



BISON TRANSPORT

Trucking Terms

BISON CARES ...because we're people driven!



TRUCKING TERMS

■ ***Viewing***

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TRUCKING TERMS

A

- A.B.S.:** Anti-lock Braking System
All Bison Transport company units are equipped with ABS
- A-Train:** A tractor with one semi-trailer & one full trailer
- Air Ride Suspension:** Suspension that supports the load on air filled rubber bags rather than steel springs
- Air Lock:** An air bubble in fuel system, etc.
- Alligator:** A tire recap or tire part from a blown tire that is on the road
- ATC:** Automatic Traction Control
Also called ASR translated from German as Anti-Spin Regulation
- A.V.I.:** Automatic Vehicle Identification
System combining an on-board transponder with roadside receivers, automates identification of vehicles. See E-ZPass.
- Axle:** Structural component to which wheels, brakes and suspension are attached.
- Front axle is usually called the steer axle.
- Drive axles are powered wheels located behind the steer axle.
- Trailer axles are unpowered wheels located behind the drive axles.



TRUCKING TERMS

B

Back Door:	Behind you or to your rear
Back Haul:	Loads that you move back towards your tractor's base of operation
Barn Doors:	Doors on a trailer that open on hinges, similar to that of a regular door
Bear:	Law enforcement officer
Belly Dump:	A trailer that discharges its load from the bottom
Bill Box:	A container on the front of a trailer to store the BOL if necessary
Bill of Lading (BOL):	An itemized list of goods contained in a shipment
Bird Dog:	Radar Detector
Black & White:	Law enforcement officer, particularly at city level; named for the black & white color schemes of their cars



TRUCKING TERMS

B

<i>Blind Spot:</i>	Areas around a commercial vehicle that are not visible to the driver either through the windshield, side windows or mirrors
<i>Blow Out:</i>	Burst Tire
<i>Bobtail:</i>	A tractor operating without a trailer
<i>Bogie or Bogey</i>	Assembly of two or more axles, usually a pair in tandem
<i>Bonded Warehouse:</i>	A warehouse controlled by customs
<i>Box:</i>	Any container that can haul freight, i.e. the trailer
<i>Brake Check:</i>	A sudden slow down in traffic where you have to hit the brakes
<i>Bridge Formula:</i>	A bridge surface protection formula used by Federal and State governments to regulate the amount of weight that can be put on each of the vehicle's axles and how far apart the axles (or group of axles) must be to safely and legally carry a given weight over the bridge
<i>B-Train:</i>	Tractor with 2 semi-trailers

TRUCKING TERMS

B

Bulkhead: Firewall; front of trailer wall, or any dividing wall within a trailer

Bump the Dock: To deliver a load

Bunk: The bed in a sleeper on a truck

Button Hook: To make a right hand turn from the curb lane of one street to the curb lane of the new street, you must use the space in the intersection to do so



TRUCKING TERMS

C

<i>Cab:</i>	The seating & bunk area of a tractor
<i>Cabover:</i>	A style of tractor with a flat front due to the cab over the engine
<i>Cabotage:</i>	Hauling freight within one country by a foreigner
<i>Carrier:</i>	Transport Company
<i>Cartage Company:</i>	A company that provides local pick up and delivery (Local defined as within a town or city)
<i>CB:</i>	Citizen Band Radio Two-way radio used for communication between drivers
<i>CDL:</i>	Commercial Driver's Licence or Class 1 Authorizes an individual to operate a commercial motor vehicle in excess of 26,000 lbs gross vehicle weight (GVW)
<i>Chicken Coup:</i>	Department of Transportation weight check station
<i>Coffee Shop:</i>	A Cafeteria

