Tire Chain Requirements

Under the Colorado Chain Law, a commercial vehicle is defined as being used in commerce to transport passengers or property and fitting into one of the following categories:

- Has a gross combination weight rating of 26,001 or more lbs. inclusive of a towed unit which has a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 10,000lbs.
- Has a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 or more lbs.
- Is designed to transport 16 or more passengers, including the driver.

Colorado’s CHAIN LAW REQUIRES Commercial Vehicles to have Tire Chains or an approved traction device in the vehicle from Sept. 1 to May 31 while on the I70 Corridor, from Dotsero (MM 133) to Golden (MM 259).

Colorado’s CHAIN LAW REQUIRES Commercial Vehicles to have 4 or more drive wheels covered with an appropriate traction device. (Except Busses)

Straight Trucks

Are allowed to use 4 tire cables as long as they are 0.415” in diameter or greater; 4 tire chains; 4 autosocks; auto chains or sanders, covering 4 drive tires.

Single Drive Axle Combinations

Are allowed to use 4 tire chains; 4 autosocks; auto chains or sanders covering 4 drive tires.

NO CABLES ALLOWED

Tandem Drive Axle Combinations

Are allowed to use 4 tire chains; 4 autosocks; 4 tire cables 0.415 or greater; auto chains or sanders covering 4 drive tires.

*IF there are chains on the 2 outside tires of one of the drive axles, any type of tire cable may be used to cover the other 2 tires. Autosocks may also be used to cover the other 2 tires. Autosocks and tire cables CAN’T be used together.

Trucks with an APPROVED alternate traction device (auto chains, sanders and autosocks) are NOT required to carry chains from September 1st through May 31st.

Single Drive Axle Busses

Are Only Required to Cover 2 Tires

Are allowed to use 2 tire cables as long as they are 0.415” diameter or greater; 2 tire chains; 2 autosocks; auto chain or sanders

Tandem Drive Axle Busses

Are Only Required to Cover 2 Tires

Are required to use 2 tire chains. Autosocks or Tire cables may be used as additional traction.