



SURFACE VEHICLE INFORMATION REPORT

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Truck Tractor Semitrailer Interchange Coupling Dimensions

RATIONALE

The Truck and Bus Coupling & Interchangeability Committee which owned this report was inactivated and the technical expertise for the subject report within the Truck and Bus Council is not available at this time. This standard was transferred to the Total Vehicle Steering Committee to stabilize the standard following the editorial corrections in the recently approved version.

In addition, this technical report covers technology, products, or processes which are mature and not likely to change in the foreseeable future.

STABILIZED NOTICE

This document has been declared "Stabilized" by the SAE Truck and Bus Total Vehicle Steering Committee and will no longer be subjected to periodic reviews for currency. Users are responsible for verifying references and continued suitability of technical requirements. Newer technology may exist.

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1. SCOPE

The information in this SAE Information Report is the result of studies by the Automobile Manufacturers Association, American Trucking Association, and Truck Trailer Manufacturers Association, to achieve interchangeability of equipment which will comply with the legal dimensional limitations for the majority of states and yet permit increased loading space within these dimensions. This in no way supersedes other information in the SAE Handbook on this subject.

Some cases will require more care in application allowing splash shield clearance at trailer support interference points and positioning fifth wheel to allow trailer swing clearance on an 11% grade. All dimensions are given in inches.

Table 1 and Figures 1 and 2 show basic requirements for interchangeability of truck tractor and semitrailer equipment. Figure 3 shows the interchangeability of the doubles converter dolly.

TABLE 1 - HEIGHT¹ FROM TOP FACE OF TRACTOR FIFTH WHEEL TO GROUND UNCOUPLED

Representative Tire Size	Height	Representative Tire Size	Height
7.50/20	43	11.00/20	49
8.25/20	44	11.00/22	51
9.00/20	46	11.00/24	53
10.00/20	48	12.00/20	51
10.00/22	49	12.00/24	55
10.00/24	50		

1 Height can vary by ± 1 in.

- a. Trailer support height retracted, 14 in.
- b. Semitrailer brake connection locations, see SAE J702.
- c. Air hose length, 118 in recommended.

NOTE: Fifth wheel height = 48 (10.00 x 20 tires) standard unless otherwise specified. For tubeless and low-profile tire equivalents; see the Tire and Rim Association Standards.