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## SAFETY BULLETIN

**National Tire Safety Week is May 28 - June 3, 2017**



[www.betiresmart.org](http://www.betiresmart.org)

**be tire smart**  
**play your**  
**PART**  
PRESSURE • ALIGNMENT • ROTATION • TREAD

## National Tire Safety Week is May 28th - June 3rd

*With Roadcheck America and National Tire Safety Week upcoming, now is a good time to review with your drivers the benefits of conducting thorough tire inspections during daily pre and post trip inspections.*

Even with the low diesel fuel price the benefits of a good tire inspection pertains to safe vehicle operations but could also means a fuel savings to for each and every unit operated. Tires are designed to run at a given load and inflation pressure. Running 18 tires 30% under inflated will cost you 5% in actual vehicle fuel economy. 10% under inflation will be a ONE 1% penalty in fuel and 20% under inflation will be over 2% loss in fuel economy.

Commercial motor vehicles that are used daily should have tire pressures checked daily. In addition the tires on the commercial vehicle should be considered as an asset of the company that needs to be managed for optimal utilization and performance. Depending on the size and configuration of the commercial vehicle it is common to have between \$3,000 and \$6,000 of tires invested in each vehicle. During an inspection drivers should check air pressures with a calibrated Gauge. The practice of striking a tire with an object is **NOT** recommended and is inaccurate in determining inflation pressure.

If the tire is under inflated only bad things will result. Irregular wear will develop, fuel

April 14, 2017

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847-304-3190

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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:

economy will get worse, retread ability will be reduced, and tires will not reach their target removal miles. Drivers need to look for any signs of irregular wear which is an early warning sign for under inflation and/or vehicle alignment issues. The tire tread should be wearing smoothly. If not, a technician is needed to check out the vehicle. Drivers should rub their hand over the tire tread and sidewall looking for any signs of punctures or damage. ***Drivers have an enormous impact on maximizing tire mileage.***

### Is there a way I can tell the age of a tire?

Each tire has a US DOT Identification number. This number begins with the letters "DOT" and indicates that the tire meets all federal standards. The next two numbers or letters are the plant code where it was manufactured, and the last four numbers represent the week and year the tire was built. For example, the numbers 3197 means the 31st week of 1997. The other numbers are marketing codes used at the manufacturer's discretion. This information is used to contact consumers if a tire defect requires a recall.

### When is a tire placed out of service?

**Answer:** FMCSA regulations appendix G addresses tire out of service conditions on each commercial motor vehicle as follows:

#### Any tire on any steering axle of a power unit:

1. With less than 4/32-inch tread when measured at any point on a major tread groove.
2. Has body ply or belt material exposed through the tread or sidewall.
3. Has any tread or sidewall separation.
4. Has a cut where the ply or belt material is exposed.
5. Labeled "Not for Highway Use" or displaying other marking which would exclude use on steering axle.
6. A tube-type radial tire without radial tube stems markings. These markings include a red band around the tube stem, the word "radial" embossed in metal stems, or the word "radial" molded in rubber stems.
7. Mixing bias and radial tires on the same axle.
8. Tire flap protrudes through valve slot in rim and touches stem.
9. Regrooved tire except motor vehicles used solely in urban or suburban service (see exception in §393.75(e)).
10. Boot, blowout patch or other ply repair.
11. Weight carried exceeds tire load limit. This includes overloaded tire resulting from low air pressure.
12. Tire is flat or has noticeable (e.g., can be heard or felt) leak.
13. Any bus equipped with recapped or retreaded tire(s).
14. So mounted or inflated that it comes in contact with any part of the vehicle.

#### All tires other than those found on the steering axle of a power unit:

1. Weight carried exceeds tire load limit. This includes overloaded tire resulting from low air pressure.
2. Tire is flat or has noticeable (e.g., can be heard or felt) leak.

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/safety-seminar-registration/5bvc7x/563706373>

### Idealease 2017 Safety Seminar Schedule

Date	Location
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

3. Has body ply or belt material exposed through the tread or sidewall.
4. Has any tread or sidewall separation.
5. Has a cut where ply or belt material is exposed.
6. So mounted or inflated that it comes in contact with any part of the vehicle.  
(This includes a tire that contacts its mate.)
7. Is marked "Not for highway use" or otherwise marked and having like meaning.
8. With less than 2/32-inch tread when measured at any point on a major tread groove.

