



# RULE-MAKING ORDER PERMANENT RULE ONLY

## CR-103P (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.360)

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

DATE: July 29, 2024

TIME: 6:05 AM

WSR 24-16-032

**Agency:** Washington State Patrol

**Effective date of rule:**

**Permanent Rules**

- 31 days after filing.  
 Other (specify) (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

**Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?**

- Yes  No If Yes, explain:

**Purpose:** Changes to WAC 204-21-130, 204-21-230, 204-36-050 and 204-91A-170 are needed to coincide with legislative changes to RCW 46.37.196 that permit rear-facing blue lights on emergency tow trucks, which became effect July 23, 2023.

**Citation of rules affected by this order:**

New:

Repealed:

Amended: WAC 204-21-130, 204-21-230, 204-36-050 and 204-91A-170

Suspended:

**Statutory authority for adoption:** RCW 46.37.005, 46.37.320, and 46.37.194

**Other authority:**

**PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)**

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 24-13-051 on 6/13/2024 (date).

Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: No changes were made

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

TTY:

Email:

Web site:

Other:

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.  
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.  
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

**The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:**

|                                  |     |     |         |     |          |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|
| Federal statute:                 | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
| Federal rules or standards:      | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
| Recently enacted state statutes: | New | ___ | Amended | 4   | Repealed | ___ |

**The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:**

|     |     |         |     |          |     |
|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|
| New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|

**The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:**

|     |     |         |     |          |     |
|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|
| New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|

**The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:**

|     |     |         |   |          |     |
|-----|-----|---------|---|----------|-----|
| New | ___ | Amended | 4 | Repealed | ___ |
|-----|-----|---------|---|----------|-----|

**The number of sections adopted using:**

|                                |     |     |         |     |          |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|
| Negotiated rule making:        | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
| Pilot rule making:             | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
| Other alternative rule making: | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |

**Date Adopted:** 7/29/2024

**Name:** John R. Batiste

**Title:** Chief

**Signature:**



AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 22-21-031, filed 10/6/22, effective 11/6/22)

**WAC 204-21-130 Emergency lamps.** (1) All emergency lamps must meet the criteria established in RCW 46.37.320. In descending order of preference, these are:

(a) Conformance to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, or; if none

(b) Conformance to current standards and specifications of the Society of Automotive Engineers, or; if none

(c) Certified for compliance by any recognized organization or agency such as, but not limited to, the American National Standards Institute, the Society of Automotive Engineers, or the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators.

(2) Headlamp flashing systems may be used for authorized emergency vehicles owned and operated by law enforcement agencies, licensed ambulance companies, and fire departments. Headlamp flashing systems must:

(a) Have a circuit that alternately flashes only the high beams from the headlamps at a rate of 60 to 120 flashes per minute per side.

(b) Be so designated that any failure to flash the lamps will not result in failure of the headlamp system to operate normally.

(c) Incorporate an override feature which must stop the flashing and provide full illumination from both high beam headlamps when the dimmer switch is in the high-beam mode.

(d) Have an indicator lamp included in the circuit to give a visible and unmistakable indication to the driver that the system is turned on.

(3) The following table outlines the color of emergency lamps to be used for each type of vehicle.

