



MODEL 330
OPERATOR'S MANUAL

**California
Proposition 65 Warning**

Diesel engine exhaust and some of its constituents are known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm.

Other materials in this vehicle are also known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm.

Battery posts, terminals, and related accessories contain lead and lead compounds, chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and reproductive harm. Wash hands after handling.

Peterbilt Model 330

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INTRODUCTION

How to Use This Manual

This Operator's Manual contains useful information for the safe and efficient operation of your Model 330, Medium-duty vehicle. It also provides information on maintaining your vehicle in the best condition, with an outline for performing safety checks and basic preventive maintenance inspections.

We have tried to present the information you'll need to learn about your vehicle's functions, controls, and operation as clearly as possible. We hope you'll find this manual easy to use. There will be times when you need to take this manual out of your Peterbilt vehicle. When you do, please be sure to return it to the cab when you are finished using it. That way it will be there when you need it the next time or when you pass the vehicle on to the next user.

Your Model 330 may not have all the features or options mentioned in this manual. Therefore, you should pay careful attention to the instructions that pertain to just your vehicle. In

addition, if your vehicle is equipped with special equipment or options not discussed in this manual, consult your dealer or the manufacturer of the equipment.

All information contained in this manual is based on the latest production information available at the time of publication. Peterbilt Motors Company reserves the right to make changes at any time without notice.

Safety Signals

A number of alerting messages are in this manual. Please read and follow them. They are there for your protection and information. These messages can help you avoid injury to yourself and your passengers, and can help prevent costly damage to the vehicle.

Key symbols and "signal words" are used to indicate what kind of message is going to follow. Pay special attention to instructions prefaced by symbols and the signal words "WARNING", "CAUTION", and "NOTE". Please do not ignore any of these alerts.

WARNING

When you see this word, the message that follows is especially vital. It signals a **potentially hazardous situation** which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury. This message will tell you what the hazard is, what can happen if you don't heed the warning, and how to avoid it.

Example:



WARNING! Never carry additional fuel containers in the vehicle. Such containers, full or empty, may leak, explode or cause a fire in the event of a collision.

CAUTION

Signals a **potentially hazardous situation** which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury or damage to the vehicle.

Example:



CAUTION: Continuing to operate your vehicle with insufficient oil pressure will cause serious engine damage.

NOTE

Provides general information: for example, the note could warn you on how to avoid damaging your vehicle or how to drive the vehicle more efficiently.

Example:



NOTE: Pumping the accelerator will not assist in starting the engine.

Please take the time to read these messages when you see them, and remember:

WARNING!

Something that could injure you seriously.

CAUTION:

Something that could cause injury to you or your vehicle.

NOTE:

Useful information.

Vehicle Safety

Make sure your Model 330 is in top working condition before heading out on the road—it is the *responsible* driver's duty to do so. Inspect the vehicle according to the [“Driver's Check List”, page 12](#).



WARNING! Do not drink and drive. Your reflexes, perceptions, and judgment can be affected by even a small amount of alcohol. You could have a serious—or even fatal accident—if you drive after drinking. Please do not drink and drive or ride with a driver who has been drinking.

Please remember, this manual is not a training manual. It cannot tell you everything you need to know about driving your Peterbilt vehicle. For that you need a good training program or truck driving school. If you have not been trained, get the proper training before you drive. Only qualified drivers should drive this vehicle.

Every new Peterbilt vehicle is designed to conform to all Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards applicable at the time of manufacture. However, even with these safety features, continued safe and reliable operation depends greatly upon regular vehicle maintenance. The vehicle must be operated within the range of its mechanical capabilities and the limits

of its load ratings. (See the tire and rim weight ratings information on the Vehicle Certification Label on the driver's door frame.) This vehicle is not approved for off-road operation.

How to Find What You Want

There are several tools built into this manual to help you find what you need quickly and easily. First is the Contents. Located at the front of the manual, this lists the main subjects covered and gives page numbers where you can find these subjects. Use the Contents to find information on a large subject like “Operating the Transmission.”

Cross-references also help you get the information you need. If some other part of the manual contains further information on the subject you are reading about, a cross-reference will refer you to another page, for example: “See [page 44](#), for more information on Safety Restraint Belts.”

Finally, you will find a helpful Index at the back of the manual, listing subjects alphabetically. For example, if you want information on brakes, just look under “Brakes” in the Index. You will find the pages where brakes or related topics are discussed.

A Special Word About Repairs

This is not a repair or workshop manual. Your Peterbilt Dealer's Service Center is the best place to have your Model 330 repaired. You can find Peterbilt dealers all over the country with the equipment and trained personnel to quickly get you back on the road—and to keep you there.