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TRUCKING TERMS

C

Comic Book:	A slang term for log book
Common Carrier:	Freight transportation company that serves the general public May be a regular route service (over designated highways on a regular basis) or irregular route (between various points on an unscheduled basis)
Container:	Standard-sized rectangular box used to transport freight by ship, rail or highway Also known as a CAN
Contraband:	Goods legally prohibited in trade. AKA- smuggled goods.
Consignee:	The customer who a load is shipped to (also known as a receiver)
Consignor:	The shipper (person who ships the freight to another customer)
Consignment	The shipment, i.e. the freight on the trailer
Converter:	Auxiliary axle assembly equipped with a fifth wheel Used to connect multiple trailers together to haul behind one tractor
Cube:	Interior volume of a trailer measured in cubic feet
Check Call:	A telephone call made to the company to inform them of the tractor/driver's location and status (loaded, on route, unloaded, etc)

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TRUCKING TERMS

C

- Co-Driver:** The person you drive with when Team Driving
- Convoy:** Two or more vehicles traveling together.
- Crossdock:** The transfer of freight from one trailer to another.
- Customs Broker:** Agent that acts on behalf of a customer to clear a load crossing the Canadian / U.S.A. border
- CVSA Inspections:** Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance Inspections



TRUCKING TERMS

D

<i>Dangerous Goods:</i>	Hazardous materials The transport of hazardous materials is strictly regulated
<i>Day Cab:</i>	A short cab without a bunk or sleeping compartment, usually used for city work
<i>Decal:</i>	Sticker
<i>Dead-head:</i>	Operating a truck without cargo in the trailer (also known as an empty move)
<i>Deck Plate:</i>	The grated or solid plate on the frame behind the cab or sleeper of the tractor that the driver can stand on
<i>Dedicated Run:</i>	A scheduled run
<i>Dispatcher</i>	Truck driver supervisor who plans and dispatches loads
<i>Divided Highway:</i>	Road way with 2 directions of travel separated by a curb or grassy area
<i>Dollies:</i>	The legs located towards the front of the trailer for standing free from a tractor (also referred to as landing gear)

D - continued on next page



TRUCKING TERMS

D

- D.O.T.:** Department of Transportation
- Drive Axles:** The axle or dual axle to the rear of the tractor that carries the power of the engine to the road (drives the tractor)
- Driveline:** All the components, that together, transmit power from the transmission to the drive axle(s)
- Drop a Trailer:** Unhook a trailer from the tractor & leave it in the company or customer yard
- Drop and Hook:** The driver drops off a loaded trailer and hooks onto another loaded trailer for a different destination
- Dunnage:** Empty return skids, plywood & other shipping materials
- D.V.I.R.:** Daily Vehicle Inspection Report
An inspection report that must be completed before driving the commercial vehicle each and every time a new trailer is picked up and must also be completed prior to operating the commercial vehicle every new day



TRUCKING TERMS

E

- E.D.I.:** Electronic Data Interchange
The business to business interconnection of computers for the rapid exchange of a wide variety of documents
- E.C.M.** Electronic Control Module
Device allowing us to track fuel, engine efficiency and govern the speed of the truck
All Bison company owned tractors have an E.C.M. device
- E-Zpass:** An electronic toll collection device working on A.V.I. Technology
The electronic card is read by a receiving antenna at participating toll plazas and the toll is electronically deducted from the prepaid toll account
- Engine Brake:** Various devices that use characteristics of the engine to slow the tractor, usually through mechanisms that retard the escape of exhaust
(also known as Jake Brake)
- E.T.A.:** Estimated Time of Arrival
- Exhaust Brake:** A moveable flap in the exhaust system that creates backpressure to retard the engine and create more engine braking to assist when driving downhill



TRUCKING TERMS

F

- Fifth Wheel.*** The circular steel member with a slot lying flat above the drive axles of the trailer that secures the tractor to the trailer
- Fingerprint a load:*** Manually unload a trailer
- Flat Deck Trailer.*** A trailer that is not enclosed
Tarps and straps are used to secure the load
- Floor Jack.*** A motorized or non-motorized fork lift mechanism
Capable of lifting heavy pallets to low heights for towing by hand
- Floor Loaded:*** Freight that has been loaded on the floor of the trailer without pallets or slip sheets
- Four Wheeler:*** This is not a nice term for passenger vehicle
- Freight:*** Product that is hauled in the trailer