| Vehicle Type  | Lighting Required | Other Lighting Allowed   |
|---|-------------------|--|
| Authorized Emergency Vehicles (except Law Enforcement and Fire Department Vehicles)   | 1 red lamp        | Flashing amber or white lamps  |
| Law Enforcement Vehicles  | 1 blue lamp       | Flashing red, amber, or white lamps  |
| Fire Department Vehicles (RCW 46.37.184)  | 1 red lamp        | Rear facing blue lamp<br>Flashing amber or white lamps   |
| Volunteer Firefighter Vehicles and Firefighter Private Vehicles (RCW 46.37.185)   |                   | If approved by the chief of their respective service, green lamps may be installed on the vehicle provided that the requirements outlined in subsection (4) of this section are met. |
| Public utilities vehicles, other construction and maintenance vehicles, pilot cars, ( <del>tow trucks</del> ) animal control vehicles, hazardous materials response team vehicles, search and rescue team vehicles, and rural newspaper carrier vehicles, and vehicles towing a load that exceeds legal dimensions. |                   | One or more flashing amber lamps provided that the requirements of subsection (5) of this section are met.   |
| <u>Emergency tow trucks (WAC 204-21-020(8))</u>   | <u>1 red lamp</u> | <u>One or more flashing amber and/or white lamps provided that the requirements of subsection (5) of this section are met.</u><br><u>Rear facing blue lamps.</u>                     |

(4) Green lamps for volunteer firefighter and firefighter private vehicles must:

(a) Meet the requirements of SAE J595 except that the color of the lamp must be green as the color described in SAE J578.

(b) Be visible for a distance of 200 feet under normal atmospheric conditions.

(c) Not have a maximum light projected in any one direction exceeding 300 candle power.

(d) Be mounted no less than 24 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands, or may be placed on the forward portion of the top above the windshield.

(e) Be mounted anywhere from the center of the vehicle to the left side thereof.

(f) Be used only for the purpose of identification and the operator of a vehicle so equipped must not be entitled to any of the privileges provided in RCW 46.61.035 for the operators of authorized emergency vehicles.

(5) Amber lamps must:

(a) Be mounted and be of sufficient intensity so as to be clearly visible to approaching traffic for at least 500 feet in normal sunlight.

(b) Be mounted as outlined in WAC 204-21-020 and as follows:

(i) Must be mounted so that the entire projected area of the lens is visible from all eye heights of drivers of other vehicles at angles within 45 degrees left to 45 degrees right of the front of the vehicle. If the light within these required angles is blocked by the vehicle or any substantial object on it, an additional amber lamp must be displayed within the obstructed angle.

(ii) May be mounted at any height.

(c) Only be used on the vehicles described in subsection (3) of this section, when such vehicles are actually involved in construction, maintenance, or operations which require that warning be given to ensure the protection of the motoring public or the work crew. Lamps must not be illuminated while traveling to or from the site of operations. For the purposes of tow truck operations, the site of operations must be only that place where vehicles are attached to or detached from the tow truck. Lamps on pilot cars must be illuminated only while the vehicle is actually providing escort service. Lamps on rural newspaper delivery vehicles must only be illuminated when the vehicle is traveling on the delivery route. Lamps on oversize units may be illuminated when traveling on public roadways. The operator of these vehicles are not entitled to any other privileges provided in RCW 46.61.035 for the operators of authorized emergency vehicles.

(6) Three hundred sixty degree warning lamps must meet SAE Standard J845.

(7) Nothing in this section relieves the operator of any vehicle from displaying any other light or warning device required by statute or regulation.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 22-21-031, filed 10/6/22, effective 11/6/22)

**WAC 204-21-230 Lighting equipment prohibited.** (1) The addition of a lamp, reflective device or other motor vehicle equipment must not impair the effectiveness of lighting equipment required by 49 C.F.R. Part 571.108, as it exists on February 22, 2022, or chapter 46.37 RCW.

(a) If a vehicle is in motion on a public roadway, the vehicle must not:

(i) Display aftermarket neon lighting devices.

(ii) Combine any type of letter, number, sign, symbol or combination thereof with an eye level brake light meeting the standards of 49 C.F.R. Part 571.108 (FMVSS 108). No function other than red reflex reflectors will be combined in eye level brake lights.

(iii) Have a lighted or electrically/mechanically powered sign or message board enabling change or movement of any displayed message to be displayed or affixed to the vehicle. Except:

(A) Vehicles that are used in conjunction with officially sanctioned or sponsored motor vehicle traffic control or movement may display lighted or electrically powered signs to assist in the efficient control of traffic movement on public roadways. The signs must be designed, worded, and located to limit misinterpretation and confusion by the motoring public.

