

**PRIEFERT LOGISTICS, LP  
CONTRACTOR LEASE AGREEMENT**

(49 C.F.R. Part 376)

This Agreement is effective as of this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ (am/pm) by and between \_\_\_\_\_, referred to hereafter as "Contractor", located at \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ (Street) \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and PRIEFERT LOGISTICS, LP, referred to as "Carrier," located at 2620 South Jefferson, Mount Pleasant, Texas, 75455.  
(City) (State) (Zip)

Contractor is the owner of the equipment described in Appendix A to this Agreement and drives and/or will provide drivers fully qualified under all applicable federal and state laws to operate that equipment in interstate and/or intrastate commerce.

Carrier is in the business of offering and providing motor carrier services to the shipping public and desires to retain the equipment and driver services of Contractor to meet its transportation commitments. Carrier is authorized to conduct operations in interstate and/or intrastate commerce pursuant to operating authorities issued by the appropriate federal and state agencies.

Contractor desires to lease its equipment with a driver or drivers to Carrier, and Carrier desires to lease that equipment and driver(s) to meet its transportation requirements for its customers, and for good and lawful consideration, the parties agree as follows:

1. Copies of this Agreement. This Agreement shall be executed in triplicate. The Carrier will give one executed copy of this Agreement to the Contractor, retain one executed copy for itself, and the third executed copy of this Agreement will be placed in the leased equipment for the duration of the lease.
2. Receipts for Equipment. The equipment which Contractor will lease to Carrier, pursuant to the terms and conditions of this agreement, is identified in Appendix A attached hereto and made a part hereof. Receipts specifically identifying that equipment and specifying the date and time of day possession is transferred shall be given to Contractor by the Carrier. A receipt may be transmitted by mail, fax, electronic mail (email) or other similar means of communication. Upon termination of this lease, or when possession by the Carrier of a unit of equipment identified in the addendum ends, the Carrier shall give Contractor a receipt evidencing the date and time of the return of the equipment to Contractor's control.
3. Exclusive Possession and Control by Carrier. Carrier shall have the exclusive possession, control and use of the equipment, and shall assume complete responsibility for the operation of the equipment, for the duration of the lease.
4. Identification of Equipment. During the period of the lease, and while the equipment is being operated on behalf of the Carrier, the equipment shall be identified in accordance with all applicable federal and state regulations. Upon the termination of the lease, Contractor shall remove all such identification. The Contractor shall promptly return such identification to the Carrier, or may provide a letter to the Carrier certifying removal of said identification devices from the equipment **or** that said devices have been lost or stolen. In the event the equipment is operated on behalf of anyone other than the Carrier during the period of the lease, such as in the event of a Trip-Lease, all identification shall be covered and signage of the Trip-Lease carrier displayed instead.
5. Status of Contractor as Independent Contractor. Contractor shall be an independent contractor with respect to the transportation operations conducted on behalf of the Carrier at all times during the period this lease is in effect. Neither Contractor nor its employees are to be considered employees of Carrier at any time, except as may be specified by federal or state law. Neither party is the agent of the other and neither party shall have the right to bind the other by contract or otherwise except as herein specifically provided. Contractor has the right to decline any load offered by Carrier, without incurring any negative repercussions, including, but not limited to, monetary penalties, refusal to dispatch, or adverse disciplinary or administrative actions.
6. Record of Transactions. In compliance with 49 C.F.R. § 376.11(d)(1) (or any successor regulation), Carrier shall prepare and keep records covering each trip for which Contractor's equipment is used in Carrier's service. Those documents shall

Contractor's Initials:

Carrier's Initials:

July 2007

contain the name and address of the Contractor, the point-of-origin, the time and date of departure, and the point of final destination. Further, Carrier shall have to present, on the leased equipment during its operation, documents containing the above-specified information identifying the lading, and acknowledging that the transportation is performed under Carrier's authority. Those documents shall be preserved by Carrier as part of its transportation records.