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TRUCKING TERMS

F

- Front Door:** A term used for a truck in front of other trucks keeping an eye out for bears & keeping the lead pace
- F.T.L.:*** Full Truck Load
The quantity of freight required to fill a trailer
- Fuel Stop:*** A service station that is set up to fuel tractors



TRUCKING TERMS

G

Gator:	Blown-out truck tire pieces that are on left on the road
Glad Hands:	The attachments at the end of the air hoses at the back of the tractor that connect to the trailer
Glow Plug:	Pre-heater to aid starting a cold engine
Goods:	Merchandise or product
Grade:	Steepness of a hill and it is expressed in percentage A vehicle climbing a 5% grades, rises 5 feet for every 100 feet of forward travel
Granny Lane:	Right lane, slowest moving lane
Grease Monkey:	Mechanic
Greasy Spoon:	Not a good restaurant
G.T.A.:	Greater Toronto Area
G.V.W.:	Gross Vehicle Weight Total weight of a vehicle (tractor, trailer and the load)



TRUCKING TERMS

H

Hammer Lane:	Left lane on a four lane highway
Handle:	CB call sign or name
Hazmat:	Hazardous materials and transport of hazardous materials is strictly regulated (also known as Dangerous Goods or TDG)
Hauling:	What are you carrying in your trailer? = What are you hauling?
Heading:	What direction are you going in? OR Where are you traveling to?
Heater:	An insulated dry van trailer equipped with a heater to control the temperature inside the unit.
Hot Load:	A load with a delivery guarantee and needs delivery as soon as legally possible after the pick up and can carry penalties to the carrier if the load is late
Hours of Service: (HOS)	Safety regulations that govern the hours in which a driver can operate a commercial vehicle



TRUCKING TERMS

I

I 94 card: Visa Waiver Card and is purchased the first time you are crossing the border. Cost is \$6.00 and must be renewed every 3 months.

I.C.C.: Interstate Commerce Commission
U.S. Federal agency with the responsibilities for oversight of the trucking industry
It is not an enforcement agency like the D.O.T. (Department of Transportation)

In-Bond: A shipment that has not cleared customs and must be taken directly to a Bonded warehouse to clear



TRUCKING TERMS

J

Jackknife:

To purposely place the trailer at a very sharp angle to the tractor when backing
Also can refer to the loss of control where the trailer begins to push the tractor out of the way

Jake Brake:

A general name for Engine Brakes based on a common brand, Jacobs Engine Brake

Jump Seat:

The passenger seat in a tractor

J.I.T.:

Just in Time



TRUCKING TERMS

K

Kingpin: Anchor pin at the center of a semi-trailer's upper coupler that is captured by the locking jaws of the tractor's fifth wheel
It is used to attach the tractor to the semi-trailer



TRUCKING TERMS

L

- Laid Over:** There is no load available for pick up.
Generally a lay over is when a driver sits waiting for a load for 24 hours or more
- Landing Gear:** Retracting legs that support the front of a trailer when it is not coupled to a tractor
(also referred to as Dolly Legs)
- LCV:** Long Combination Vehicle, i.e. Turnpikes
- Live Load:** To load a trailer with the driver physically present at the time
- Load:** The normal term for the freight a truck is carrying on the trailer
- Load Broker:** Agents that match shippers' loads with the available carriers/trucks
- Load Locks:** Long, telescoping poles with locking levers
They are set between the walls of the trailer or floor to ceiling to prevent the freight from shifting on-route
- Log Books:** Daily record of where a driver is and what he/she does
For presentation to D.O.T. or police to show that one has not gotten someplace too quickly or exceeded the hour of service limit.

