



Motor Carrier Services Important Notice to IRP Customers Regarding PRISM October 2012

The changes discussed in this notice will impact how you perform International Registration Plan (IRP) business with the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Please help us to make this transition as smooth as possible.

Effective November 5, 2012, DMV will be a full participant in the federal Performance and Registration Information Systems Management (PRISM) program. PRISM is a partnership between the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and the states to promote and enhance motor carrier safety. The program has two major components: commercial vehicle registration and enforcement. Virginia is already participating in the enforcement component and is implementing the registration component.

Under PRISM, as part of the IRP registration process, you will be required to specify the motor carrier responsible for the safe operation of each vehicle in your fleet. The motor carrier responsible for safety is the entity that the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) ultimately holds accountable for items such as hours-of-service, compliance with other safety regulations, drug and alcohol testing, and vehicle maintenance. If the responsible carrier has not obtained a USDOT number from FMCSA, the carrier will be required to do so before IRP registration is issued. Additionally, carriers will be required to update their census information with the FMCSA on an annual basis, rather than every-other year.

Review both the PRISM brochure and PRISM transition worksheet to find out how these changes will affect your business.

Complete the PRISM transition worksheet for your company and the vehicles you currently have registered under IRP. Mail the completed worksheet with any required lease agreements to Virginia DMV in the envelope provided. If you do not do this now, you will be required to provide this information before DMV can process additional IRP applications. Act now to avoid future service delays.

If your IRP registered vehicles are due to renew in January, you should receive your renewal package in early November. In lieu of completing the transition worksheet, you may provide the necessary information with your renewal application.