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SAFETY BULLETIN



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Question of the Week:

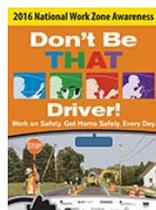
While doing my pre-trip inspection I noticed a cut in the side wall of one of my tires, is this out of service violation?

Answer: It is an out of service violation if the sidewall is cut, worn, or damaged to the extent that the ply cord is exposed. (393.75(a))

Warm Weather is Coming!

The first day of spring is March 20th!

In the last week I have personally observed two vehicles run traffic control devices. Take time now to meet with your drivers and discuss the upcoming days ahead as the temperature will increase and we will see the sun more often. For most of us, it has been a long winter. Caution your drivers on complacency and inattention. As a safety director, it seemed that my worst accidents occurred during the months of March and April. My drivers had spent the entire winter, being alert for changing road conditions, traffic and weather. When the road conditions improved and the weather was extremely enjoyable, it was then that they let down their guard down and an accident occurred. Take the time now to caution drivers and reinforce good defensive driving behavior.



2016 National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 11-15

Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW) is an annual spring campaign held at the start of construction season to encourage safe driving through highway work zones and construction sites. The key message is for drivers to use extra caution in work zones. For more information, check out the link below.

10 Tips for Driving Safely in Work Zones



Register Now for the 2016 Idealease / NPTC Safety Seminar

Idealease and the National Private Truck Council NPTC will again be hosting safety seminars in 2016. The one day seminar this year will focus on the new Electronic Logging Device (ELD) regulation, basic safety and compliance, regulation changes and CSA. In addition, this year attendees will receive the mandatory two hour Drug and Alcohol supervisor training as part of the

- **EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED!** (Normal speed limits may be reduced, traffic lanes may be changed, and people may be working on or near the road.)
- **SLOW DOWN!**(Speeding is one of the major causes of work zone crashes.)
- **DON'T TAILGATE! KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND THE CAR AHEAD OF YOU.** (The most common crash in a highway work zone is the rear end collision. So, don't tailgate.)
- **KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOUR VEHICLE AND THE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS AND THEIR EQUIPMENT.**
- **PAY ATTENTION TO THE SIGNS!** (The warning signs are there to help you and other drivers move safely through the work zone.Observe the posted signs until you see the one that says you've left the work zone.)
- **OBEY ROAD CREW FLAGGERS!** (The flagger knows what is best for moving traffic safely in the work zone. A flagger has the same authority as a regulatory sign, so you can be cited for disobeying his or her directions.)
- **STAY ALERT AND MINIMIZE DISTRACTIONS!**(Dedicate your full attention to the roadway and avoid changing radio stations or using cell phones while driving in a work zone.)
- **KEEP UP WITH THE TRAFFIC FLOW.** (Motorists can help maintain traffic flow and posted speeds by merging as soon as possible. Don't drive right up to the lane closure and then try barge in.)
- **SCHEDULE ENOUGH TIME TO DRIVE SAFELY AND CHECK RADIO, TV AND WEBSITES FOR TRAFFIC INFORMATION.** (Expect delays and leave early so you can reach your destination on time. Check the National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse - <http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/2016-02-19/4219bb/459584629> - for information on work zone delays throughout the country.)
- **BE PATIENT AND STAY CALM.** (Work zones aren't there to personally inconvenience you. Remember, the work zone crew members are working to improve the road and make your future drive better.)



Question of the Week

While doing my pre-trip inspection I noticed a cut in the side wall of one of my tires, is this out of service violation?

Answer: It is an out of service violation if the sidewall is cut, worn, or damaged to the extent that the ply cord is exposed. (393.75(a))

Tire Safety is an Important Part of the Driver's Daily Pre and Post Inspection

Accidents are often caused by tires, which are improperly inflated. With fuel and tires, two of the largest expenses in operating a truck it is important to make sure that the tires are properly inflated. The service life of a tire is shortened by improper inflation. Under inflated tires can significantly take a bite out of the unit's fuel mileage. The only true and accurate way to determine the air pressure in a tire is to gauge the tire with a tire pressure gauge. At your next drivers safety meeting inflate 3 tires on rims with pressures varying by 10lbs each, with one tire at the correct pressure, one 10lbs under and one 20lbs under. See if they are able to tell which tire has the correct pressure. A unique workers compensation case I reviewed was for a driver who was checking his tires by thumping them with a hammer and the hammer bounced back breaking the drivers jaw! When inspecting tires also pay close attention to the wear patterns and tread depth. The FMCSA regulations CFR 393.75 require that steer axle tires have a minimum tread depth of 4/32" and all other applications including trailers to have a minimum tread depth of 2/32". Pay attention to your tires and they will provide many miles of service.

seminar. The seminars and will be provided to all Idealease customers, potential customers and NPTC members at no charge. The seminar provides important information applicable for both the novice and experienced transportation professionals.

[Click Here](#) to register

2016 Idealease Safety Seminar Schedule:

March 17	Memphis, TN
March 23	Santa Rosa, CA
March 29	Shreveport, LA
March 30	Dallas, TX
March 30	Atlanta, GA
April 12	Wausau, WI
April 14	Madison, WI
April 14	Lodi, CA
April 19	Fort Myers, FL
April 20	Tampa, FL
April 21	Orlando, FL
April 26	Baltimore, MD
April 27	Harrisburg, PA
April 28	New Windsor, NY
April 28	Cedar Rapids, IA
May 3	Kansas City, MO
May 3	Lexington, KY
May 5	Salt Lake City, UT
May 5	Aurora, CO
May 10	Everette, WA
May 12	Moncton, NB
June 7	Springfield, IL
June 23	San Leandro, CA
September 20	Lafayette, IN
September 22	Santa Barbara, CA
October 4	Green Bay, WI
October 4	Erie, PA
October 5	Butler, PA

With March Madness just around the corner, the "The Big 12" I am referring to has nothing to do with basketball but rather is in reference to the top 12 driver violations that an FMCSA investigator is looking for in a carrier investigation. During investigations, safety investigators look at driver histories of the worst violations of FMCSA's regulations. In particular, they look at 12 so-called "Red Flag Violations", or "The Big 12". According to the FMCSA, they always investigate these 12 items to determine if the issues have been corrected.

There are now 12 Red Flag Violations, although FMCSA says the list can change anytime.

The table below details them, along with both the BASIC and the regulation each violates.

Basic	FMCSR Part	Violation Description
Driver Fitness	383.21	Operating a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) with more than one driver's license
Driver Fitness	383.23(a)(2)	Operating a CMV without a valid commercial driver's license (CDL)
Driver Fitness	383.51(a)	Driving a CMV (CDL) while disqualified
Driver Fitness	383.91(a)	Operating a CMV with improper CDL group
Driver Fitness	391.11	Unqualified Driver
Driver Fitness	391.11(b)(5)	Driver lacking valid license for type of vehicle being operated
Driver Fitness	391.11(b)(7)	Driver disqualified from operating CMV
Driver Fitness	391.15(a)	Driving a CMV while disqualified
Controlled Substances/Alcohol	392.4(a)	Driver uses or is in possession of drugs
Controlled Substances/Alcohol	394.5(a)	Possession/use/under influence of alcohol less than 4 hours prior to duty
Fatigued Driving (HOS)	395.13(d)	Driving after being declared out-of-service (OOS)
Vehicle Maintenance	396.9(c)(2)	Operating an OOS vehicle

Any driver violations identified and addressed during carrier investigations that are not corrected may result in a driver Notice of Violation or Notice of Claim.

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