(B) Electric signs may be unitized to identify taxicabs and the destinations of mass transportation vehicles. These signs must not contain any commercial or personal message and must be designed, worded, and located so that it is clearly differentiated from other required motor vehicle lights.

(b) If a vehicle is not in motion and parked on private property, the vehicle may use aftermarket lighting except as outlined under RCW 46.37.180.

(c) This section is not intended to prohibit a scrolling sign provided that the scrolling sign must:

(i) Be powered by an external source or in a manner which does not cause the required equipment on the vehicle to be out of compliance with 49 C.F.R. Part 571, chapter 46.37 RCW or Title 204 WAC.

(ii) Not be lit.

(iii) Not have continual motion.

(2) Pursuant to Title 49 C.F.R. Part 571.108, the addition of an aftermarket style ornament or other feature such as tinted plastic glass covers, a grille or slotted covers must not be placed in front of the headlamp lens, or in front of any other lighting devices installed on motor vehicles which impair the effectiveness of lighting equipment required under 49 C.F.R. Part 571.108 (FMVSS 108) or chapter 46.37 RCW. Except:

(a) Clear aftermarket headlamp covers.

(b) Headlamp wipers may be used in front of the lens provided that the headlamp system is designed to conform to all applicable photometric requirements in 49 C.F.R. Part 571.108 (FMVSS 108) with the wiper stopped in any position in front of the lens.

(c) A bike rack may be installed on the front of a municipal transit vehicle (as defined under RCW 46.04.355) provided that even with the bike rack installed, loaded or unloaded with bicycles, the headlight system still conforms with all applicable photometric requirements in 49 C.F.R. Part 571.108 (FMVSS 108).

(3) Red emergency lights are prohibited on any vehicle other than an authorized emergency vehicle, a law enforcement vehicle, an emergency tow truck as defined in WAC 204-21-020(8), school buses, and private carrier buses.

(4) Blue lights are prohibited on any vehicle other than a law enforcement vehicle as defined in WAC 204-21-020 (~~and~~), a fire department vehicle as authorized in RCW 46.37.184, and an emergency tow truck as authorized in RCW 46.37.196.

(5) Flashing white lights are prohibited on any vehicle other than authorized emergency vehicles, law enforcement vehicles, school buses, and emergency tow trucks as defined in WAC 204-21-020.

**WAC 204-36-050 Equipment requirements.** (1) Authorized emergency vehicles must be:

(a) Conventional passenger cars, vans, pickups, or similar vehicles;

(b) Conventionally painted; and

(c) Legally equipped in conformance with RCW 46.37.190(1) with at least one lamp capable of displaying a red light visible from at least 500 feet in normal sunlight and a siren capable of giving an audible signal. Such equipment must not be installed prior to obtaining approval of the application and issuance of a temporary certificate of approval for the vehicle(s) by the patrol. To be considered approved equipment for use under the provisions of this section, all devices must meet the criteria established in RCW 46.37.320. In descending order of preference, these are:

(i) Conformance to current standards and specifications of the Society of Automotive Engineers, or; if none

(ii) Certified for compliance by any recognized organization or agency such as, but not limited to, the American National Standards Institute, the Society of Automotive Engineers, or the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators.

(2) Authorized emergency vehicles must not:

(a) Be equipped with blue lamps except as provided in RCW 46.37.184, ~~46.37.196~~, and WAC 204-21-230(4).

(b) Display commercial signs, posters, or pictures.

(c) Carry or attach to the outside of the vehicle equipment, not related to the emergency nature of the vehicle.

(d) Display or use any name that includes the word "police" or "law enforcement" or other word which portrays the individual or business as a public law enforcement agency.

