

To: PRISM State IRP Offices
From: PRISM Technical Support Team

Date: Feb 11, 2014

Subject: FMCSA's new URS Rule and Impact on PRISM IRP Processes

Background:

Based on the Unified Registration System (URS) final rule, which was published August 23, 2013, FMCSA will be implementing additional enforcements for non-compliance of the Biennial registration updates. Carriers failing to update their Biennial registration will face enhanced enforcement penalties which include deactivating USDOT numbers.

How will this affect the PRISM IRP Process?

IRP offices in PRISM states will no longer be required to validate at the time of registration that the MCS150 information has been updated within the past year. The new URS program will deactivate the USDOT number if the registration information has not been updated in 24 months. PRISM states will deny registration of deactivated entities, similar to how the states currently deny registrations to carriers that are under a Federal Out-of-Service order.

How will the PRISM states know that the USDOT number has been deactivated?

If a carrier fails to complete the Biennial registration update, FMCSA will deactivate the carrier and assign a MCSIP step 52. These carriers will be included in the target file and treated as OOS carriers and should be denied registration. After a 6-month period, if the carrier does not update their registration and has no recent activity, their USDOT number will be set to 'Inactive' status in MCMIS. At this time, the MCSIP Step will be changed from 52 to 0, and the carrier will be removed from the PRISM target file.

When will this new process be rolled out?

The process is scheduled to begin in March 2014. This means that starting in March 2014, there will be carriers in the PRISM target file with a MCSIP step 52.

Will this affect the size of the PRISM target file?

Yes, starting in March 2014, we expect the target file to grow incrementally over the next 6 months, but the file size will level off once many of the carrier's USDOT Numbers are made inactive and removed from the PRISM target file.

What does a PRISM state need to have in place prior to roll out?

PRISM States should ensure that their IRP systems include denying vehicle registrations to a carrier that has a USDOT number with a MCSIP step 52. The MCSIP Step 52 has been included in the range of OOS MCSIP Steps of 52-68 since December 2010. Therefore, IRP systems should already be programmed to handle this MCSIP Step.

States should confirm with their systems vendors and/or in-house programmers that the MCSIP Step of 52 is included.

In-house IRP systems will need to remove the edit that checks to see if the MCS150 Last Update Date has been updated in the past year. Online IRP systems must also remove the MCS150 date check, so that the carrier can continue their registration process. If the systems cannot be changed prior to the roll out in March 2014, PRISM states can continue with the current MCS150 edit checks until their system has been changed.

To align with the URS biennial registration this change to eliminate the MCS150 date check should be completed in the immediate future.

Questions?

Contact PRISM Technical Support team: PRISMTechnicalSupport@dot.gov