Your Model 330 is a complex machine. Anyone attempting repairs on it needs good mechanical training, proper specifications, and proper tools. If you are sure you meet these qualifications, then you can probably perform some repairs yourself. But if you are not an experienced mechanic, or do not have the right equipment or training, please leave the repairs to an authorized service facility. They are the ones equipped to do the job safely and correctly.



WARNING! Do not attempt repair work without sufficient training, service manuals, and the proper tools. You could be injured, or you could make your vehicle unsafe. Do only those tasks you are fully qualified to do.

Shop Manuals

If you do decide to do complex repair work, you will need the **Medium Duty Maintenance Manual**. It contains service procedures, parts information, and supporting material on major components in your vehicle, such as Suspensions, Drive-lines, Axles, and the Heater/Air Conditioner.

Listed below are manuals available from your Peterbilt Dealer. (There is a charge for these manuals.) Please provide the Chassis Serial Number when ordering, to be sure you get the correct manuals for your vehicle.

Medium Duty Maintenance Manual. This manual includes detailed service procedures specifically compiled for the components on your vehicle, including: electrical information, maintenance, disassembly, assembly, repairs, overhaul, and troubleshooting procedures. The information contained in this manual is the same used by Peterbilt dealers.

Medium Duty Master Parts Catalog. Contains illustrated parts lists with drawings and exploded views for MODEL 330 series vehicles.

Medium Duty Body Builders' Manual. Contains general guidelines on mechanical and electrical modifications required by your dealer to add bodies, accessories, and special equipment to straight-truck configurations.



WARNING! Modifying your vehicle can make it unsafe. Some modifications can affect your vehicle's electrical system, stability, or other important functions. Before modifying your vehicle, check with your dealer to make sure it can be done safely.

Preventive Maintenance Section

The Preventive Maintenance section (pages [117](#) – [230](#)) in this manual contains general service information for the operator, such as: lubrication points, making adjustments, and other helpful service information. This is summary information only, used for general maintenance of major components installed on your Model 330. For detailed service information see your **Medium Duty Maintenance Manual**.

When it comes time for major service work, your Peterbilt Dealer or Authorized Service Center will need vehicle and component information. To help you gather this vehicle infor-

mation, see [“Consumer Information and Vehicle Identification” on page 226](#). This section explains vehicle identification and provides space to record model and serial numbers of major components installed on your vehicle.

Additional Sources of Information

Installed Equipment — Operator's Manuals

Major component suppliers to Peterbilt also supply operation manuals specific to their products. Additional manuals and other pieces of literature are included in the glove compartment literature set. Look for information on products such as the engine, driver's seat, transmission, axles, tires, and radio. If you are missing these pieces of literature, ask your Peterbilt Dealer for copies.

Truck Driver's Handbook

Your set of glove compartment literature also contains a copy of the *Truck Driver's Handbook*, published by the American Trucking Association (ATA). Refer to it for important information on driving your Model 330.

Other Sources

Another place to learn more about trucking is from local truck driving schools. Contact one near you to learn about courses they offer.

Federal and state agencies such as the department of licensing also have information you can ask for. The Interstate Commerce Commission can give you information about regulations governing transportation across state lines. Regulations that differ from state to state can be found at various agencies in state governments.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

START-UP

Introduction

The following section covers start-up procedures for getting your Model 330 ready for the road.

Door Lock and Keys

Doors can be locked from the inside by using the lock button. Close the door then push the button down to lock. Doors automatically unlock when you open them from inside, and can be locked from the outside with the key only.

As standard equipment, two keys are provided for the doors and ignition. When necessary, additional locks and keys are provided for storage compartments.



WARNING! To help lessen the chance and/or severity of personal injury in case of an accident, always lock the doors while driving. Along with using the lap shoulder belts properly, locking the doors helps prevent occupants from being thrown from the vehicle.

To lock or unlock the doors from outside the cab:

- Insert the key in the door lock.
- Turn the key toward the rear door frame to lock; forward to unlock.

Cab and Frame Access

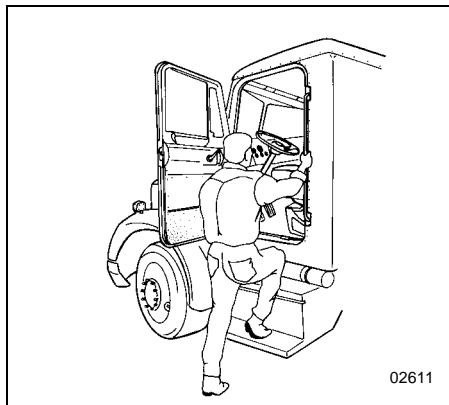
The following cab and frame entry/exit procedure recommendations were prepared with personal safety foremost in mind.