(3) Authorized emergency vehicles may, in addition to the required equipment, have:

(a) An amber or white lamp on their vehicle as outlined under WAC 204-21-130;

(b) Signal preemptive device as outlined in RCW 46.37.670;

(c) Flashing or strobing headlamps;

provided that such equipment is listed on the application and approved by each primary jurisdiction and the patrol.

**WAC 204-91A-170 Minimum tow truck equipment standards.** (1) All tow/recovery trucks used by a registered tow truck operator for public or private impounds or in response to patrol requests must meet the minimum standards listed in this section. Classes "A," "B," "B-2," "C," "D" only if factory equipped with a boom or retractable boom, "E" only if factory equipped with a side recovery system, and "S-1" are considered recovery trucks for patrol requests and must be used by the registered tow truck operator in response to these requests unless the operator requests and patrol accepts nonrecovery trucks or other equipment. The patrol will provide information concerning the general description of the type and condition of the vehicle and its type of load if applicable at the time of request for an initial tow if reasonably available.

(2) **Minimum standards:**

(a) All equipment used in conjunction with the tow truck winching system must be used in such a way as not to exceed the equipment working load limit. All equipment must comply with the Washington safety and health administration (WSHA) regulation if applicable.

Industry standards set the working load limit of wire rope or equivalent material at one-fifth of the manufacturer's rated nominal or breaking strength.

(b) Each wire rope or equivalent material must be capable of being fully extended from and fully wound onto its drum. Each wire rope or equivalent material must meet the industry standards for specified type of use with equipment.

OSHA (1410.179 (h)(2iiia)) requires **no less** than two wraps of rope remain on drum when rope is "fully extended." This is to ensure the full load **never** bears on the rope to drum connection.

(c) The wire rope on each recovery class truck must be equivalent to a 6 x 19 or 6 x 37 "extra improved plowed steel" (XIP) independent wire rope center (IWRC), and must meet all industry standards for working load limit.

(i) The operator must retain a receipt of purchase from the manufacturer indicating the type and WLL of wire rope, and document the type and date the wire rope was installed on each vehicle.

(ii) Class "A," "D," and "E" trucks may utilize either IWRC or fiber core wire rope.

(d) All wire rope must be in good working order. The following industry standards for **out-of-service** criteria will apply:

(i) No more than six randomly distributed broken wires in one rope lay, or more than three broken wires in one strand in one rope lay.

(ii) Excessive abrasion causing the loss of more than one-third the original diameter of an outside individual wire.

(iii) Evidence of rope deterioration from corrosion.

(iv) Kinking, crushing, or other damage that results in detrimental distortion of the rope structure.

(v) Any evidence of heat damage.

(vi) Any marked reduction in diameter either along the entire main length or in one section.

(vii) Unlaying or opening up of a tucked splice.

(viii) Core protrusion along the entire length.