L - continued on next page



TRUCKING TERMS

L

- Logistics:*** Movement & supply of goods
- Long Haul Driving:*** Driving that keeps the driver away from home for more than a night or two
Not a fixed term in the industry but a common one
- Lot Lizard:*** Trucker slang for prostitutes who hang out in truck stops
- Lumper:*** Labourers who unload trucks for a fee charged to the trucking company or customer
- L.T.L.:*** Less Than Truckload
A quantity of freight less than that required for the application of a truckload (FTL) rate and a combination of small shipments on a trailer from multiple shippers to multiple consignees



TRUCKING TERMS

M

Merge: To move gradually from one road or lane to another and blend in with traffic

Mile: 1.6 km

Mileage: Pay based on miles between origin and destination

Motor Home: Camper

MPG: Miles per gallon



TRUCKING TERMS

N

Nose: Front of trailer



TRUCKING TERMS

O

Odometer:	Mile or Kilometer counter in the dashboard
Offload:	To unload
Owner Operator:	Professional driver who owns and operates his/her own truck(s)
Out of Service:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Truck or trailer that has been declared unsafe by the D.O.T. and ordered off the road until repairs are made2. A driver who has been ordered off the road because D.O.T. has discovered he/she is over their limit for operating hours3. A driver who has been ordered off the road because he/she did not have the legal documentation to operate a commercial vehicle
Over Axle:	When one of the axles is overweight
Over Gross:	When a commercial vehicle, with all axle weights combined, has exceeded the maximum gross weight that it is licenced for
Over Hours:	When a driver goes over the legal limit for hours of service
Oversize:	Abnormal or wide load



TRUCKING TERMS

P

- P&D:** Pick up and delivery and usually used in reference to city work
- Pallets, Palletized:** Double wooden platforms about three and a half feet by four feet, upon which freight is loaded
Between the top and bottom platforms is a four inch space into which the fork lifts and floor jacks can slip their forks
- Pallet Jack:** A dolly resembling the tines of a fork lift with a handle attached, to move laden pallets on a dock, often motorized
- Paperwork:** The documents surrounding a trip (bill of lading, receipts for items such as tolls, scaling, log sheets, etc.)
- P.A.R.S:** Pre-Arrival Review System
A system in which a driver can fax the paperwork for a shipment and the Customs Broker will set up the clearance of the load prior to the driver arriving.
- Permit Book:** Normally a three-ring binder in which the various permits required for operating are inserted for display to the D.O.T. or other law enforcement agencies
- Pigtail:** Cable used to transmit electrical power from the tractor to the trailer
- Pin:** The pin on the fifth wheel that locks the trailer to the tractor

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TRUCKING TERMS

P

P.O.D.:	Proof of Delivery - signed copy of the B.O.L. and legal document that entitles the carrier to payment for the movement of the freight.
Port of Entry.	Weigh stations (scale) or Customs Office that routinely documents who comes into a province/state and where they are going.
Post Trip:	A quick visual inspection of the commercial vehicle at the end of the day or trip
Power Unit:	The tractor
PUP Trailer.	Short trailer, usually between 26 and 32 feet long
Pre-Plan:	The next load that a driver is set up to pick up after the completion of the load he/she is currently on
Pre-loaded:	A driver is not present at the time the loading of the trailer occurred Load is ready in advance of sending the driver in to pick up the load
PSI:	Pounds per square inch and used to measure tire & air brake system pressure
P.T.A.:	Projected Time of Availability with reference to the driver We utilize this information to determine when a driver needs to be planned and to ensure we have enough freight to move the driver



