



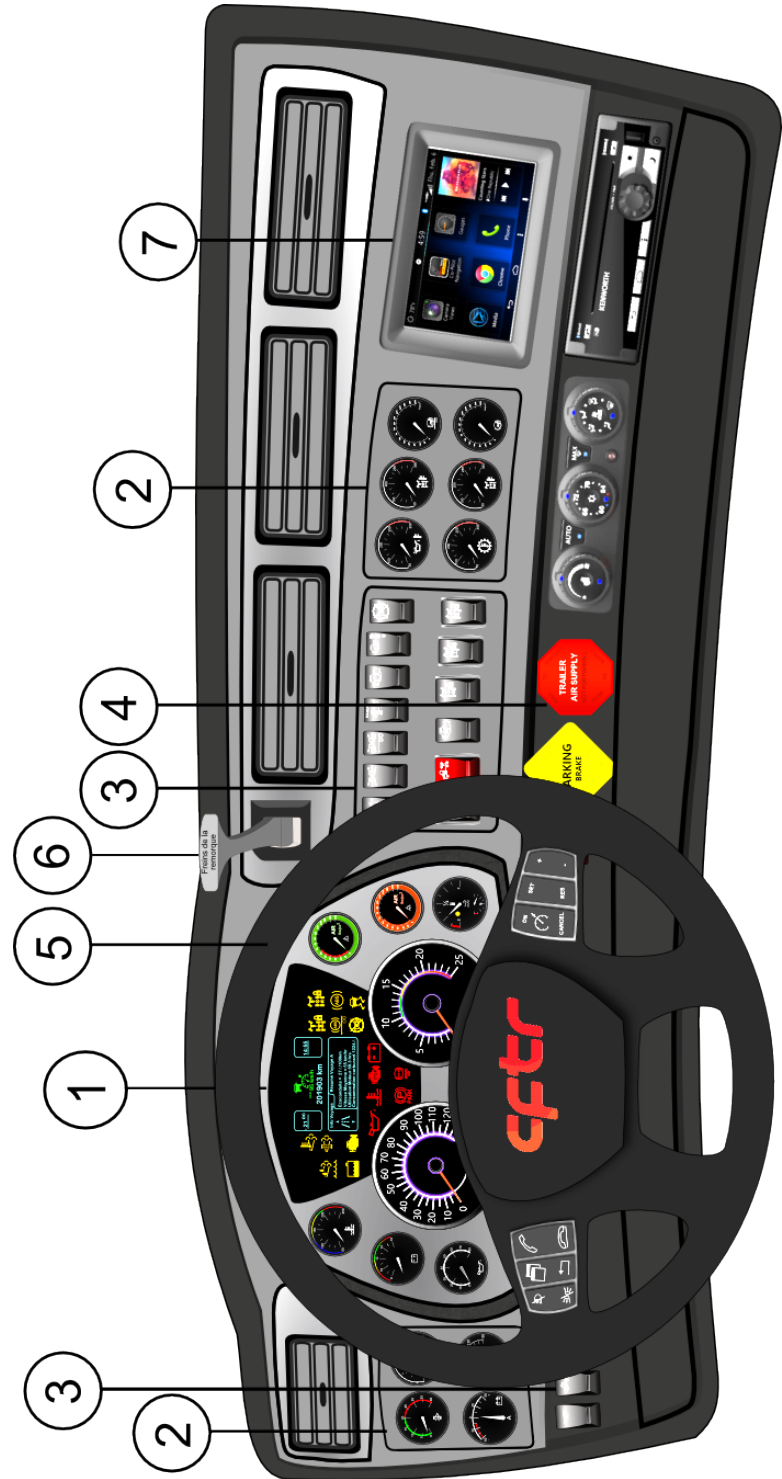
COMPETENCY 2

The dashboard

Lesson objective(s):

- To recognize and locate the main items on a dashboard according to the type of truck.

The Dashboard



TERMINOLOGY

Manometer: A gauge used to measure the pressure contained in a closed space.

Air pressure gauge: Manometer used to measure the pressure of the compressed air present in the different circuits of a pneumatic braking system.

Tachometer: Gauge that continuously indicates the rotational speed of the engine. Other term: RPM gauge (revolutions per minute)

Vacuum manometer: Pressure gauge used to measure the depression in a closed space. Used to measure the obstruction level of the air filter. Other term: vacuum gauge.

Mechanical clogging indicator : Instrument mounted on the housing of an air filter and having a colored membrane that moves inside a glass indicator to indicate the clogging condition of the filter element.

Malfunction indicator: Indicator that comes on when a system is showing an out of range value (example: high temperature or low pressure). Other term: warning indicator, warning light.

Warning buzzer : Sound device that alerts the driver of a system problem (for example: coolant temperature too high) and possible failure or to look at the multifunction display.

Low air pressure indicator: Indicator that lights up when the compressed air pressure is abnormally low.

Low air pressure buzzer: Sound device that warns the driver when the compressed air pressure is abnormally low.

The dashboard is much more than just a display of instruments placed randomly on a screen. The dashboard is, above all, the key element of proactive driving. But to do this, you have to know how to interpret and control the instruments which it makes available to the driver..