- (ix) End attachments that are cracked, deformed, worn, or loosened.
- (x) Any indication of strand or wire slippage in end attachments.
- (xi) More than one broken wire in the vicinity of fittings.
- (e) Wire rope end connections shall be swaged or, if clamped, must have a minimum of three forged clamps spaced a minimum of six rope diameters apart and attached with the base or saddle of the clamp against the longer or "live" end of the cable. The "U" bolt will be placed over the short or "dead" end of the rope and will be of the proper size for the cable being clamped.
  - (i) Recovery or tow hooks must be installed, maintained, and used in the manner in which the manufacturer prescribes.
  - (ii) Recovery or tow hooks must be replaced if the throat opening has increased beyond the manufacturer recommendations, the load bearing point has been worn by (~~ten~~) 10 percent, or the hook is twisted by more than (~~ten~~) 10 degrees.
  - (iii) Wire rope clamps must be installed and torqued per manufacturer specifications.
- (f) All wire rope related equipment, sheaves, etc., must conform to the diameter of the wire rope being used or to the original tow truck equipment manufacturer specifications.
- (g) All winching equipment, booms, snatch blocks, etc., must have permanently affixed durable factory identification, stating the working load limit. If this identification has been removed or is no longer readable, it is criteria for placing the item out-of-service. Equipment may be reinspected by a recognized recertification company. If the equipment is acceptable, it may be reidentified with a working load limit and a recertification company identifier. It will be deemed acceptable if the operator maintains a copy of the certification of winching equipment provided the serial number on the equipment corresponds with the certification provided by the manufacturer.
- (h) Snatch block hooks that were manufactured with a retractable safety retention clip must have a functional clip installed.
- (i) All block and tackle equipment used in the winching system which shows signs of permanent deformation, significant wear or damage is criteria for placing the item out-of-service.
- (j) All "J" hook chain assemblies must be grade "7" chain or better.
- (k) Safety chains must only be used for the securing of vehicles to the truck. Must be minimum grade "7" chain or meet the original manufacturer's recommendations. Safety chain hooks that were manufactured with retractable safety retention clips must have a functional clip installed.
- (l) Comply with legal lighting, equipment, and license requirements.
- (m) Portable tail, stop, and turn signal lights for vehicles being towed. When in use, the lights must be mounted on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable.
- (n) Have department of licensing registration and truck numbers painted or permanently affixed to both sides of the truck. Have firm's name, city of address, and phone number permanently affixed to both sides of the vehicle. Letters must be a minimum of three inches high with one-half inch strokes.
- (o) Have a revolving, strobe, or intermittent red light with (~~three hundred sixty~~) 360 degrees visibility. Trucks may also be equipped with flashing amber and/or white lights which may be used in conjunction with the red lamps. Additionally, trucks must also be

equipped with a warning light visible from the driver seat which is energized when the red revolving light or flashing amber lights are activated.

(p) May be equipped with rear facing blue lights, which may only be used as allowed in RCW 46.37.196.

(q) Have a broom, minimum ~~((twelve))~~ 12 inches wide, with a handle at least four feet long.

~~((q))~~ (r) Have a scoop type shovel, minimum seven inches wide, overall length minimum three feet long and a minimum of a three-gallon hard or solid sided receptacle (trash bags of any type will not meet this requirement) able to contain debris typically found at collision scenes without breaking.

~~((r))~~ (s) Be maintained in a reasonably clean condition.

~~((s))~~ (t) Have at least one steel pinch bar four feet long, tapered on one end and flattened on the other with a minimum diameter of three-quarters of an inch.

~~((t))~~ (u) Have a two-way radio or mobile telephone capable of communicating with a base station. A citizen band radio does not suffice. The communication device must:

(i) Be in proper working order and function correctly throughout the assigned tow areas for all towing operations including on call drivers.

(ii) Be used in a lawful manner.

~~((u))~~ (v) Have one 20 BC rated or two 10 BC rated fire extinguishers accessible and secured on or in the tow truck.

~~((v))~~ (w) Axle weight must comply with the requirements of RCW 46.37.351.

~~((w))~~ (x) Carry two gallons of absorbent material designed to and capable of absorbing a one-gallon liquid spill from a motor vehicle. For the purposes of this chapter, vehicular liquids consist of motor oil, antifreeze, transmission fluid, and gear oil.

(3) **Class "A" tow trucks:** Trucks that are capable of towing and recovery of passenger cars, pickup trucks, small trailers, or equivalent vehicles. Class "A" tow trucks must meet the requirements of subsection (2)(a) through ~~((w))~~ (x) of this section, and in addition must have:

(a) A ~~((fourteen thousand five hundred))~~ 14,500 pound minimum manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR).

(b) Dual tires on the rear axle.

(c) A minimum of ~~((one hundred))~~ 100 feet of three-eighths inch continuous length XIP wire rope on each drum, measured from the point of attachment at the drum to the hook.

(d) A minimum eight-ton boom rating with a single hydraulic boom. Dual winches to control a minimum of two service drums.

