

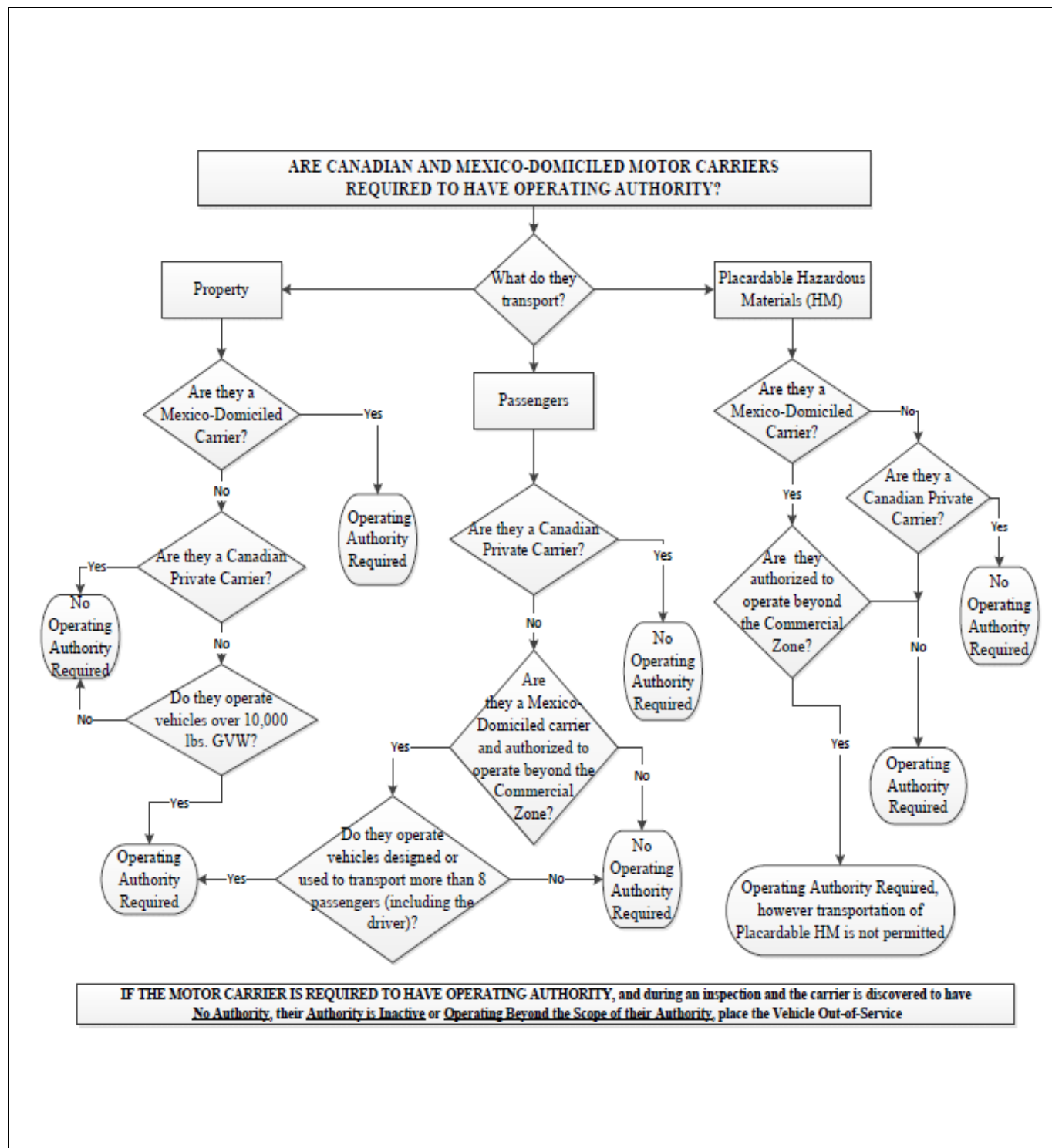
WHAT IS OPERATING AUTHORITY AND WHO IS REQUIRED TO HAVE IT?

Operating Authority is a motor carrier's right to operate a commercial motor vehicle to transport goods or passengers for-hire.

All U.S. and Canadian-domiciled "For-Hire" motor carriers transporting regulated commodities (property, household goods or passengers) are required to obtain operating authority and maintain proof of insurance with the FMCSA, Office of Registration and Safety Information.

All Mexico-domiciled "For-Hire and Private" motor carriers transporting commodities (property, household goods or passengers) in foreign commerce are required to obtain operating authority. Mexico-domiciled motor carriers authorized to operate beyond the commercial zones are required to maintain proof of their operating authority and insurance with FMCSA in their vehicles when operating in the United States.*

*There are exceptions for private motor carriers of passengers and for-hire motor carriers of passengers within the commercial zone.



OPERATING AUTHORITY VERIFICATION

- o Access **FMCSA Licensing and Insurance (L&I) public Web site at:**
<http://li-public.fmcsa.dot.gov>
 - o No ID or password required
- o Access **Query Central Web site at:** <http://qc.fmcsa.dot.gov>
 - o ID or password required
- o Dial the **FMCSA Licensing and Insurance (L&I) Status Line** at: (202) 366-9805
This line is staffed 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday - Friday (EST).

- o Dial the **FMCSA Toll-Free Line** at: 1-800-832-5660
This line is staffed 7:15 A.M. to 4:15 P.M., Monday - Friday (EST).

- o Dial the **L&I Automated Response** Phone System at: 1-866-637-0635
An MC/MX number is required to use this system.

- o Dial **FMCSA Authority & Insurance Verification** at: (202) 385-2423 or (703) 280-4001
These numbers are staffed 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., Monday - Friday (EST).

OPERATING AUTHORITY DOCKET NUMBERS

U.S. and Canadian-domiciled motor carrier are issued an “MC number”

Mexico-domiciled motor carriers are issued an “MX number”

U.S. DOT NUMBER MARKINGS

The power unit of a Mexico-domiciled motor carrier with authority to operate long-haul in the United States must be marked with an “X” suffix after their assigned U.S. DOT MX number

CVSA SAFETY INSPECTION DECALS

The power unit of a Mexico-domiciled motor carrier with authority to operate long-haul in the United States must display a currently valid CVSA decal for 3 years after receiving permanent operating authority

www.fmcsa.dot.gov
October 2014

VERIFYING A CARRIER'S OPERATING AUTHORITY

WORKING TOGETHER TO KEEP OUR HIGHWAYS SAFE

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration