

12 June 2025

Original: English

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

Notifying Member: <u>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</u>
If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):

2. Agency responsible:

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Department of Transportation (DOT) [2247]

Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:

Please submit comments to: USA WTO TBT Enquiry Point, Email: <u>usatbtep@nist.gov</u>

- 3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [], 5.7.1 [], 3.2 [], 7.2 [], other:
- 4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Retroreflective sheeting on semitrailers and trailers; Lighting, signalling and warning devices (ICS code(s): 43.040.20); Commercial vehicles (ICS code(s): 43.080)
- **Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:** Parts and Accessories Necessary for Safe Operation; Retroreflective Sheeting on Semitrailers and Trailers; (5 page(s), in English)
- Safety Administration (FMCSA) proposes to rescind the requirements for retroreflective sheeting on semitrailers and trailers manufactured prior to 1 December 1993, which is the compliance date for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) conspicuity rules applicable to trailer manufacturers. The retrofitting requirements were adopted by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on 31 March 1999, and require that motor carriers engaged in interstate commerce install retroreflective tape or reflex reflectors on the sides and rear of semitrailers and trailers that were manufactured prior to 1 December 1993, have an overall width of 2,032 mm (80 inches) or more, and a gross vehicle weight rating of 4,536 kg (10,001 pounds) or more. With the passage of more than 30 years since the NHTSA requirements were implemented, FMCSA believes the vast majority of trailers currently in use on the Nation's highways were manufactured after 1993 so the retrofitting rule is no longer necessary. This proposal would eliminate obsolete regulatory text without compromising safety.
- 7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: Cost saving and productivity enhancement

8. Relevant documents:

90 Federal Register (FR) 22926, 30 May 2025; <u>Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)</u> Part 393:

https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2025-05-30/html/2025-09705.htm

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This notice of proposed rulemaking is identified by Docket Number FMCSA-2025-0108. The Docket Folder available Regulations.gov is on at https://www.regulations.gov/docket/FMCSA-2025-0108/document and provides access to primary documents as well as comments received. Documents are also accessible from Regulations.gov by searching the Docket Number. WTO Members and their stakeholders are asked to submit comments to the <u>USA TBT Enquiry Point</u> by or before <u>4pm Eastern</u> Time on 29 July 2025. Comments received by the USA TBT Enquiry Point from WTO Members and their stakeholders will be shared with FMCSA and will also be submitted to the Docket on Regulations.gov if received within the comment period.

9. Proposed date of adoption: To be determined

Proposed date of entry into force: To be determined

- 10. Final date for comments: 29 July 2025
- 11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2025/TBT/USA/25 03900 00 e.pdf