



Bill of Lading (BOL) Policy

Hunter Express US Inc.

FMCSA-DOT & OSHA Compliant – United States

1. Purpose

- To establish uniform procedures for the proper use, completion, and handling of Bills of Lading (BOL).
- To ensure compliance with FMCSA regulations and applicable U.S. transportation and commercial laws.

2. Scope & Applicability

- Applies to all company drivers, owner-operators, and contractors operating under Hunter Express US Inc. authority.
- Applies to all freight transported in interstate or intrastate commerce within the United States.

3. Regulatory Authority

- 49 CFR Part 373 – Bills of Lading.
- 49 CFR Part 390 – General Applicability.
- 49 CFR Part 392 – Driving of Commercial Motor Vehicles.
- OSHA General Duty Clause (29 USC §654).

4. Legal Status of the Bill of Lading

- The Bill of Lading is a legally binding transportation contract between the shipper and carrier.
- The BOL becomes effective once signed by the shipper and the carrier/driver.
- Drivers must ensure all information is accurate before signing any BOL.

5. Required Bill of Lading Information

- Shipper name and address.
- Consignee name and address.
- Origin and destination points.
- Description of goods and quantity or piece count.
- Gross shipment weight.
- Seal numbers and special handling instructions.
- Payment terms (prepaid, collect, COD).

- Date of pickup and delivery appointment details.
- Hazardous Materials information, if applicable.

6. Shipper's Load and Count (SL&C)

- Drivers must sign "Shipper's Load and Count" whenever loading is performed by the shipper.
- SL&C limits carrier liability for load count discrepancies when loading is not observed.

7. Alterations & Exceptions

- Any alteration, correction, or notation must be clearly written and signed or initialed by all parties.
- Exceptions for damage, shortage, or visible defects must be noted on the BOL before departure.
- Unsigned or undocumented changes are not permitted.

8. Declared & Extraordinary Value Shipments

- Declared value shipments must be clearly indicated on the BOL.
- Drivers must notify Dispatch immediately when a declared value is listed.
- Extraordinary value shipments (e.g., electronics, alcohol, tobacco) require special instructions and confidentiality.

9. Cash Collect (COD) Shipments

- COD shipments must be clearly marked on the BOL.
- Payment must be received in approved form (cash or certified funds) before unloading.
- Drivers must follow Dispatch instructions if payment is refused.

10. Refused Freight

- If a consignee refuses freight, drivers must contact Dispatch immediately.
- Freight may not be abandoned, re-consigned, or returned without authorization.

11. Driver Responsibilities

- Verify completeness and accuracy of the BOL.
- Maintain possession of BOL documents during transit.
- Submit BOLs with trip documentation as required.

12. Compliance & Enforcement

- Failure to comply with this policy may result in disciplinary action.
- Improper BOL handling may result in liability exposure, delayed payments, or regulatory violations.

Policy Administration

The Safety Manager and Director of Safety & Compliance are responsible for implementing, enforcing, and maintaining this policy.