7. Carrier's Responsibility to Provide Shipments. The Carrier agrees to make shipments available from time-to-time for transportation by the Contractor. The Carrier shall exercise every reasonable effort to make sufficient shipments available so that the Contractor shall be able to keep the Equipment in reasonably constant use under the terms of this Agreement, although this shall not be construed as an Agreement by the Carrier to furnish any specific number of loads, or pounds of freight for transportation by the Contractor at any particular time or place.
8. Compensation to Contractor. Compensation for the lease of the equipment and transportation services provided by Contractor shall be at the rates specified in Appendix B attached hereto and made a part hereof.
9. Fuel Surcharge. The Carrier shall pass on to the Contractor one hundred percent (100%) of any fuel surcharge imposed by the Carrier upon its transportation customer (shipper, motor carrier, broker, or freight forwarder) when such a surcharge is imposed pursuant to any law and/or any agreement between the Carrier and its transportation customer.
10. Payments to Contractor. Carrier shall pay Contractor for all services provided under this agreement within fifteen (15) calendar days after Contractor's submission of the documents required for Carrier to secure payment from Carrier's customers. Those documents are limited to logbooks required by the Department of Transportation and those documents necessary for Carrier to secure payment from its transportation customer. Payment of compensation to the Contractor shall not be contingent upon submission of a bill of lading as to which no exceptions have been taken. It is the responsibility of the Carrier to notify the Contractor at the time of dispatch and on the bill of lading that a particular shipment is to be a C.O.D. shipment. In the case of C.O.D. shipments only, the documents necessary to secure payment to the Contractor shall include the certified check or money order due to Carrier.
11. Documentation Supporting Contractor's Compensation. If the Contractor's compensation, as specified in Appendix B, is based upon a percentage of the revenue received by the Carrier, Carrier will provide Contractor, before or at the time of settlement, a copy of the applicable rated customer invoice, bills of lading, tariffs, or rate quotes from which the rates or charges shown on the Carrier's customers' invoice are computed, or a computer-generated document containing the same information. Acceptance of compensation without receipt of invoices, bills of lading, tariffs or rate quotes, will not constitute a waiver of Contractor's right to such documents under federal regulation. In the case of charges based on a contract, the Contractor shall be provided a copy of the actual documentation used in producing a rated freight bill for the Carrier's customer. When a computer-generated document is provided, Contractor shall be permitted by the Carrier to view, during normal business hours, a copy of the actual document(s) underlying the computer-generated document. If the Contractor's compensation is based upon mileage, the parties will use the mileage shown in the PC Miler Practical Route to calculate the mileage traversed between the origin and destination of the shipment. The dispatcher will notify the Contractor of the estimated mileage at time of dispatch
12. Inspection of Carrier's Tariffs. Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 376.12(g) (or any successor regulation), the Contractor is permitted to examine copies of the Carrier's [tariff or in the case of contract carriers, other documents from which rates and charges are computed, provided that where rates and charges are computed from a contract, only those portions of the contract containing the same information that would appear on a rated freight bill need be disclosed] during normal business hours at the Carrier's terminal or other place(s) of business.
13. Expenses Incurred in Operating Equipment. Except as may otherwise be provided in this agreement, Contractor shall bear the operational expenses incurred in performing the transportation services requested by Carrier under this lease agreement. Those expenses shall consist of and are limited to: fuel, fuel taxes, permits of all types, tolls, ferries, base plates and licenses, fines and penalties resulting solely from the acts or omissions of Contractor, insurance costs relating to insurance coverage required to comply with this agreement as set out in Appendix D, federal highway use tax on the equipment, federal, provincial, state or city income taxes, and any self-employment or payroll taxes; and any sales, use, excise and other taxes due and owing to ownership or operation of the equipment. Contractor shall also bear any expenses necessary to maintain the equipment in compliance with all applicable federal and state safety laws and regulations.
14. Base Plates. The Contractor may elect to purchase base plates in his or her own name directly from the State. If the Contractor elects to purchase base plates through the Carrier, the actual cost of the base plate may be deducted from the Contractor's compensation pursuant to paragraph 16 and Appendix \_\_\_ of this Agreement. If the Contractor elects to