(2.1.2)

1- The central board



Strategically located, this dashboard includes the vital indicators of the vehicle, which are;

- The following gauge;
 - oil pressure _____
 - engine temperature _____
 - voltmeter _____
 - air pressure _____
 - fuel _____
 - tachometer _____
 - speedometer _____

- Warning lights: We find them in the form of pictograms. Two colors predominate, starting with **yellow** which indicates to pay particular attention to the indicator. Driving with the vehicle may continue even if the indicator remains on. The color **red** indicates an imminent risk. Driving with the vehicle should stop as soon as possible.

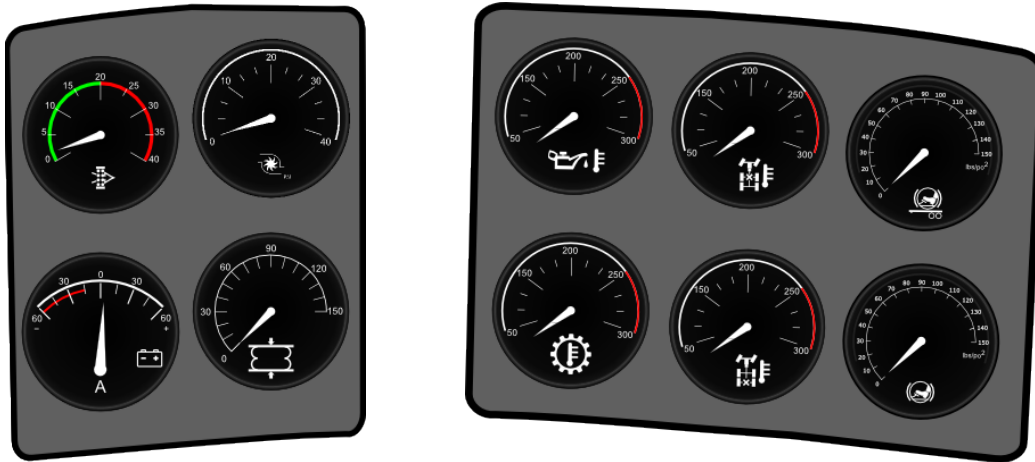


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- Multifunction display: Electronic display screen that informs the operator of various important information such as fuel consumption, traveled distance, outside temperature, status of the emission control system, driving assistance being used, forgotten lights, etc., etc., etc..



2- The left and right boards

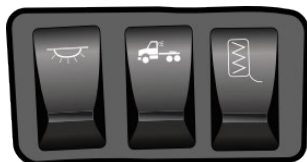


These boards include the gauges offered as options when the vehicle is purchased. Although optional, the information provided by these gauges are useful for the operation of the vehicle.

3- The switches

Trucks are equipped with several switches that can be grouped in several clusters on the dashboard.

Some switches have a protection system against accidental engagement.



4- The yellow and red buttons

The parking brake button.

Yellow diamond shaped button, it applies the parking brake of the truck when pulled.



The semitrailer air supply and parking brake button.

Red hexagonal button that supplies air to the trailer when pushed and applies the parking brake when pulled.

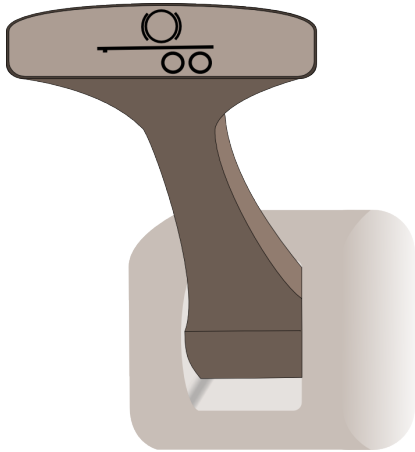
5- The steering wheel controls

Modern trucks are all equipped with various steering wheel controls. There is no standard that determines which switches should be installed. It is therefore up to the driver to take the readings of the dashboard, steering wheel and various clusters and levers of the vehicle to properly locate the controls.





(2.1.2)



6- The semitrailer brake lever

Applies the service brake of the semitrailer manually. Among other things, it allows the driver to check its proper functioning. In addition, it can be used to check pushrod travel, brake lights and service brake air leaks.

7- The multifunction screen

Optional, the multifunction screen gives access to a variety of instruments to the driver. These instruments vary from manufacturer to manufacturer, but remain similar. Here are some examples:

- GPS;
- cameras;
- additional gauges;
- audio system;
- Bluetooth connections;
- etc.





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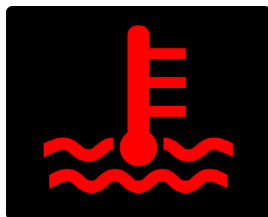
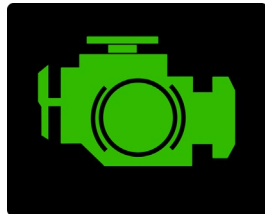
The pictograms

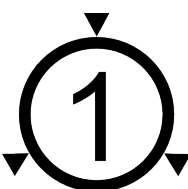
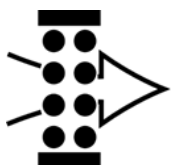
The pictogram is used to communicate general information regardless of the spoken language of the person looking at it. It is notably used in road signs, but also in truck dashboards.

Truck manufacturers are trying to standardize pictograms in the industry, but there are still some functions whose pictograms differ from one manufacturer to another.

It is the driver's task to become familiar with the pictograms of his vehicle. The information related to them can be found in the driver's manual.

Examples of pictograms







(2.1.2)