WARNING! Do not jump out of the cab or get into the cab without proper caution. You could slip or fall, possibly suffering a serious injury. You could slip and fall if the steps are wet or icy, or if you step in fuel, oil, or grease.

To help avoid personal injury due to a slip or fall:

- Use three points of contact (two feet, one hand or one foot, two hands) to grip the steps or handholds whenever possible and look where you are going.



- Use even more care when steps and handholds (or footwear) are wet, coated with ice, snow, mud, oil, fuel, or grease.



WARNING! Do not step on vehicle components without antiskid surfaces or use components not designed for entry-and-exit use. You could fall and injure yourself if you step onto a slippery surface. For example:

- Do not step onto the surface of a fuel tank. A fuel tank is not a step. The tank surface can get very slippery, and you might not be able to prevent a fall. Use only the steps and handholds provided, not chain hooks, quarter fenders, etc.
- Do not climb onto and off the deck plate—use steps and grab handle provided. If there is no deck plate, or if proper steps and grab handles are not provided, do not climb onto the area behind the cab.
- Keep steps clean. Clean any fuel, oil, or grease off the steps before entering the cab or accessing the deck plate.



WARNING! Always reinstall the battery compartment cover (step) before entering the cab. Without the battery cover you could slip and fall, resulting in possible injury to yourself.



NOTE: Any alteration (adding bulkheads, headache racks, tool boxes, etc.) behind the cab that affects the utilization of grab handles, deck plates, or frame access steps installed by Peterbilt should comply with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulation 399.

Hood Hold Downs and Tilt

The hood is locked in its closed position by an external latch on each side. These latches serve as hold downs and keep the hood from opening unexpectedly.

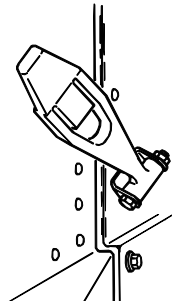


CAUTION: If you do not latch the hood securely, it could open during operation and cause vehicle damage. Be sure to latch the hood securely before moving the vehicle.

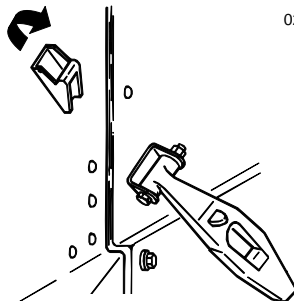


WARNING! A pivoting hood could hurt someone or be damaged itself. Before opening or closing the hood, be sure there are no people or objects in the way.

To open the hood, unlatch both of the hood hold downs.



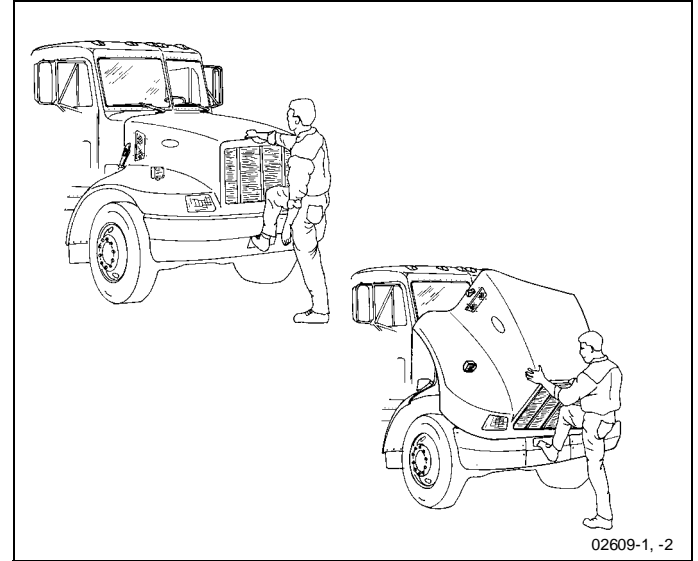
LATCHED



UNLATCHED

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Put one hand on the hood (just above the Peterbilt emblem), one foot on the bumper, and one foot on the ground. Tilt the hood forward.



