Adverse Conditions Inspection Checklist

In preparing for operation under adverse conditions, special care must be taken in inspecting the following critical items.

Adverse Weather

- 1. Coolant level and antifreeze concentration
- 2. Air reservoirs
- 3. Heating equipment (heater, defroster, mirror heaters)
- 4. Wipers and washers
- 5. Tires
- 6. Snow chains
- 7. Brake parts and balance
- 8. Lights
- 9. Windows, mirrors and reflectors
- 10. Hand and toe holds
- 11. Weather fronts and radiator shutters
- 12. Air and electrical lines
- 13. Exposed wiring and hoses
- 14. Fuel tank
- 15. Muffler and exhaust system
- 16. Fifth wheel
- 17. Inter-axle differential lock
- 18. Emergency equipment (scrapers, shovels, etc.)
- 19. Driver's emergency gear (extra food, water, clothing)

Hot Weather Checklist

- 1. Tires
- 2. Lubrication system and Cooling system
- 3. Belts and hoses
- 4. Extra coolant
- 5. Driver's emergency gear (extra food, water)
- 6. Compressor
- 7. Slack adjusters
- 8. Glad hands
- 9. Air lines
- 10. Drum or discs
- 11. All other brake parts
- 12. Clutch

Of course, simply checking the above items is not a substitute for a complete, daily pretrip inspection. And preparing for driving under adverse conditions is not the only time it is important to check them. This is only a list of some of the most important items to check for adverse weather, hot weather and mountain driving.

Mounting and Removing Snow Chains and Freeing Stuck Vehicles Checklist

Mounting Snow Chains

- 1. Check chain condition
- 2. Eliminate twists
- 3. Drape chains over tire
- 4. Open ends of cross-chain hooks away from tire
- 5. Fasteners can be on the trailing ends of side chains
- 6. Tuck first cross-chain under front of tire
- 7. Move vehicle until fasteners are hub-high
- 8. Avoid driving over fasteners
- 9. Straighten and center
- 10. Lift ends of side chains to determine which links will be hooked into fasteners
- 11. If installing on duals, fasten
 - a. center chain
 - b. inner chain
 - c. outer chain

If installing on singles, fasten

- a. inner chain
- b. outer chain
- 12. Be sure chains are snug but not too tight
- 13. After driving about five miles, stop and tighten chains again, loose chains wear faster

Revving Snow Chains

- 1. Unhook cross chains from side chain fasteners on the outside (whether on duals or singles)
- 2. Unhook inside cross chains duals
- 3. Spread chains on ground
- 4. Drive vehicle off chains
- 5. Do not run over fasteners
- 6. Remove chains

Using Tow Chains or Cables to Free Stuck Vehicles

Play out enough cable or chain and hook tow hooks (if available). If not, hook to frame or frame cross member.

Driving the Towing Vehicle

- 1. Place in low gear
- 2. Creep forward till chain or cable is tight
- 3. Do not spin bleeps
- 4. Gradually pull vehicle onto firm surface

Driving Towed Vehicle

- 1. Place transmission in low gear (or reverse)
- 2. Release clutch
- 3. Accelerate gradually (assisting tow vehicle)
- 4. Do not spin wheels
- 5. Straighten wheels
- 6. When on firm surface
 - (a) Honk horn signaling tow truck to stop
 - (b) Move vehicle up slightly, slacking cable or chain