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SAFETY BULLETIN



October 13, 2017

With Fall Here, It is Time to Talk to Your Drivers About Winter Driving Conditions!

Winter Driving Tips for the Driver and the Vehicle

Proper Steps to take in Preparing for Winter Driving Conditions:

Step 1: Make sure that your truck is prepared for winter driving.

Tires are the most important aspect of keeping your vehicle under control in snow and ice condition. Traction tires on the drive axle(s) of the truck with ample tread depth provides the best control in snow and ice conditions. The tread depth and condition of the steer axle tires is also vital in keeping the control of the steering.

If you are operating in areas with chain laws make sure the chains are in good condition and ready to be installed if needed. Mirrors and all glass in the truck should be clean for maximum visibility. Not sure what your states chain laws are go to:

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/laws-html/5drlql/597527747>

Step 2: Lights On



Time to Fall Back... Daylight Savings Time Change in Three Weeks!!

Daylight savings time will "fall back" at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 5th.

Make sure that all of your drivers are aware that the change to daylight savings will occur. Caution route drivers especially that the amount of daylight will change according to their stops with the change. An intersection or street can present different challenges to drivers with one hour change in the position of the sun. One hour of time difference can

Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.

Step 3: No Cruise Control.

Don't use cruise control on snowy or icy roads.

Step 4: Bridges, Overpasses infrequently traveled roads.

Be especially careful on bridges, overpasses and infrequently traveled roads, which will freeze first. Even at temperatures above freezing, if the conditions are wet, you might encounter ice in shady areas or on exposed roadways like bridges.

Step 5: Don't "pump" the brakes.

If your truck is equipped with ABS brakes do not "pump" the brakes.

Step 6: Drive slowly.

Driving too quickly is the main cause of winter accidents. Just because you are a large truck with a heavy load doesn't mean that you're invincible, be sure to drive slowly and carefully on snow and ice covered roads.



Step 7: Pay attention.

Maneuvers are more difficult to make in the snow. Be sure to anticipate what your next move is going to be to give yourself lots of room for turns and stopping.

Step 8: Don't tailgate.

While tailgating is a bad idea under normal driving conditions, it is much, much worse in winter weather. Stopping takes much longer on snowy and icy roads than on dry pavement. Be sure to leave a lot of room between your vehicle and the one in front of you. A good rule of thumb is to leave four vehicle lengths between you and the vehicle in front of you for every 10 mph you are driving.

Step 9: Brake before making turns.

It is difficult to steer vehicles while applying the brakes in snowy conditions. So make sure to smoothly step on your truck's brakes to reduce speed before entering turns. Once you have rounded the corner you can accelerate again.

Step 10: Drive smoothly.

Snowy and icy roads are much less forgiving than dry pavement. Make sure not to make any abrupt turns or stops when driving. Doing so will often cause your vehicle to lose control and skid out.

Step 11: Be familiar with your vehicle.

It is always a good idea to be familiar with your vehicle's driving dynamics. This is especially true when driving on snow or ice. Also, be aware of the weight condition of your truck. As your load and weight diminish the handling of the truck in snow and ice will change.

present unique changes to a driver who is on a route.



National Teen Driver Safety Week October 15-21, 2017

This week and every week, parents should have conversations with their teens about the important rules they need to follow to stay safe behind the wheel of a passenger car, truck, or SUV. These rules address the greatest dangers for teen drivers: alcohol, inconsistent or no seat belt use, distracted and drowsy driving, speeding, and number of passengers.

The Problem: Too many teens are dying on our roads

- Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens (15 to 18 years old) in the United States - ahead of all other types of injury, disease, or violence.
- There were 1,972 teen drivers of passenger vehicles involved in fatal motor vehicle traffic crashes in 2015. An estimated 99,000 teen passenger vehicle drivers were injured in motor vehicle traffic crashes.

Even if you think they don't hear you, they do. Remember; **set the rules before they hit the road.**

Click [here](#) and get your campaign materials now!

Step 12: Learn how to control skids.

While it is best practiced in a driving school or on a closed course, it is not a bad idea to practice controlling skids in your vehicle so that you know how to react if it ever happens under real world driving conditions. When skidding, you actually need to go against your natural instincts and turn into the skid and accelerate. Taking your foot off of the brakes and accelerating gently during skids transfers your vehicle's weight from the front to the rear and often helps vehicles to regain control.



Winter Tips to Follow Concerning the Vehicle:

1. Blended fuel purchased or a diesel supplement is added to the fuel tanks as temperatures creep below 32*.
2. Make sure the unit block heaters are plugged in when unit is not in use during the winter months.
3. Initial start up each day should follow this order – unplug block heater before start up, ignition in “on” position, if equipped with “wait for glow plugs” light, wait for light to go out, start unit, once running, unit should be brought up to temperature before operating.
4. If equipped with air brakes and air tank pull cords and/or drain orifices, you should purge tanks daily, make sure the air system airs to 120psi, and listen for the air drier to purge the system clean of moisture.
5. Make sure all fluids are up, including window wash. Now is the time to check additional fluids, such as DEF, “Wet Kits” etc.
6. Make sure wiper blades are functional, all glass/mirrors cleaned, if equipped, heated mirrors functional, make sure headlights tail/turn lights are cleaned off of snow/ice/salt and operational.
7. If you have driven in snow, ice, sloss, before stopping the vehicle at the end of their shift, lightly have the brakes applied to clean off and dry the shoes, drums, rotors and pads to prevent brakes pads freezing to drum/rotors while the unit is parked.
8. Make sure any steps and grab handles are clean, secure and dry to avoid slipping.
9. If you are operating in state that require chains to be on board, make sure the chains are the correct size, properly secured, clean, and not broken as to be easily applied when necessary.
10. Most important dress warm with self wicking clothing and have extra clothing in the event the unit may break/shut down to avoid hypothermia

FHWA's web site at <http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/trafficinfo-index-htm/5drlq9/597527747> contains links to information on weather and road conditions and the availability of travel web sites and 511 (America's Traveler Information Telephone number.)



