

**§ 399.201**

399.211 Maintenance.

AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 31502; and 49 CFR 1.73.

SOURCE: 44 FR 43732, July 26, 1979, unless otherwise noted.

EDITORIAL NOTE: Nomenclature changes to part 399 appear at 66 FR 49874, Oct. 1, 2001.

**Subparts A-K [Reserved]**

**Subpart L—Step, Handhold, and Deck Requirements for Commercial Motor Vehicles**

**§ 399.201 Purpose and scope.**

This subpart prescribes step, handhold, and deck requirements on commercial motor vehicles. These requirements are intended to enhance the safety of motor carrier employees.

**§ 399.203 Applicability.**

This subpart applies to all trucks and truck-tractors, having a high profile cab-over-engine (COE) configuration, for entrance, egress and back of cab access, manufactured on and after September 1, 1982.

[44 FR 43732, July 26, 1979, as amended at 46 FR 56799, Nov. 19, 1981]

**§ 399.205 Definitions.**

*Cab-over-engine (COE)* A truck or truck-tractor having all, or the front portion, of the engine under the cab.

*COE—High profile* A COE having the door sill step above the height of the front tires.

*Deck plate* A horizontal surface designed to provide a person with stable footing for the performance of work such as the connection and disconnection of air and electrical lines, gaining access to permanently-mounted equipment or machinery or for similar needs.

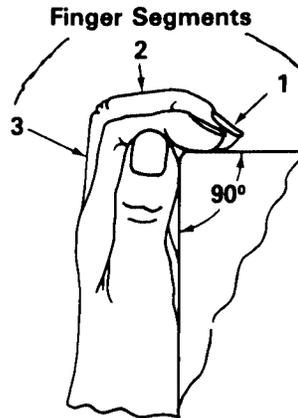
*Door sill step* Any step normally protected from the elements by the cab door when closed.

*Effective peripheral grip* Any shaped surface, free of sharp edges, in which a full grasp can be made to secure a handhold by a person.

*Fingertip grasp* A handhold surface which provides a person contact restricted to finger segments 1 and/or 2 only; or which limits wrap-around closure of finger segment 1 with the palm

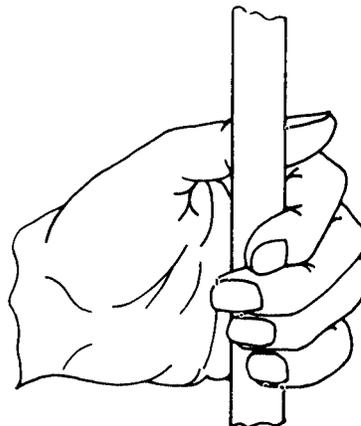
**49 CFR Ch. III (10-1-01 Edition)**

of the hand to 90 degrees as shown in Illustration I.



**Illustration I  
Fingertip Grasp**

*Full grasp* A handhold surface which provides a person contact with finger segments 2 and 3 and which provides space for finger segment 1 to wrap around toward the palm of the hand beyond the 90-degree surface restriction shown in Illustration I. The handhold need not require contact between fingers and thumb. For example, the hand position shown in Illustration II qualifies as full grasp.



**Illustration II  
Full Grasp**

*Ground* The flat horizontal surface on which the tires of a motor vehicle rest.