

# Truck and Bus Regulation

## Small Fleet Option

Last Updated: August 15, 2016



This summary describes the Small Fleet Option for heavier trucks and buses. This option does not apply to school buses. The regulation does not apply to state and local government vehicles, solid waste collection trucks, drayage trucks that transport marine cargo and public transit buses because they are already subject to other regulations.

### What is the Small Fleet Option?

The Small Fleet Option allowed small fleets to delay the first Particulate Matter (PM) filter requirement for heavier trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) greater than 26,000 lbs. until January 1, 2014, and defers heavier vehicle replacements until January 1, 2020 or later. To use this option, owners must have reported their fleet information by January 31, 2014 and demonstrated they had at least one PM filter no later than July 1, 2014.

### Who can use the Small Fleet Option?

The Truck and Bus regulation defines a small fleet as a fleet of one to three diesel trucks or buses with a GVWR greater than 14,000 lbs., (as long as your vehicles are not under common ownership and control with other fleets.) Common ownership and control means one or more companies that are owned or managed on a daily basis by the same person, corporation, partnership, or association, even if the vehicle(s) is not operated in California. To use the Small Fleet Option you must own three or fewer vehicles and have reported vehicle information by January 31, 2014 to demonstrate at least one compliant vehicle in the fleet. Small fleets that did not opt in must comply with the same requirements as other fleets as described in the fact sheet at [www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/documents/faqmodelyr.pdf](http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/documents/faqmodelyr.pdf)

### How do I comply with the Small Fleet Option?

To qualify for the Small Fleet Option, you needed to report and show you had one heavier vehicle in the fleet with a PM filter (OEM or retrofit) by the 2014 deadline. You must also report your fleet information each January. Starting January 1, 2020, you will need to upgrade to 2010 or newer model year engines. The heavier vehicles in the fleet must comply with the following schedule:

Small Fleet Option - Compliance Schedule for Heavier Vehicles	
Compliance Date	Requirement Summary
January 1, 2014	One vehicle must have a PM filter
January 1, 2017	Two vehicles must have a PM filter
January 1, 2018	All three vehicles must have a PM filter
January 1, 2020	Replace all 1999 or older model year engines
January 1, 2021	Replace all 2000-2004 or older model year engines
January 1, 2022	Replace all 2005-2006 or older model year engines
January 1, 2023	All three vehicles must have 2010 or newer model year engines

The PM filter requirements can be met by either installing the highest level PM filter retrofits that have been verified by the ARB, or with PM filters that are standard equipment on 2007 model year or newer engines. Fleet owners that reported and retrofitted a vehicle with a PM filter before January 1, 2014, may continue to operate the vehicle until January 1, 2023 as long as it remains in the fleet. All other engines will need to be replaced starting January 1, 2020 based on the engine model year schedule.

### How do I report to take advantage of the Small Fleet Option?

You can update information at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/reportinginfo.htm>. You will need to report updates to your second vehicle by January 31, 2017 and the third vehicle by January 31, 2018.

*While this document is intended to assist fleets with their compliance efforts, it is the sole responsibility of fleets to ensure compliance with the Truck and Bus Regulation.*

### **Do I need to report lighter trucks that I own?**

Reporting lighter vehicles is not required when reporting to use the Small Fleet Option. However lighter vehicles count toward your fleet size. Starting January 1, 2015, lighter vehicles must be upgraded to 2010 model year or newer engines based on a schedule by engine model year

[www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/documents/faqModely.pdf](http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/documents/faqModely.pdf) and cannot comply by retrofitting with PM filters. If you are eligible to use flexibility options, you will need to report each January to use them.

Information about compliance options is available at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/documents.php>.

### **How do I determine my fleet size?**

Below are scenarios to ensure you correctly determine the size of your fleet.

- I own one truck, but am leased to a large motor carrier, am I a small fleet?
  - If you own your vehicle, regardless of whether you contract for your own loads or have a leasing arrangement with a motor carrier and operate under their authority, you are a small fleet.
- If I am leasing a vehicle, does it count toward my fleet size?
  - If the lease is less than one year, the vehicle **is not** part of the fleet size
  - If the lease is a year or more then the vehicle **is** part of the fleet size as long as the lease contract does not state otherwise.
- If I own six vehicles but only two come to California, what is my fleet size?
  - Your fleet size is six; therefore you cannot use the small fleet option
- If I own five vehicles but only use two of them, do all five count toward my fleet size?
  - Yes, even if the vehicle has been registered as non-op or is not operated on-road, it counts towards the fleet size.
  - Vehicles that you own that are temporarily out of service must be reported as such or comply with another flexibility option.
- I own 10 vehicles but seven are using other provisions that delay compliance, am I a small fleet?
  - No, although seven of the vehicles are using different compliance options, they are still part of the fleet.

### **What can I do to be sure my second truck is compliant on time?**

We encourage fleet owners to order their PM filter retrofit or replacement vehicle four months prior to the compliance deadline to provide additional four months beyond the deadline in case there is a manufacturer delay. If a fleet enters into a contract to install a PM filter retrofit or purchase a replacement vehicle four months prior to their compliance deadline and there is a delay in the filter installation or arrival of the replacement vehicle due to a manufacturer delay, the fleet owner can report the delay in January and will not be penalized for being out of compliance until May 1 of the compliance year.

### **Are there any funding opportunities for small fleets?**

Yes. Since incentive funding must be used for upgrades that are made earlier than the required deadline, there are limited opportunities at this time and information about remaining funding opportunities can be found at [www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/truckstop/azregs/fa\\_resources.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/truckstop/azregs/fa_resources.htm).

### **Where can I get more information?**

Fact sheets, compliance tools and regulatory documents about the Truck and Bus Regulation are available at [www.arb.ca.gov/dieseltruck](http://www.arb.ca.gov/dieseltruck) including the Fleet Calculator which is an Excel spreadsheet that you can use to determine the best compliance strategy for your fleet for future compliance years. If you have questions or wish to obtain this document in an alternative format or language, please call ARB's diesel hotline at (866) 6DIESEL (634-3735). TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

*While this document is intended to assist fleets with their compliance efforts, it is the sole responsibility of fleets to ensure compliance with the Truck and Bus Regulation.*