TRUCKING TERMS

Q

No Entries



TRUCKING TERMS

R

- Recap:** The retread portion of a rebuilt tire
- Reefer:** Refrigerated trailer with insulated walls and a self-powered refrigeration unit and most commonly used for the transporting of food
- Registration Holder:** A holder placed on the front of the trailer to hold the trailer licensing information
- Retarder:** Electro-magnetic device for slowing a vehicle down without using wheel brakes
- Rework a Trailer:** To move around the freight on a trailer in order to legalize the axle weights
- Rig:** Slang term for a transport truck
- Ring Road:** A circular route around a city
- R.P.M.:** Revolutions per Minute
Measure of the speed at which a shaft spins and most often used to describe engine crankshaft speed
- Running:** A fairly regular term for driving.
- Runaway Truck Ramp:** A safe emergency ramp at the end of a steep downgrade that you can steer into if you lose brake power



TRUCKING TERMS

S

Scales:	Provincial/state scales for determining the weights of trucks and the weight of each of their axles
Semi-trailer:	A trailer without a front axle
Service Road:	A frontage road
Shipper:	The customer location in which a load is picked up from
Shunt:	To maneuver trailers or to do a local shuttle service
Skids:	See pallets
Sleeper Berth:	A cab with a bunk or sleeping compartment
Sliding Fifth Wheel:	A fifth wheel that can be moved forwards and backwards on the frame rails to put more or less weight on the steering axle
Sliding Tandems:	Trailer tandems that have a sliding and locking apparatus for variable weight distribution
Slip Seating:	Changing a driver's truck each time he/she departs on a trip

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TRUCKING TERMS

S

Slip-Sheets:

Specially cut pieces of cardboard that go between a stack of goods and the floor. Can be slipped on and off by certain types of forklifts to move loads around without manually handling them or putting them on pallets.

Spot a Trailer:

To back a trailer into a loading or unloading spot or drop the trailer in a customer/company yard.

Stage a Load:

When a shipper brings the freight out of a storage area in a warehouse to locations near a door in preparation for loading a truck.

Steering Axle:

The front axle of a tractor.

Straight Truck:

Rigid truck, truck & trailer are in 1 piece, they cannot be unconnected.



TRUCKING TERMS

T

Tailgate:	Back door of truck which hinges at the top or bottom.
Tailgating:	Following the vehicle in front of you too closely. This is very dangerous.
Tandems:	A group of two axles arranged one behind the other.
Tanker:	A semi trailer designed to transport liquids
Tare Weight:	Weight of the empty truck or trailer, without occupants or loads. Also known as chassis weight.
Team.	Team of two drivers who alternate driving and resting.
10-4	Message Received, OK, Understood
10-9	Repeat or What?
10-19	Radio Check...
10-20	What is your location?



TRUCKING TERMS

T

- Terminal:*** A trucking company's yard, where trucks and trailers can be serviced and parked.
- Tow Truck:*** A truck for towing damaged or vehicles that cannot run under their own power.
- Tractor:*** A truck designed primarily to pull a semi-trailer by means of a fifth wheel mounted over the rear axle(s).
- Tractor-Trailer:*** Tractor and semi-trailer combination.
- Trip:*** A load from the start to the finish.
- Turnpike:*** Trailer combination utilizing a converter to connect and haul two 53 foot trailers with a single tractor.



TRUCKING TERMS

U

Unit: Tractor & trailer



TRUCKING TERMS

V

Van:

Any of a number of types of trailers that have walls and a roof. A "dry box" is a standard van.

V.I.N.:

Vehicle Identification Number. Assigned by the manufacturer, this number is unique to each vehicle and appears on the vehicle's registration and title.



TRUCKING TERMS

W

Wagon: Trailer

What's your 20? (10-20)



TRUCKING TERMS

X

No Entries



TRUCKING TERMS

Y

- Yard:*** A term used to reference a company's terminal or customer's property.
- Yard Jockey*** Operator of the yard or shunt truck
- Yard Truck:*** Small tractor confirmed to on site shuttling of trailers to & from loading docks.



TRUCKING TERMS

Z

No Entries