Contractor's Initials:

Carrier's Initials:

July 2007

purchase base plates through the Carrier, and if, at termination of this Agreement, the Carrier is authorized to receive a refund or a credit for base plates purchased by Contractor from and issued in the name of the Carrier, or if the base plates are authorized to be sold by the Carrier to another contractor, the Carrier shall refund to Contractor a prorated share of the amount received. Such refund shall be made within fifteen (15) days of receipt of refund from the state or the proceeds of the sale of the base plate to another contractor.

15. Purchase of Items from Carrier. Contractor is not required to purchase or rent any products, equipment, or services from or through the Carrier as a condition precedent or subsequent of entering into or continuing the lease arrangement. If the Contractor is or becomes party to an equipment purchase agreement or rental contract with the Carrier, or a person or company affiliated with the Carrier, then, pursuant to that agreement or contract, Carrier is authorized to make deductions from Contractor's compensation earned under this agreement for such purchase and/or rental payments in the amounts set forth in the schedule of payments in Appendix C annexed hereto and made a part hereof. Carrier shall not charge Contractor an administrative fee for any service it performs related to Contractor's purchase or rental of any product, equipment, or service through or from the Carrier.
16. Charge Backs. Carrier may not impose charge backs against the compensation due the Contractor except for cash advances or the actual cost to the Carrier for providing the specific items identified in Appendix D annexed hereto and made a part hereof. Appendix D identifies all items for which a charge back is authorized that are not otherwise specifically provided for in this agreement and shows how the amount is computed for each item to be charged back to the Contractor. The Contractor shall be entitled to copies of those documents necessary to determine the validity of all items charged back against compensation due the Contractor.
17. Loss and Damage Claims. Carrier shall provide Contractor with a written explanation and itemization of any deductions for cargo or property damage to be taken from Contractor's compensation. Contractor's liability for loss or damage to cargo transported on behalf of Carrier is limited to \$\_\_\_\_\_ per incident where it is determined through investigation that such loss or damage is due to the act or negligence of Contractor or its employees. Contractor will be provided a reasonable opportunity to present to Carrier any documentation or other evidence demonstrating that the loss or damage was not due to Contractor's act or omission or that of its employees. Except in the case of concealed loss or damage where the consignee did not have a reasonable opportunity to inspect the goods upon delivery, the presentation of a signed, clear delivery receipt will be considered adequate to establish, without more, that Contractor was not responsible for the loss or damage. In no event will any deduction for alleged cargo loss or damage be made against the Contractor's compensation until all documentation supporting the claim has been provided by the Carrier, and Contractor has been given a reasonable opportunity to respond.
18. Fines. The Carrier shall assume the risks and costs of fines for overweight and oversize trailers when the trailers are pre-loaded, sealed, or the load is containerized, or when the trailer is otherwise out of the Contractor's control, except if the violation results from the Contractor's actions. Moreover, Carrier will take appropriate action to ensure that its customers observe all applicable federal and state laws pertaining to the loading of freight on the Contractor's equipment. The Carrier has this same liability for improperly permitted, over dimension, and overweight loads. The Carrier shall promptly reimburse the Contractor for any fines paid by the Contractor that are the responsibility of the Carrier hereunder except those fines due to time, state or date expiration on permit loads.
19. Fuel Use Tax Payments. The Contractor may elect to maintain his or her own IFTA account for fuel taxes. If the Contractor so elects, Contractor will provide Carrier with a copy of all fuel tax documentation within 30 days after filing date. If Contractor elects to maintain his or her own IFTA account, Contractor will signify by initialing here \_\_\_\_\_. If Contractor does not elect to maintain his or her own IFTA account, the Carrier will assume responsibility for filing fuel use tax returns with the Base State in which Contractor's equipment is registered. Contractor shall submit timely reports on forms supplied by the Carrier and furnish documentation for all miles driven and gallons of fuel purchased on a state-by-state basis. Carrier shall provide Contractor with periodic summaries of credits and debits for fuel use taxes on a state-by-state basis. Within thirty (30) days following the close of each quarterly tax period, Carrier shall provide a report showing all credits and debits by taxing jurisdiction on account of activities of the Contractor during the reporting period. If the net of credits and debits for all taxing jurisdictions shows that Contractor has a net credit, Carrier shall pay Contractor the amount of such net credit forthwith; if the net of credits and debits for all taxing jurisdictions shows that the Contractor has a net debit, Carrier shall be entitled to deduct the amount of such net debit from the Contractor's compensation.
20. Carrier's Insurance Coverage. Carrier is legally obligated to maintain insurance for the protection of the public. Carrier will, maintain, and bear the cost of, all required insurance covering personal injury and property damage, and cargo loss

