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SAFETY BULLETIN



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April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month!

Did you know your brain can miss seeing up to 50% of your driving environment when you talk on a cell phone? And, that according to research, drivers talking on cell phones had slower reaction times than drivers with a .08 blood alcohol content. April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month and is the perfect time for motor carriers to reinforce to their drivers the dangers of distracted driving and the rules and regulations being enforced by the FMCSA.

According to these regulations, Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) drivers are prohibited from texting or using hand-held mobile phones while operating their vehicles. Violations can result in fines and/or disqualifications and will impact a motor carrier's and/or driver's Safety Management System (SMS) results. Texting means manually entering alphanumeric text into, or reading text from, an electronic device. The rules also restrict a CMV driver from **reaching for or holding** a mobile phone to conduct a voice communication, as well as dialing by **pressing more than a single button**. CMV drivers who use a mobile phone while driving can only operate a hands-free phone located in close proximity. In short, the rule prohibits unsafely reaching for a device, holding a mobile phone, or pressing multiple buttons.

The rules impose sanctions for driver offenses, including civil penalties **up to \$2,750** and disqualification for multiple offenses. Motor carriers are also prohibited from requiring or allowing their drivers to text or use a hand-held mobile phone while driving and may be subject to civil penalties up to \$11,000. Violations will impact SMS results.

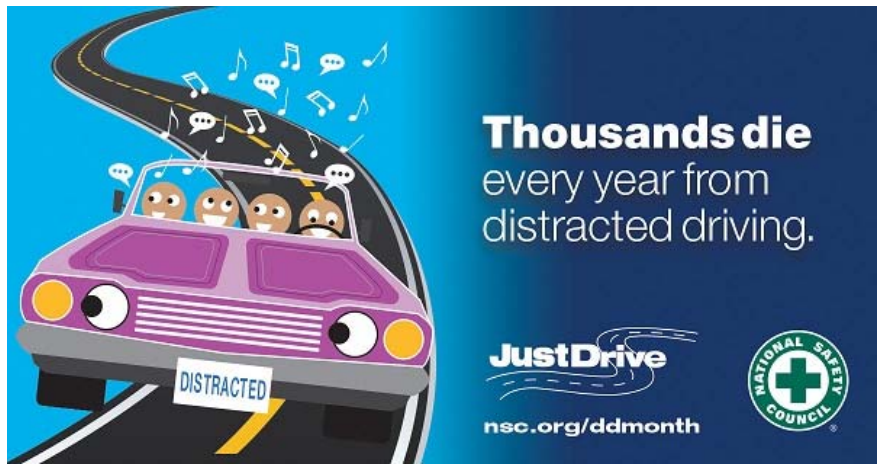
This month reinforce to CMV drivers the dangers of distracted driving.



Idealease and the National Private Truck Council NPTC will again be hosting safety seminars in 2017. The one day seminar this year will focus on the new Electronic Logging Device (ELD) regulation, basic safety and compliance, regulation changes and CSA. 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. To register for an upcoming seminar in 2017 click on the following link:

The National Safety Council offers tips for all drivers on staying safe all month:
<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/hOYCS/5bjb5s/560278927>

It's very easy to comply with the rules: No REACHING No HOLDING No DIALING No TEXTING No READING



Banning Distracted Driving: An Employer's Guide to Protect Employees and Liability

- Implement a clear policy indicating that the employer does not require employees to answer calls while they are on the road. This includes the employer placing calls to employees while they are driving.
- Encourage your employees to plan their trips to include stops so they can safely return calls and emails.
- Establish company policy that makes it unnecessary for employees to text while driving to fulfill their job duties.
- Eliminate any incentives that may encourage employees to text/talk while operating a vehicle.
- Communicate your state's regulations and associated fines to employees.
- Encourage employees to sign an anti-distracted driving pledge.
- Designate company vehicles as "distraction-free zones."

Obtain a free cell phone policy kit from National Safety Council at:

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/cellphonekit/5bjb5v/560278927>

CVSA's 2017 International Roadcheck Enforcement Event to Take Place June 6-8

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance's (CVSA) 30th annual International Roadcheck will take place June 6-8, 2017. Over a 72-hour period, CVSA-certified commercial motor vehicle inspectors in jurisdictions throughout North America will conduct inspections of commercial motor vehicles and their drivers.



<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/safety-seminar-registration/5bjb6b/560278927>

Idealease 2017 Safety Seminar Schedule

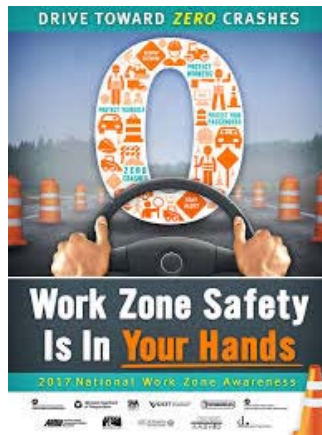
<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
March 28	Harrisburg, PA
March 29	Mobile, AL
March 29	Baltimore, MD
April 4	Milwaukee, WI
April 5	Lexington, KY
April 6	Altoona, IA
April 12	Memphis, TN
April 12	Lodi, CA
April 13	Birmingham, AL
April 18	Chattanooga, TN
April 19	Atlanta, GA
April 20	Tampa, FL
April 25	Youngstown, OH
April 26	Weirton, WV
May 3	Grand Rapids, MI
May 4	Fort Wayne, IN
May 4	Aurora, CO
May 9	Ontario, Canada
May 10	Greensboro, NC
May 17	San Leandro, CA
May 18	Los Angeles, CA
September 12	Santa Rosa, CA
October 3	Charlottesville, VA
October 4	Erie, PA

[Learn more about International Roadcheck.](#)

2017 National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 3-7

National 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:

- [American Traffic Safety Services Association \(ATSSA\)](#)



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