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## Brake violation added to SMS violation list

An out-of-service (OOS) brake violation was added to the list of citations to be scored in the Safety Measurement System (SMS), the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) reports.

According to the agency, it added Section 396.3A1BOS to the list of potential Vehicle Maintenance Behavior Analysis and Safety Improvement Category (BASIC) violations. FMCSA stresses that this specific violation differs from other OOS brake violations currently in the SMS. It relates directly to underlying brake violations that are already in the SMS, but Section 396.3A1BOS is only used when 20 percent or more of the total brakes are defective and the vehicle is placed out of service.

This most recent addition to the SMS violation list only applies to brake OOS violations occurring as of April 1, 2017. Violations taking place prior will not be used. Vehicle Maintenance BASIC scores will not be affected until May 2017 when the April violations are included.

### Call to Action!

The Truck Renting and Leasing Association has requested an exemption from the requirement that a motor carrier install and require each of its drivers to use an electronic logging device (ELD) to record the driver's hours-of-service no later than December 18, 2017. [82 Fed. Reg. 14789](#) (March 22, 2017). TRALA requests the exemption for all drivers of property carrying vehicles rented for 30-days or fewer because the ELD mandate will result in unintended technical and operational consequences that will unfairly and adversely affect short-term rental vehicles.

TRALA argues that the exemption, if granted, would not have any adverse impacts on operational safety, as drivers would remain subject to the standard HOS limits and maintain a paper record of duty status (RODS). The term of the requested exemption is 5 years, which may be renewed.

Considering the significant number of different ELD device platforms and subscription options, the notice states that driver's device might not be able to communicate properly with the rental company's telematics platform. TRALA states that while FMCSA recognized these issues presented by a lack of interoperability among ELD systems, and required certain technical specifications in the final rule, the agency did not require full interoperability among ELDs. According to the TRALA petition, many commenters to the proposed ELD rule raised these same interoperability concerns. However, the rule requires only that ELDs be able to

transfer data electronically via either a “telematics” approach capable of wireless web service, or a “local” method capable of Bluetooth and USB 2.0 transfer.

***As a customer of Idealease and you know that the ELD mandate as it stands will present a hardship for you when you rent a unit we would like for you to send a comment to the FMCSA supporting the TRALA petition.***

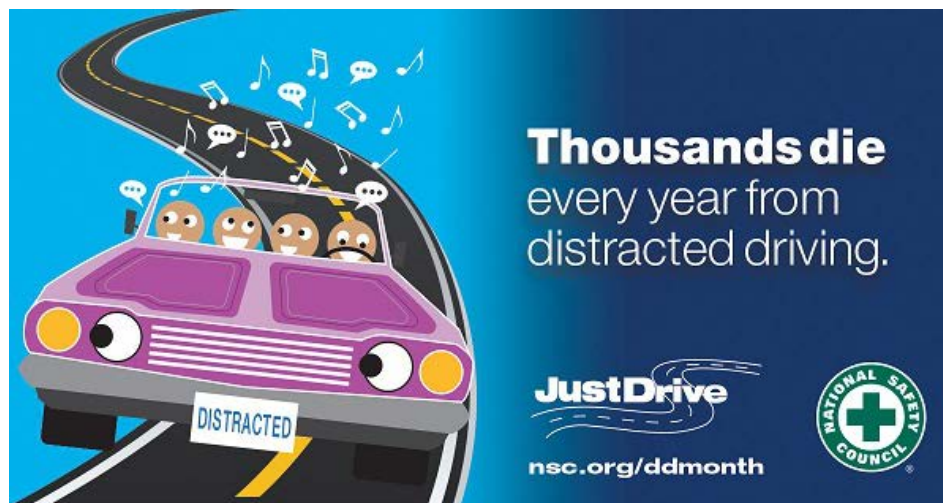
To view the petition as printed in its entirety in the federal register go to:

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/-2017-03-22-pdf-2017-05632-pdf/5bvc7g/563706373>

The best way to submit comments is online.

Go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and put the docket number, “FMCSA–2016–0428” in the “Keyword” box, and click “Search.” When the new screen appears, click on “Comment Now!” button and type your comment into the text box in the following screen. Choose whether you are submitting your comment as an individual or on behalf of a third party and then submit.

**All comments must be submitted by April 21, 2017.**



## April is National Distracted Driver Month

### **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."

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## 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.



[Learn more about International Roadcheck.](#)

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