OpsAuditHub opsaudithub.com	DOC ID: **SAF-0223**	REVISION: **Rev 2.4 (2026)**
	STANDARD: **FMCSA 49 CFR Part 396.17**	AUDIT FREQUENCY: **Annual Audit**

Dot Annual Vehicle Inspection Compliance Checklist

Operational Scope: Establishes a mandatory annual inspection protocol for commercial motor vehicles to verify structural integrity and braking systems in compliance with federal regulations. Mitigates mechanical failure risks and ensures absolute fleet roadworthiness.

MANDATORY PPE:	Steel-Toe Safety Boots (ASTM F2413), Safety Glasses (ANSI Z87.1), High-Visibility Reflective Vest (ANSI/ISEA 107), Nitrile Chemical-Resistant Gloves, Mechanics Impact-Resistant Gloves
PREREQUISITES:	Verify vehicle is parked on a level, stable surface with wheels chocked securely. | Ensure parking brake is fully engaged and ignition is locked out with keys removed. | Allow engine and exhaust components to cool completely before conducting undercarriage evaluation.

BRAKING SYSTEMS & STEERING MECHANISMS

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
1	**Service Brake Linings and Pads**	Lining thickness must not be less than 3/16 inch for bolted linings or 1/4 inch for riveted linings; free of oil, grease, and cracking.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
2	**Air Brake System Pressure Retention**	System must maintain air pressure with the engine stopped and brakes applied, dropping no more than 3 psi per minute for single vehicles.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
3	**Steering Gear Box and Linkage**	Free play in steering wheel must not exceed specified tolerances; all connecting links, pitman arms, and drag links must be secured with cotter pins.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
4	**Brake Drums and Rotors**	Drums and rotors must not exhibit severe scoring, cracks extending to open windows, or external breakage.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A

LIGHTING, ELECTRICAL & COUPLING DEVICES

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
5	**Lighting Devices and Reflectors**	All headlamps, tail lamps, stop lamps, turn signals, and clearance lights must illuminate correctly and be free of obscured or cracked lenses.	**Warning**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
6	**Fifth Wheel Assembly and Kingpin**	Locking jaws must securely lock around the kingpin; mounting plate must have no missing or loose fasteners.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
7	**Battery Compartment and Wiring**	Batteries must be securely tied down; terminals protected from short circuits; exposed wiring must be free of fraying and corrosion.	**Warning**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A

SUSPENSION, FRAME & TIRE INTEGRITY

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
8	**Spring Assemblies and Torque Rods**	No cracked, broken, or shifted leaves in leaf spring assemblies; torque rods and control arms must show no bushing deterioration.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
9	**Tread Depth and Sidewall Condition**	Steer tires must have at least 4/32-inch tread depth; non-steer tires at least 2/32-inch. Sidewalls must be free of bulges, cuts, and exposed cords.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
10	**Frame Members and Crossmembers**	Frame rail must not be cracked, loose, sagging, or broken, and fasteners must not be missing or loose.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A

Certified DOT Inspector / Lead Mechanic Signature: _____	**Date / Time:** _____	**Badge / Cert #:** _____
Fleet Maintenance Supervisor / Operations Manager Sign-off: _____	**Review Date:** _____	**Audit Status:** [ ] Approved [ ] Rectify

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