



## Driver Recognition Awards

With Truck Driver Appreciation week approaching (August 24-30), it is a good time to review your award and recognition programs that you have in place. It is important that we recognize those drivers who have performed in a safe and compliant manner. Recognition awards are best used for safe driving. A recognition award should be an award that the driver or employee cannot get anywhere else. It is best if these awards are personalized. Benefits of recognition award are that they are non-monetary and have a longer lasting effect. A driver should not be able to go and buy this award on their own. The only way to receive the award and recognition is to meet the requirements for receiving the award. These awards can be further enhanced by presenting award group presentations with peers (i.e. meetings, banquets, etc.).

As a motor carrier, there are a number of state and nationwide association award programs that you can enroll your drivers in. I would recommend that you contact your state trucking association for a listing of the awards programs that are available. Nationwide associations also have awards programs such as the American Trucking Association ([www.truckline.com](http://www.truckline.com)) and the National Private Truck Council. The NPTC has a million mile safe driver award program that is available to NPTC members. Go to: [www.nptc.org](http://www.nptc.org) to enroll your driver.

## Driver Incentive Awards

Incentive monetary awards are best used to motivate a driver to perform. With fuel over \$4.00 per gallon, driver fuel incentive programs are becoming popular to save fuel from being burned unnecessarily and to share the savings with the driver. Another place that incentive monetary awards are used is with roadside inspections. Many companies are willing to provide a monetary incentive to drivers who have completed a CVSA roadside inspection without violation.

### Truck Driver Appreciation Week

August 24 - 30, 2008.

Just two weeks now from Truck Driver Appreciation Week. Show them how much you appreciate the work they do everyday.

### CVSA Brake Safety Week

September 21- 27, 2008, The CVSA will be completing additional education and enforcement during this week.

### New Guidance from the DOT on Drug and Alcohol Testing

On July 31, 2008, the DOT Office of Drug and Alcohol Policy and Compliance, with the Office of General Counsel, issued 49 CFR Part 40 Questions and Answers. Like all ODAPC/OGC Qs & As, these constitute official and authoritative guidance and interpretation concerning Part 40. The four Qs & As and previous guidance can issued today are available on our website at:

<http://www.dot.gov/ost/dapc/qanda.html>

## Truck Safety Technology Bill Introduced with Tax Incentives

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) says it actively supports Senate legislation recently proposed that would provide a tax credit to those who purchase trucks and buses with certain safety technologies installed. Senate Bill 3428 was introduced just prior to the August recess by Senators Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich) and George Voinovich (R-Ohio).

"This bill is the right thing to do. It is about encouraging investment in safety through the purchase and installation of technologies on trucks and buses that have been tested and proven to work," said Stephen F. Campbell, CVSA's Executive Director. "It will certainly help reduce heavy truck fatalities which have been hovering around 5000 per year for the last 10 years," Campbell said.

Specifically, the bill provides tax credits for four safety technologies identified by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMSCA) in its recent Large Truck Crash Causation Study. The four identified technologies that would help reduce truck crashes and fatalities are: collision avoidance, lane departure warning, stability control, and brake stroke monitoring systems. The tax credit would be equal to 50 percent of the cost of a qualified system, up to \$1500; allow a total credit of up to \$3500 per vehicle; limit the qualifying taxpayer to a maximum credit to \$350,000 per taxable year; and extend credit eligibility for the purchase of school busses, intercity buses and vehicles used in commerce.