



NATIONAL SAFETY CODE

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The National Safety Code (NSC) in Canada is a set of 16 standards developed by the member jurisdictions of CCMTA in consultation with the motor carrier industry to ensure road safety and facilitate the safe and efficient movement of people and goods across Canada.

With the deregulation of transportation in the late 1980's there was a need for cross Canada harmonization and reciprocity in the management of commercial vehicles. In 1987, the federal, provincial and territorial Ministers responsible for Transportation and Highway Safety signed a memorandum of understanding to develop and implement a National Safety Code to encourage road safety, promote efficiency in the motor carrier industry, and achieve consistent safety standards across Canada.

The NSC is designed to create a comprehensive code of minimum performance standards for the safe operation of passenger and commercial vehicles. It has a specific focus on those responsible for the operation of commercial vehicles on the road, including trucks, buses, tractors and trailers.

Since their introduction, the standards have evolved and been amended to improve their response to new road safety issues, specifically regulations in the truck and bus industry.

All provinces and territories use the NSC as the cornerstone of their commercial vehicle regulatory framework, with standards either adopted by reference into jurisdictional regulation or mirrored in provincial and territorial laws.

The **National Safety Code** is the cornerstone of Canada's Commercial Carrier Safety framework.

The NSC is a series of 16 standards that provide guidance for legislative, regulatory and administrative action by each jurisdiction and focuses on three components:

- The driver
- The vehicle
- The carrier



NSC STANDARDS

- Standard 1:** Single Driver Licence Concept
- Standard 2:** Knowledge and Performance Tests (Drivers)
- Standard 3:** Driver Examiner Training Program
- Standard 4:** Classified Driver Licencing System
- Standard 5:** Self-Certification Standards Procedures
- Standard 6:** Medical Standards for Drivers
- Standard 7:** Carrier and Driver Profiles
- Standard 8:** Short-Term Suspension
- Standard 9:** Hours of Service
- Standard 10:** Cargo Securement
- Standard 11:** Periodic Motor Vehicle Inspection
- Standard 12:** CVSA On-Road Inspections
- Standard 13:** Trip Inspection
- Standard 14:** Safety Rating
- Standard 15:** Facility Audits
- Standard 16:** Entry Level Training: Class 1 Commercial Truck Drivers



Commercial Vehicle Safety

NSC's Safety Fitness rests on three building blocks:

- NSC 7: Carrier and Driver Profiles
- NSC 14: Safety Rating
- NSC 15: Facility Audit

Together, these standards provide the safety rating and management framework by which each jurisdiction assesses the safety performance of their respective motor carriers.

CCMTA ROLE

CCMTA is responsible to support members in the upkeep of the National Safety Code based on a memorandum of understanding with the Council of Ministers responsible for Transportation and Highway Safety.

Standards undergo a review process to ensure they support road safety in Canada and the safe and efficient movement people and goods. CCMTA and its jurisdictional members achieve this by working collaboratively through CCMTA Program Committees and in consultation with industry.

KEY MESSAGES

- In Canada, regulations governing commercial vehicles, drivers and motor carriers are based on the Canadian National Safety Code (NSC) standards.
- The National Safety Code standards remain important instruments of public policy in promoting public safety and the safe and efficient movement of people and goods on Canadian roads.
- Representatives from the provincial, territorial and federal governments, through CCMTA monitor and review the NSC standards and consult with industry. This is to ensure they retain their effectiveness and are responsive to new regulatory issues and to keep the Canadian regulatory regime focused on road safety.

