

Yard Truck FAQs

Q - I have some yard trucks in my fleet. Are they subject to the in-use off-road diesel vehicle regulation?

A - Yard trucks, which can also be called yard goats, yard jockeys, stevedoring tractors, or port tractors, are trucks used in moving trailers and containers short distances around freight terminals, port facilities, warehouses, and other facilities. Yard trucks are regulated by one of the three following regulations:

- (1) The in-use off-road diesel vehicle regulation (off-road regulation),
- (2) The regulation for mobile cargo handling equipment at ports and intermodal rail yards (cargo handling regulation), or
- (3) The proposed statewide truck and bus regulation.

The regulation governing each yard truck is determined by the engine installed in the yard truck (on- or off-road engine), as well as where and how the yard truck is used.

If a yard truck is used at a port or intermodal rail yard, it is regulated under the cargo handling regulation. More information about this regulation can be found at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ports/cargo/cargo.htm>.

All yard trucks not subject to the cargo handling regulation are either regulated by the in-use off-road diesel vehicle regulation, or will be regulated under the upcoming proposed statewide truck and bus regulation.

If a yard truck contains an on-road engine, it will be subject to the proposed statewide truck and bus regulation. Similarly, if a yard truck contains an off-road engine, it is subject to the off-road regulation unless it is used for agricultural operations as discussed below.

If a yard truck is used solely for agricultural operations or the first processing of agricultural products, then that vehicle is subject to the proposed statewide truck and bus regulation, even if the yard truck contains an off-road engine. In the proposed statewide truck and bus regulation, there is a special provision pulling in all yard trucks (on-road or off-road) that are not regulated by the cargo handling and off-road regulations. For more information about this regulation, you can visit the website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/onrdiesel.htm>.

Q - What if I currently have off-road engines in my yard trucks and I want to replace the engines with on-road engines?

- A - Yard trucks that contain off-road engines, and are subject to the off-road regulation, can be repowered with on-road engines. If an off-road yard truck is currently subject to the off-road regulation, and the off-road engine is replaced with on-road engine, a fleet owner could either:
- (1) Count the cleaner emissions from the on-road engine towards compliance with the off-road regulation, or
 - (2) Remove the repowered vehicle from the off-road regulation completely.

However, if the yard truck is removed from the off-road regulation, it will then be subject to the proposed statewide truck and bus regulation. For more information about this regulation, you can visit the website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/onrdiesel.htm>.