Contractor's Initials:

Carrier's Initials:

July 2007

and damage, as is required of a motor carrier engaged in interstate commerce by federal law and regulations. No portion of the cost of such insurance shall be passed on to Contractor directly or indirectly.

21. Insurance to be Provided by Contractor. Consistent with federal regulations, Contractor shall not be required to purchase any insurance from, or through, the Carrier and shall be free to acquire insurance from any insurer as long as it comports with that generally available at the time of contracting in terms of insurance obligation, exclusions to coverage, etc. If the Contractor purchases any insurance coverage from, or through, the Carrier, it will be enumerated in Appendix D, and the Carrier shall be authorized to charge back the cost to it for such policies in such amounts as are specified in Appendix D.
22. Insurance Documents and Information. In the event that the Contractor purchases any insurance coverage from, or through, the Carrier, the Carrier will provide the Contractor with certificate(s) of insurance for each such policy that include the name of the insurer, the policy number, the effective dates of the policy, the amounts and types of coverage, the actual cost to the Contractor for each type of coverage and the deductible amount for each type of coverage for which the Contractor may be liable. The Carrier shall also provide Contractor with a copy of each such policy. The Carrier shall also provide Contractor, upon request, copies of those documents necessary to determine the validity of any charge or deduction by Carrier for this insurance.
23. Escrow Account. Carrier shall not retain any funds belonging to Contractor or establish any escrow or reserve account for Contractor other than those items outlined in Appendix D.
24. Notice. Any notice required or permitted by this agreement to the Carrier shall be deemed conclusively provided when hand delivered to Carrier at any of Carrier's terminals, or to either the Carrier or the Contractor when deposited by either Party in the United States mail with first class postage prepaid, properly addressed to the other Party as follows:

Contractor	Carrier
Name _____	Name Priefert Logistics, LP
Street _____	Street 2620 South Jefferson
City _____	City Mount Pleasant
State _____	State Texas
Zip _____	Zip 75455

Should the address of either Party change; notice of the new address must be provided by first class mail within five (5) business days of that change.

25. Entire Agreement - Modification. This agreement, with the attached Appendices A-D, constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the parties and shall not be modified, altered, changed or amended in any respect unless in writing and signed by both parties.
26. This agreement shall be governed by the provisions of Title 49, Part B, United States Code, Title 49, Part 376, Code of Federal Regulations and, to the extent consistent with federal laws and regulations, by the laws of the State of Texas.
27. Effective Date and Duration of Agreement. This lease shall be effective as of the date and time the agreement is executed by both parties and shall continue in effect until terminated in accordance with the provisions of this agreement. It is contemplated that the term of this agreement will be for not less than forty-five (45) days from the date of execution and will automatically continue in effect until such time as terminated mutually, or by either party, as provided in this agreement. Should Contractor or Carrier breach any of the terms of this agreement, the other party will give written notice of that breach and can terminate the agreement upon twenty-four (24) hours written notice to the other party. If either party desires to terminate the agreement without cause, ten (10) days' written notice must be provided to the other party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this agreement this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_(am/pm) and same shall be considered binding upon both parties and shall remain in full force and effect unless and until terminated according to the terms of this agreement.