02609-1, -2

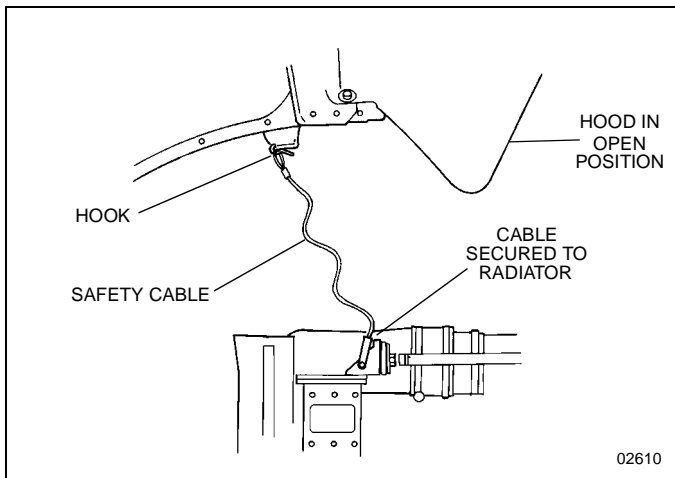
Hood Safety Cable



WARNING! If the hood falls, anyone under it could be injured. Always attach the safety cable to keep your hood open any time anyone gets under the hood for any reason.

- **Never work under the hood unless the hood safety cable is attached.**

To attach the safety cable: The cable is on the driver's side of the radiator. Attach it to the hook on the hood.



To close the hood, you must first release the hood safety cable.



WARNING! Before closing the hood, be sure the area is clear—no people or objects are in the way.

After lowering the hood, latch the hood closed with the hold downs.



WARNING! If the hood is not latched securely, it could open during operation and cause an accident. Be sure the hood is latched securely before moving the vehicle.

Safe Vehicle Operation

For your safety, as well as those around you, be a responsible driver:

- If you drink, do not drive.
- Do not drive if you are tired, ill, or under emotional stress.

Much has gone into the manufacturing of your Model 330, including advanced engineering techniques, rigid quality control, and demanding inspections. These manufacturing processes will be enhanced by you—the safe driver—who:

- knows and understands how to operate the vehicle and all its controls
- maintains the vehicle properly
- uses driving skills wisely

For more information, refer to Department of Transportation Regulation 392.7, which states that interstate commercial motor vehicles are not to be driven unless the driver is sure that certain parts and accessories are in working order.



WARNING! Do not drink and drive. Your reflexes, perceptions, and judgment can be affected by even a small amount of alcohol. You could have a serious—even fatal—accident if you drive after drinking. Please do not drink and drive or ride with a driver who's been drinking.

- **The use of alcohol, drugs, and certain medications will seriously impair perception, reactions, and driving ability. These circumstances can substantially increase the risk of an accident and serious personal injury.**

Vehicle Loading

Compare your vehicle's load capacity with the total load you are carrying. If adjustments need to be made, make them—do not drive an overloaded vehicle. If you are overloaded or your load has shifted, your vehicle may be unsafe to drive.



WARNING! Do not exceed the specified load rating. Overloading can result in loss of vehicle control and serious personal injury, either by causing component failures or by affecting vehicle handling. Exceeding load ratings can also shorten the service life of the vehicle.

- **The components of your vehicle are designed to provide satisfactory service if the vehicle is not loaded in excess of either the gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR), or the maximum front and rear gross axle weight ratings (GAWRs). (Axle weight ratings are listed on the driver's door edge.)**

Here are some definitions of weight you should know:

GVWR: is the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating. This is the MAXIMUM WEIGHT your vehicle is allowed to carry, including the weight of the empty vehicle, loading platform, occupants, fuel, and any load. Never exceed the GVWR of your vehicle.

GCW: is the actual combined weight, or Gross Combination Weight (GCW), of your vehicle and its load: tractor, plus trailer(s), plus cargo.

GAWR: is the Gross Axle Weight Rating. This is the total weight that one axle is designed to transmit to the ground. You will find this number listed on the driver's door edge.

Load Distribution: be sure any load you carry is distributed so that no axle has to support more than its GAWR.



WARNING! An unevenly distributed load or a load too heavy over one axle can affect the braking and handling of your vehicle, which could result in an accident. Even if your load is under the legal limits, be sure it is distributed evenly.

Emergency Equipment

It is good practice to carry an emergency equipment kit in your vehicle. One day, if you have a roadside emergency, you will be glad the following items are with you:

- window scraper
- snow brush

- container or bag of sand or salt
- emergency light
- small shovel
- first aid kit
- fire extinguisher

Driver's Check List

To keep your Model 330 in top shape and maintain a high level of safety for you, your passengers, and your load, make a thorough inspection every day before you drive. You will save maintenance time later, and the safety checks could help prevent a serious accident. Please remember, too, that the Federal law requires a pre-trip inspection and so do commercial trucking companies.

You are not expected to become a professional mechanic. The purpose of your inspections is to find anything that might interfere with the safe and efficient transportation of yourself, any passengers, and your load. If you do find something wrong and cannot fix it yourself, have an Authorized Service Center or qualified mechanic repair your vehicle right away.