



7511. C Light Duty Tow Truck Operator

A Light Duty Tow Truck Operator operates a light duty tow truck with the principle task of moving disabled passenger vehicles. They are required to move disabled vehicles as a result of a variety of situations and during different roadway traffic circumstances. They are generally employed by a towing company or they may be self-employed. They are often called to perform their duties during emergency circumstances in heavy traffic conditions with the drivers and passengers of the disabled vehicle in distress. They are often required to conduct recovery operations of vehicles that may be off the road or as a result of a collision. Often the operator will have to deal with severe **traffic and** adverse weather conditions. The working conditions and general operations of the work can be hazardous, particularly when working in live traffic. Keeping the tow truck operations safe is therefore an important aspect of the job.

Main Duties

The following is a summary of the main duties of this occupation:

- Operate and drive a light duty tow truck for towing and recovering passenger vehicles.
- Operate the vehicles equipment that may include a sling (less current), under reach boom, a recovery boom or a tilt-n-load flat bed.
- The vehicles being recovered will generally include passenger cars, SUV's and light duty pick-up trucks.
- Vehicles being towed or recovered does not include vehicles weighing over 4500 kg.
- Manage a work zone that may be in live traffic and during adverse driving, weather and working conditions.
- Perform recovery of vehicles using cables and chains with the understanding of weight balance and simple principles of physics.
- Perform pre-trip, on route and post-trip inspection of tow vehicle systems, equipment and accessories such as tires, lights and turning signals and brakes.
- Conduct minor roadside repairs including tire/wheel changes, battery replacements and vehicle lockouts.
- Ensure ancillary equipment is secured properly in accordance with safety requirements.
- Record vehicle and client information, distance travelled, fuel consumption and administer invoices.
- Communicate with dispatchers, customers, emergency services personnel such as police officers and the employer.
- Conducting manual labour to make recovery area road ready and protect the environment by sweeping off the area and recovery of oil or silt fuel.
- Maintain professional customer relations even when a customer may be in distress or extremely irate with the situation.

Employment Requirements

- Completion of secondary school is usually required.
- A mechanical aptitude and good grasp of the mechanical workings of a vehicle
- Completion of specialized training combined with on-the-job-training is required.



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Additional information

- Progression to supervisory positions or to non-driving occupations, such as trainer, safety officer or dispatcher is possible with additional training or experience.