

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 75480

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Western Motor Tariff)	
Bureau, Inc. under the Shortened)	
Procedure Tariff Docket to publish)	Shortened Procedure
for and on behalf of Paxton Trucking)	Tariff Docket
Company tariff provisions resulting)	Application No. 50750
in increases because of the proposed)	(Filed December 13, 1968)
publication of a special rule relating)	(Amended February 14, 1969)
to the use of special suspension)	
equipment.)	

OPINION AND ORDER

By this application, as amended, Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., on behalf of Paxton Trucking Company (Paxton), seeks authority to establish rates for the use of air-ride equipment.¹

For services performed by Paxton in air-ride equipment at the request of the shipper, applicant proposes to establish additional rates of 10 cents per mile for the use of highbed air-ride trailers or air-ride 2- or 3-axle tractors and 15 cents per mile for the use of low-boy 2-axle air-ride trailers and a minimum charge of \$50 per trailer or tractor and trailer combination furnished.

Applicant states that air-ride equipment is equipment which uses a system of air for suspension rather than the ordinary mechanical means of suspension. Applicant avers that the difference in cost between air-ride equipment and conventional spring suspension equipment amounts to \$1,500 per vehicle, that added costs are incurred in maintaining the air pods, which are an

¹ The proposed rates are to be published in Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., Agent, Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 111, Cal.P.U.C. No. 15.

integral part of such equipment, and that Paxton has acquired ten units of such equipment representing an additional investment of \$15,000.

Applicant declares that certain types of freight are of a delicate nature and derive considerable benefit from the use of air-ride equipment.² According to applicant, the shippers involved have been notified and have agreed that the proposed rates and minimum charge are reasonable when shock and vibration become an important factor in the safe delivery of freight.³ Applicant alleges that the proposed charges are at or near a break-even point for the operation of air-ride equipment.

Applicant asserts that increases resulting from the proposal herein would not increase the California intrastate gross revenue of Paxton by as much as one percent.

The application and amendment were listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of December 16, 1968, and February 17, 1969, respectively. No objection to the granting of the application, as amended, has been received.

In the circumstances, it appears, and the Commission finds, that increases resulting from publication of rates as proposed in the application are justified. A public hearing is not necessary. The Commission concludes that the application, as amended, should be granted.

² Freight which is shown as deriving benefit from air-ride equipment includes electronic equipment, consoles, control panels, space capsules, aircraft parts, instrumentations, light and delicate machinery, Class A & B explosives and corrosive liquids in plastic bags.

³ Shippers involved are North American Aviation, Rocketdyne, Jet Propulsion Lab, Webber Aircraft, Aerojet General Corporation, U.S. Government, Atomics International and R.C.A.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., Agent, is hereby authorized to publish, on behalf of Paxton Trucking Company, rates for services performed in air-ride equipment, as specifically proposed in the application, as amended.

2. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of the order herein shall be filed not earlier than the effective date of the order herein and may be made effective not earlier than thirty days after the effective date of this order on not less than thirty days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

3. The authority herein granted shall expire unless exercised within ninety days after the effective date of this order.

This order shall become effective twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 25th day of March, 1969.

William Lyons Jr.
 President

August

W. H. Brown

[Signature]
 Commissioners

Commissioner Fred P. Morrissey, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.