

Diesel

rates, surcharges & accessorials

YOU HAVE A LOT RIDING ON US

The rates that most trucking companies charge are very lean thanks to a highly competitive industry.

Rates reflect base costs, surcharges and, if necessary, accessorial charges. Whether customers are charged more than the base rate depends on a variety of factors. Here's what you should know about your trucking costs.



What does the base rate usually cover?

The base rate covers costs that are common for all trucking companies — such as fuel, labour, equipment and maintenance — as well as profit. Companies that transport into the US may also incorporate a charge to cover border-related costs like mandatory security programs. More and more trucking companies are also investing in new technologies, products and devices that are environmentally friendly. They may incorporate these costs in their rate, so that they can offer their customers service that is not only timely, but “clean and green”.

What are surcharges for?

Surcharges cover costs that companies can't control and that may fluctuate significantly. A fuel surcharge, for example, covers major changes in the price of diesel fuel since the base rate was last adjusted. On international shipments, companies may charge for unexpected inspections at the border, particularly if freight needs to be unloaded or the load is held up.

What are accessorials and why are they included?

Accessorials, or “value-added” charges, are additional charges that are unique to your shipment and needs. For example, if you have a busy loading dock and require the driver to wait an excessive amount of time, the trucking company may ask you to pay a driver waiting charge. If you need assistance with loading or unloading, the company may charge you extra for labour.

What am I really paying for?

Trucking companies understand that transportation costs are always a concern. But the adage “you get what you pay for” could have been written for our industry. Reputable companies focus on service and reliability by employing safe drivers, renewing and maintaining equipment, and adopting safe operating practices. We can't do that without covering our costs.

The end result is the safe and timely arrival of your shipment when you need it.

