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Hauling company fined \$54,000 for air quality violations

SACRAMENTO: The Air Resources Board announced today that it has fined Command Delivery Systems \$54,000 for air quality violations at the company's Walnut, Calif., terminal.

"The evidence of health damage from diesel exhaust is overwhelming," said ARB Chairman Mary Nichols. "For the health of all Californians, truck owners must assure that their engines are running optimally."

An ARB investigation showed that Command Delivery Systems personnel failed to maintain proper records of their fleet's diesel-engine inspections, as required by California law. The law requires annual smoke tests for diesel truck fleets and, in conjunction with ARB's roadside smoke inspection program, ensures that all vehicles are properly maintained, tamper-free and free from excessive smoke.

As part of the settlement, Command Delivery Systems is required to:

- Guarantee employees responsible for conducting the inspections attend a mandatory California community college class on diesel emissions and provide certificates of completion within one year;
- Provide documentation to ARB that the inspections are being carried out for the next four years;
- Instruct vehicle operators to comply with the state's idling regulations;
- Revise all heavy-duty truck engine software with the latest Low-NOx (oxides of nitrogen emissions) programming; and,
- Ensure that all diesel trucks are up to federal emissions standards for the vehicle model year and are properly labeled with an emission control label.

✓ Command Delivery Systems will pay \$40,500 to the California Air Pollution Control Fund, which uses the money to reduce air pollution through a variety of programs. The Peralta Community College District will receive the remaining \$6,750 to fund emissions education classes conducted by participating California community colleges, and \$6,750 will go to the California Pollution Control Financing Authority.

A decade ago, the ARB listed diesel particulate matter as a toxic air contaminant in order to protect public health. Exposure to unsafe levels of diesel emissions can increase the risk of asthma, bronchitis and other respiratory diseases. California has aggressively worked to cut diesel emissions by cleaning up diesel fuel, requiring cleaner engines for trucks, buses and off-road equipment, and limiting unnecessary idling.

The Air Resources Board is a department of the California Environmental Protection Agency. ARB's mission is to promote and protect public health, welfare, and ecological resources through effective reduction of air pollutants while recognizing and considering effects on the economy. The ARB oversees all air pollution control efforts in California to attain and maintain health based air quality standards.

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