



# TRANSPORTATION

## CLEANING AND SANITIZING CDL TRUCK CABS DURING COVID-19

The transportation industry plays a vital role in keeping stores stocked, hospitals supplied and first responders equipped during this crisis and, in many cases is deemed an essential business. There are many risks for those continuing to work in the transportation industry, and it's critical for workers and employers to protect their health. Below is CDC guidance on precautions your workers can take to help keep them safe.

### Recommended cleaning products

The Centers for Disease Control CDC has a list of approved cleaners and disinfectants. Please check out this [link](#) for a full list.

Cleaners are used to remove germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces. Cleaning does not kill germs, but by removing them, it lowers the risk of infection. Disinfectants are used to kill bacteria on surfaces. It does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces, but if used after cleaning, it further lowers the risk of infection.

- Use clean rags or wipes.
- Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol.
- 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water OR 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water.

### Personal Hygiene

- Use respiratory precautions by covering a cough or sneeze with a tissue or sleeve to avoid expelling viral secretions on vehicle surfaces.
- Wash your hands frequently with warm, soapy water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your face.

### Cleaning the cab

Before starting a driving shift, spend 10 minutes wiping down all high-touch surfaces.

- Wash hands after pre-trip inspection, handling fuel pumps nozzles and gladhands tools.
- Dispose of the glove before entering the cab.
- Wipe down the interior with a sanitizer and/or disinfectant frequently touched vehicle surfaces – seatbelt, steering wheel, gear shifter, radio, armrest, power window buttons, and door handles, as well as dashboard switches and controls.

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### Electronics

- Wipe electronic devices, tablets, touch screens, keyboards. Consider putting a wipeable cover on electronics. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for cleaning and disinfecting.
- If no guidance, use alcohol-based wipes or sprays containing at least 70% alcohol. Dry surface thoroughly.
- Dispose of any garbage bags used to store dirty laundry.

### Sleeper Berth

Wipe down surfaces in the sleeper daily. If you're on a steady truck or your own truck, take the same precautions.

- Bedding and linens should be laundered regularly. CDC recommends using hot water and advises against shaking dirty laundry to avoid dispersing the virus through the air. Launder the laundry bag as well or dispose of any garbage bags used to store dirty laundry.

### Decontamination

Should a driver become ill, consider quarantining the vehicles, not just drivers. If a vehicle can't be quarantined, procedures need to be in place to make sure it is completely disinfected and held for up to 24 hours before reuse, if possible.

For critical situations where the driver is seriously ill, or there may be biohazards in the vehicle, a professional disinfectant company should be contacted to do the cleaning.

Contact a member of the BKS-Partners team with any questions you have regarding employee safety, risk mitigation, and insurance coverage. We know that this is an extraordinary time and that it might be difficult to implement the aforementioned recommendations. If you need guidance or support, do not hesitate to reach out. We are here to help you through these trying times!

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