(e) A minimum of two snatch blocks rated at 4.0 tons each.

(f) A wheel lift, tow sling, or other comparable device made of material and used in such manner so as to protect vehicles being towed or recovered.

(g) A portable dolly or its equivalent for hauling vehicles not otherwise towable. The transported vehicle must be attached to the dolly or its equivalent with an adjustable tie down, or as otherwise required by the equipment manufacturer.

(h) If equipped with a wheel lift system, it must have a fully extended working load rating of at least ~~((three thousand))~~ 3,000 pounds and a ~~((seven thousand))~~ 7,000 pound tow rated capacity. The transported vehicle must be attached to the wheel lift with an adjustable tie down, or as otherwise required by the equipment manufacturer.

(i) A minimum of one (~~(ten)~~) 10-foot or two five-foot recovery chains used in the winching system and must be minimum grade "7" chain with matching fittings.

(j) Permanently affixed safety chains.

(4) **Class "B" tow trucks:** Trucks that are capable of towing and/or recovery of medium size trucks, trailers, motor homes, or equivalent vehicles. Class "B" tow trucks must meet the requirements of subsection (2)(a) through (~~(w)~~) (x) of this section, and in addition must have:

(a) Eighteen thousand pounds minimum manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR).

(b) A minimum of one (~~(twelve)~~) 12-ton single hydraulic boom with two independent winches and drums.

(c) A minimum of (~~(one hundred)~~) 100 feet of seven-sixteenths inch continuous length XIP IWRC wire rope on each drum, measured from points of attachment at the drum to the hook.

(d) A minimum of four standard release tools (caging stud assemblies).

(e) A minimum of two snatch blocks rated at 4.0 tons each.

(f) A wheel lift, tow sling, or other comparable device made of material and used in such manner so as to protect vehicles being towed or recovered.

(g) A portable dolly or its equivalent for hauling vehicles not otherwise towable when the class "B" tow truck is being used for class "A" tows. The transported vehicle must be attached to the dolly or its equivalent with an adjustable tie down, or as otherwise required by the equipment manufacturer.

(h) If equipped with a wheel lift system, it must have a fully extended working load limit of at least (~~(six thousand)~~) 6,000 pounds and a (~~(twenty thousand)~~) 20,000 pound tow rated capacity. The transported vehicle must be attached to the wheel lift with an adjustable tie down, or as otherwise required by the equipment manufacturer.

(i) A minimum of one (~~(ten)~~) 10-foot or two five-foot one-half inch diameter recovery chains used in the winching system and must be grade "8" chain with matching fittings.

(j) Permanently affixed safety chains.

(5) **Class "B-2" tow trucks:** Trucks that are capable of towing or recovery of medium size trucks, trailers, motor homes, or equivalent vehicles and are rated at over 30,000 GVWR with air brakes. Class "B-2" tow trucks must meet the requirements of subsection (2)(a) through (~~(w)~~) (x) of this section, and in addition must have:

(a) A minimum of (~~(one hundred fifty)~~) 150 feet of seven-sixteenths inch continuous length XIP IWRC wire rope on each drum, measured from points of attachment at the drum to the hook.

(b) A minimum of one (~~(fourteen)~~) 14-ton single hydraulic boom with two independent winches and drums.

(c) A minimum of two snatch blocks rated at 6.0 tons each.

(d) Air brakes and a system capable of supplying air to towed vehicles.

(e) Permanently affixed safety chains.

(f) Class "B-2" tow trucks must also meet the requirements of subsection (4)(d), (f), (g), (h), and (i) of this section.

(6) **Class "C" tow trucks and class "C" rotator trucks:** Trucks that are capable of towing and/or recovery of large trucks, trailers, buses, motor homes, or similar vehicles. Class "C" trucks must meet the requirements of subsection (2)(a) through (~~(w)~~) (x) of this section, and in addition must have:

(a) A (~~forty-six thousand~~) 46,000 pound manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR).

