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SAFETY BULLETIN



March 25, 2016

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April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month!

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.

Did you know your brain can miss seeing up to 50% of your driving environment when you talk on a cell phone? And, according to research, drivers talking on cell phones had slower reaction times than drivers with a .08 blood alcohol content.

According to 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.

The National Safety Council offers tips for all drivers on staying safe all month:

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/hOYCS/4f19fy/477558832>



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 seminar. The seminars 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.

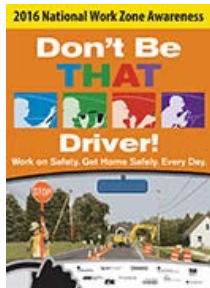
It's very easy to comply with the rules: No REACHING No HOLDING No DIALING No TEXTING No READING

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/4f19g1/477558832>



2016 National Work Zone Awareness Week - April 11-15

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 \(ATSSA\)](#)



International Roadcheck 2016 will be June 7-9, 2016

Roadcheck, now in its 29th year, is the largest targeted enforcement program on commercial motor vehicles in the world, with nearly 17 trucks or buses inspected, on average, every minute from Canada to Mexico during a 72-hour period in early June. Each year, approximately 10,000 CVSA-certified local, state, provincial and federal inspectors in every jurisdiction across North America perform the truck and bus inspections.

[Click Here](#) to register

2016 Idealease Safety Seminar Schedule:

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
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
October 6	Cleveland, OH

[International Roadcheck Checklist for Drivers](#)

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