FOR CONTRACTOR:

FOR CARRIER:

Contractor's Initials:

Carrier's Initials:

July 2007

---

Name - Title

---

Name – Title

Contractor's Initials:

Carrier's Initials:

July 2007

**LIST OF APPENDICES**

Receipts for Equipment ..... App. A

Specification of Compensation ..... App. B

Charge backs for Purchase and/or Rental Payments ..... App. C

Charge backs for Insurance and Other Unspecified Items..... App. D

Escrows ..... App. E

**APPENDIX A**

**Receipts for Equipment**

(USE ADDITIONAL COPIES AS NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE ALL EQUIPMENT)

Carrier acknowledges receipt of the following equipment on the date and at the time stated below:

Tractor \_\_\_\_\_ VIN \_\_\_\_\_  
Description (Make/Model/Year)

Trailer \_\_\_\_\_ VIN \_\_\_\_\_

Tractor \_\_\_\_\_ VIN \_\_\_\_\_  
Description (Make/Model/Year)

Trailer \_\_\_\_\_ VIN \_\_\_\_\_

Tractor \_\_\_\_\_ VIN \_\_\_\_\_  
Description (Make/Model/Year)

Trailer \_\_\_\_\_ VIN \_\_\_\_\_

Tractor \_\_\_\_\_ VIN \_\_\_\_\_  
Description (Make/Model/Year)

Trailer \_\_\_\_\_ VIN \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carrier's Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Time (a.m./p.m.)

I have seen, reviewed and received a copy of this Appendix A – Receipt for Equipment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Time (a.m./p.m.)





**APPENDIX D**

**Charge backs for Specified Items**

List all insurance policies that Contractor is responsible to provide under the terms of the lease to which this Appendix D is attached. For all insurance coverage to be purchased from, or through, the Carrier for which deductions will be taken from Contractor's compensation, include in the itemized list the amount to be deducted and the frequency of the deduction:

<b>Insurer Name</b>	<b>Type of Coverage</b>	<b>Coverage Dates</b>	<b>Policy Limits</b>	<b>Deductible (if any)</b>	<b>Premium (Monthly/Annual)</b>
-------------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------	-------------------------------------

<b>Amount to be Deducted (if any)</b>	<b>Frequency of Deduction (Circle one if applicable)</b>
-------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
Weekly/Bi-Monthly/Monthly
  
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Weekly/Bi-Monthly/Monthly
  
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
Weekly/Bi-Monthly/Monthly
  
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
Weekly/Bi-Monthly/Monthly
  
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
Weekly/Bi-Monthly/Monthly
  
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_  
Weekly/Bi-Monthly/Monthly
  
- 7. \_\_\_\_\_  
Weekly/Bi-Monthly/Monthly

**Calculation of amount to be deducted for above insurance coverages:** Divide annual premium by frequency of deduction.

[For every other item for which deductions will be taken from Contractor's compensation, separately itemize each item and the amount to be deducted, with a recitation of the method of computation for the amount to be deducted, per the following example:

<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Amount to be deducted</u></b>	<b><u>Frequency of deduction (circle one)</u></b>
Fuel	Amount paid by Carrier	Weekly / Bi-Monthly / Monthly
Base Plates	Amount charged by State	Single / Weekly / Bi-Monthly / Monthly

**How amount was calculated:**

Fuel	Actual amount paid by Carrier including all discounts and rebates. Copies of Comdata sheets will be attached to settlement sheets when deductions appear.
Base Plates	Actual amount charged by State. Copy of Receipt from state will be attached to settlement sheet showing (first or only) deduction.

**Carrier's Authorized Representative:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (a.m./p.m.)  
Date Time

I have seen, reviewed, and received a copy of this Appendix D – Chargebacks for Specified Items.

**Contractor:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (a.m./p.m.)  
Date Time