP measure tire pressure on an aftermarket tire when no industry recognized resource, book or electronic, exists for that particular tire?

A: If you have exhausted all avenues on locating the correct tire pressure for a specific tire then please make a note on the vehicle service invoice that you were unable to locate correct tire pressure.

Q: If the vehicle does not have a placard for the tire pressure, what should I do?

A: You would need to utilize a Tire Inflation Reference. This reference will allow you to match the vehicle and tire OE and Non OE tires and wheels to determine the correct tire pressure rating.

Q: Do I have to check the spare tire also?

A: No, unless it is in use at the time of service.

Q: Do tires need to be inflated if it is determined by an ASP, in accordance with standard industry practices, that due to a combination of an aftermarket tire on a non stock wheel the tire is unsafe?

A: The Tire Inflation Regulation states that if the tires are determined by the ASP to be unsafe than an ASP need not perform the check and inflate service. It needs to be noted on the vehicle invoice as to why the service was not completed.

Q: At times some of the trucks I work on need tire pressures above the recommended manufacturer's pressure due to heavy full-time loading. Will I still be compliant if it is over the recommended pressure?

A: Yes.

Q: Do I have to check and inflate tires that are determined unsafe in accordance with standard industry practices?

A: An Automotive Service Provider need not perform the check and inflate service if the tires are determined by the Automotive Service Provider to be unsafe. It also needs to be indicated on the invoice that the service was not completed and why.

Q: What information is needed on the invoice after the check and inflate service was completed?

A: Indicate on the vehicle service invoice that a tire inflation service was completed and the tire pressure measurements after the services were performed. The information may be listed as follows:

Fronts 32psi Rears 35psi

All tires 32psi

RF 32, LF32, RR32, LR32

Q: Does this regulation apply to services provided as emergency road side services?

A: No, the Tire Inflation Regulation would not apply to emergency road side services.

Q: Does this regulation apply to motorcycles or ATV's?

A: No, the Tire Inflation Regulation would not apply to motorcycles, ATV or any type of Off-Road equipment. The regulation also does not apply to trailers.

Q: Do I still need to perform the check and inflate service if the vehicle has a Tire Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS) already installed?

A: Yes, Automotive Service Providers are required to still do a check and inflate on a vehicle with a TPMS. The TPMS unit was designed for safety. Most systems will not alert a driver until a tire is significantly under inflated. Significantly under inflated is 25% or more below the vehicle manufacturer's recommended pressure.

Q: Is electronic recordkeeping acceptable?

A: Yes the information must be made available to enforcement personnel within 72 hours of an official written or oral request.