IV. Method To Ensure an Equivalent or Greater Level of Safety

C.R. England states that the exemption does not negatively affect safety outcomes. Instead, it allows drivers trained out-of-state to obtain on-the-job experience in C.R. England’s comprehensive training program while avoiding significant delays and skill degradation. The exemption creates immediate economic and safety benefits for both the CLP holders and C.R. England—the driver earns an income as part of a team operation while improving driver skills and gaining valuable experience.

C.R. England indicated in its renewal application that 3,046 drivers had utilized the original exemption. Its safety data show that drivers using the exemption demonstrated better safety outcomes than non-exempt drivers. Through the end of 2016, C.R. England reported 11 accidents to FMCSA involving drivers utilizing the exemption, none of which resulted in a fatality. The renewal of the exemption would be effective for 5 years, the maximum period allowed by § 381.300.

V. Terms and Conditions of the Exemption

Period of the Exemption

This exemption from the requirements of 49 CFR 383.25(a)(1) is effective during the period of June 13, 2017, through June 12, 2022.

Extent of the Exemption

The exemption is contingent upon C.R. England maintaining USDOT registration, minimum levels of public liability insurance, and not being subject to any “imminent hazard” or other out-of-service (OOS) order issued by FMCSA. Each driver covered by the exemption must maintain a valid driver’s license and CLP with the required endorsements, document that he or she has passed the CDL skills test, not be subject to any OOS order or suspension of driving privileges, and meet all physical qualifications required by 49 CFR part 391.

Preemption

During the period this exemption is in effect, no State may enforce any law or regulation that conflicts with or is inconsistent with the exemption with respect to a person or entity operating under the exemption (49 U.S.C. 31315(d)).

FMCSA Accident Notification

C.R. England must notify FMCSA within 5 business days of any accidents (as defined by 49 CFR 390.5) involving the operation of any of its CMVs while utilizing this exemption. The notification must be by email to MCPSD@DOT.GOV, and include the following information:

1. Name of the Exemption: “C.R. England CLP”
2. Date of the accident
3. City or town, and State, in which the accident occurred, or which is closest to the scene of the accident
4. Driver’s name and driver’s license number
5. Vehicle number and State license number
6. Number of individuals suffering physical injury
7. Number of fatalities
8. The police-reported cause of the accident
9. Whether the driver was cited for violation of any traffic laws, or motor carrier safety regulations, and
10. The total driving time and the total on-duty time of the CMV driver at the time of the accident.

VI. Request for Comments

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b)(4), FMCSA requests public comment on the renewal of C.R. England’s exemption from the provisions in 49 CFR 383.25(a)(1). The Agency will consider all comments received by close of business on July 12, 2017. Comments will be available for examination in the docket at the location listed under the ADDRESSES section of this notice.

VII. Safety Oversight

FMCSA expects C.R. England, operating under the terms and conditions of this exemption, to maintain its safety record. However, should safety deteriorate, FMCSA will, consistent with the statutory requirements of 49 U.S.C. 31315, take all steps necessary to protect the public interest. Authorization of the exemption is discretionary, and FMCSA will immediately revoke the exemption for failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption.

Issued on: June 6, 2017.

Randi F. Hutchinson,
Chief Counsel.