(b) Tandem rear axle truck chassis (both drive axles).

(c) A minimum of (~~thirty~~) 30-ton boom rating with a hydraulic boom. Dual winches to control a minimum of two service drums.

(d) A minimum of (~~two hundred~~) 200 feet of five-eighths inch continuous length XIP IWRC wire rope on each drum measured from the point of attachment at the drum to the hook.

(e) Air brakes and a system capable of supplying air to towed vehicles.

(f) A minimum of four standard release tools (caging stud assemblies).

(g) A wheel lift or under lift system, it must have a fully extended working load limit of at least (~~twelve thousand~~) 12,000 pounds. The transported vehicle must be attached to the wheel lift or under lift with an adjustable tie down, or as otherwise required by the equipment manufacturer.

(h) A minimum of one (~~ten~~) 10-foot or two five-foot five-eighths inch recovery chains used in the winching system and must be a minimum grade "8" chain with matching fittings.

(i) Permanently affixed safety chains.

(j) All chains must be a minimum of grade "7," except as otherwise specified in this section.

(k) A wheel lift, tow sling, or other comparable device used in such a manner as to protect the vehicle being towed or recovered.

(l) A minimum of two snatch blocks rated at 8.0 tons each.

(7) **Class "D" tow trucks:** Trucks that are equipped for and primarily used as "wheel lift" or nonrecovery trucks. Class "D" tow trucks, unless specifically factory equipped with a boom or a retractable boom, are not designed for vehicle recovery and therefore must not be used as a replacement for a class "A" truck unless specifically authorized by the patrol. Class "D" tow trucks must meet the requirements of subsection (2)(a) through (~~(w)~~) (x) of this section, and in addition must have:

(a) A 10,000 (~~thousand~~) pound manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR).

(b) A portable dolly or its equivalent for hauling vehicles not otherwise towable. The transported vehicle must be attached to the dolly or its equivalent with an adjustable tie down, or as otherwise required by the equipment manufacturer.

(c) A wheel lift assembly with a fully extended manufacturer's working load limit of (~~three thousand~~) 3,000 pounds and a (~~seven thousand~~) 7,000 pound tow rated capacity. The transported vehicle must be attached to the wheel lift with an adjustable tie down, or as otherwise required by the equipment manufacturer.

(d) One winch and drum with (~~one hundred~~) 100 feet of three-eighths inch XIP wire rope meeting class "A" requirements.

(e) One snatch block rated at 3.5 tons.

(f) A minimum of one five-foot recovery chain for use in the winching system and must be a minimum of grade "7" chain with matching fittings.

(g) Permanently affixed safety chains.

(8) **Class "E" tow trucks:** Trucks that are primarily designed and intended to transport other vehicles by loading and carrying the transported vehicle entirely on the truck. These vehicles may be a flatbed, slide back, tilt bed, or rail design truck. Class "E" trucks, unless specifically factory equipped with a side recovery system, are

not designed for vehicle recovery and therefore must not be used as a replacement for a class "A" truck unless specifically authorized by the patrol.

(a) Class "E" trucks must meet the requirements of subsection (2) (a) through ~~((w))~~ (x) of this section, and in addition must have:

(i) Four tie downs with a minimum working load limit of ~~((three thousand three hundred))~~ 3,300 pounds. The tie downs must be grade "7" or stronger chain, wire rope, nylon strap, or steel strap.

All four tie downs must be used when securing a vehicle. The tie downs must be affixed to the axle, tires, or frame of the transported vehicle both front and rear. All tie down ends must be affixed to the truck bed or rail in a manner that will prevent movement of the transported vehicle. Factory style "T" hook tie downs may be used for front and rear securement.

(ii) One snatch block rated at 4.0 tons.

(iii) Dual tires on the rear axle.

(iv) Fourteen thousand five hundred pound gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR).

(v) Current licensing and tonnage equal to the maximum combination GVWR.

