

are connected in any way, they shall be so constructed that failure of any one part does not leave the vehicle without operative brakes.

(d) Every vehicle shall be equipped with brakes acting on all wheels, except:

(1) Trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers of a registered gross weight not exceeding 3,000 pounds, provided that:

(i) The total weight on and including the wheels of the trailer or trailers does not exceed 40 percent of the gross weight of the towing vehicle when connected to the trailer or trailers; and

(ii) The combination of vehicles, consisting of the towing vehicle and its total towed load, is capable of complying with the performance requirements of § 22-302 of this subtitle;

(2) Trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers of a registered gross weight exceeding 3,000 pounds and not exceeding 10,000 pounds that:

(i) Have 2 or more axles;

(ii) Are equipped with brakes acting on all wheels of at least 1 axle; and

(iii) As part of a combination of vehicles, consisting of the towing vehicle and the total load, is capable of complying with the performance requirements of § 22-302 of this subtitle;

(3) Any vehicle being towed in driveaway or towaway operations, provided that the combination of vehicles is capable of complying with the performance requirements of § 22-302 of this subtitle;

(4) Trucks, truck tractors, and special mobile equipment manufactured before July 24, 1980 with three or more axles need not have brakes on the front wheels. However, the trucks and truck tractors must be capable of complying with the performance requirements of § 22-302 of this subtitle;

(5) The wheel of a sidecar attached to a motorcycle or to a motor-driven cycle, or the front wheel of a motor-driven cycle need not be equipped with brakes, provided that the motorcycle or motor-driven cycle is capable of complying with the performance requirements of § 22-302 of this subtitle; and

(6) Any vehicle equipped with at least 2 steerable axles need not have brakes on the wheels of 1 of the axles. However, the vehicle must be capable of complying with the performance requirements of § 22-302 of this subtitle.

(e) (1) Every trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer equipped with air or vacuum actuated brakes, and every trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer with a registered gross weight in excess of 10,000 pounds, manufactured or assembled after June 1, 1970, shall be equipped with brakes acting on all wheels and of a character to be applied automatically and promptly, and remain applied for at least 15 minutes on breakaway from the towing vehicle.