Number of Traffic Fatalities Increases for 2016

Over 37,000 lives were lost on U. S. highways in 2016, according to data gathered by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The number of traffic deaths is 5.6 percent higher than the fatalities reported for calendar year 2015.

NHTSA also discovered an increase in the fatality rate based on vehicle miles traveled (VMT) on U.S. roads. VMT increased by 2.2 percent in 2016, resulting in a fatality rate of 1.18 deaths per 100 VMT. This is up 2.6 percent from 2015.

Fatalities as the result of distracted driving and drowsy driving declined for 2016, while deaths related to other reckless behaviors (see table) continued to increase. Motorcyclist and pedestrian deaths accounted for more than a third of the year-to-year increase.

Traffic fatality trends for 2016		
Situation	Number of fatalities	% change from 2015
Distracted driving	3,450	-2.2%
Drowsy driving	803	-3.5%
Drunk driving	10,497	+1.7
Speeding	10,111	+4.0%
Unbelted	10,428	+4.6

Motorcyclist	5,286	+5.1%
Pedestrian	5,987	+9.0%
Bicyclist	840	+1.3%

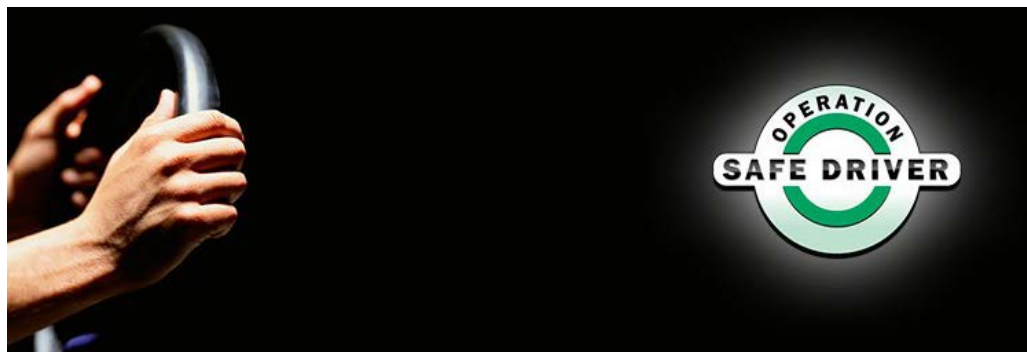
To see additional NHTSA statistics on 2016 traffic fatalities, click [here](#).

A Driver with Other Compensated Work Outside of Your Employment Could Have a Significant Impact on Your Company's Liability Exposure and Compliance!

A dangerous liability situation that motor carriers can find themselves in is when a driver operating a commercial motor vehicle has another part-time job unbeknownst to the motor carrier. It is not until there is an accident or an on-site compliance review that the motor carrier becomes aware of the situation and finds that the driver is in noncompliance with the hours of service regulations placing the motor carrier in a grave liability situation as the outside part-time work is compensated. As defined in CFR 395.2 (9) under definition of "On duty time", performing any compensated work for a person who is not a motor carrier.

How does the motor carrier protect itself from this exposure? Consider this. Have all of your drivers sign a statement upon hire indicating that they do not currently have any other employment that they are being compensated for? Also include in the statement that if they incur compensation for any work outside of their employment with your company that they will immediately inform their supervisor and will be required to document the hours on their hours of service documentation, either a grid log or time record as "On Duty" time. Have the driver sign and date the statement and maintain in the driver's qualification file. Click on the following link to see an example of the Driver's Certification of other Compensated Work statement.

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/liance-drivercertification-pdf/5drlqs/597527747>



Operation Safe Driver Week is Oct. 15-21

Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) announced that its 2017 Operation Safe Driver Week would be held during Oct. 15-21, 2017. During this event, law enforcement agencies throughout North America will engage in increased traffic safety enforcement and education that will be focused on at combating unsafe driving behaviors by commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers and passenger-vehicle drivers.

The CVSA holds Operation Safe Driver Week in partnership with the FMCSA It is supported by industry and transportation safety organizations, and aims to reduce the number of crashes, deaths and injuries involving large trucks, buses and cars due to unsafe driving behaviors. Some unsafe behaviors that enforcement will be tracking throughout the event include the following:

- Speeding
- Failure to use a seatbelt while operating a CMV or in a passenger vehicle
- Distracted driving
- Failure to obey traffic control devices
- Traveling too closely
- Improper lane changes

According to the CVSA, unsafe driver behavior by CMV drivers and passenger-vehicle drivers continues to be the leading cause of crashes. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) "Large Truck Crash Causation Study" cites driver behavior as the critical reason for more than 88 percent of large truck crashes and 93 percent of passenger-vehicle crashes.

For additional information:

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/programs-operation-safe-driver-5drlqy/597527747>

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