(vi) Four-ton winch rating.

(vii) Fifty feet three-eighths inch XIP fiber core or IWRC wire rope.

(viii) One five-foot grade "7" chain with matching fittings for use in winching.

(ix) Nineteen feet of usable bed capable of carrying vehicles.

(x) Portable lights when the truck is used in towing mode. When in use, the lights must be mounted on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable.

(b) Class "E" tow trucks may be equipped with a sling, tow bar, and/or a wheel lift system.

(i) If equipped with a towing system:

(A) The system must have a manufacturer's rating appropriate to the vehicle being towed. If used in a towing mode (as opposed to carrying), a sling, tow bar, and/or wheel lift assembly can be used and must have a manufacturer's rating appropriate to the vehicle being towed.

(B) The tow truck must have permanently affixed safety chains.

(ii) If using a wheel lift system, the transported vehicle must be attached to the wheel lift with an adjustable tie down, or as otherwise required by the equipment manufacturer.

(c) If factory equipped with a side vehicle recovery system, such system must meet all the winch and wire rope minimum requirements listed for a class "A" truck.

(9) **Class "S" tow/recovery trucks:** Tow/recovery trucks that cannot meet the requirements of class "A," "B," "C," "D," or "E" and are not eligible for appropriate waiver as outlined in WAC 204-91A-070(4), may be approved as class "S" (special).

(a) To be designated as a class "S" truck, the operator must submit a request for approval through the district commander to the section that must include:

(i) Why the truck is needed;

(ii) What the truck will be used for;

(iii) The vehicle size;

(iv) Purchased tonnage if required;

(v) Capability; and

(vi) The equipment carried or used with the truck.

(b) The gross vehicle weight rating of the class "S" truck will determine the appropriate equipment required.

(c) If the district commander approves the request, the request will be forwarded with recommendations for equipment and/or operation instructions or limitations to the section for review and final approval. If approval is granted, the equipment must be inspected as outlined in WAC 204-91A-040 with reports forwarded in the normal manner.

(10) **Class "S-1 rotator" trucks:** Trucks that are capable of recovery, towing, or both of large trucks, trailers, buses, motor homes, or similar vehicles. Class "S-1 rotator" trucks must meet the requirements of subsection (2)(a) through ~~((w))~~ (x) of this section, and in addition must have:

(a) A ~~((fifty-two thousand))~~ 52,000 pound manufacturer's GVWR.

(b) Tandem or triple rear axle truck chassis with at least two drive axles.

(c) A minimum of ~~((forty))~~ 40 ton rotating boom rating with a single boom.

(d) A minimum of ~~((two hundred))~~ 200 feet of five-eighths inch continuous length XIP IWRC wire rope on two drums measured from the point of attachment at the drum to the hook.

(e) Air brakes and a system capable of supplying air to towed vehicles.

(f) A minimum of four standard release tools (caging stud assemblies).

(g) A wheel lift system that has a fully extended working load limit of at least ~~((twelve thousand))~~ 12,000 pounds. The transported vehicle must be attached to the wheel lift or under lift with an adjustable tie down, or as otherwise required by the equipment manufacturer.

(h) A minimum of one ~~((ten))~~ 10-foot or two five-foot five-eighths inch recovery chains used in the winching system and must be a minimum grade "8" chain with matching fittings.

(i) All chains must be a minimum of grade "7," except as otherwise specified in this section.

(j) A tow sling or other comparable device used in such a manner as to protect the vehicle being towed or recovered.

(k) A minimum of two snatch blocks rated at eight tons each.

(l) Permanently affixed safety chains.

(11) Tow trucks rated as class "A," "B," "B-2," "C," or "E" that are currently in-service with operators holding a current letter of appointment issued by the patrol, not meeting the criteria for classification listed in this section will be allowed to remain on the rotation with those companies.

(12) This section shall be effective on March 1, 2011.