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April 15, 2016

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847-304-3190

www.idealease.com**National Tire Safety Week is May 29th - June 4th**

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 economy will get worse, retread ability will be reduced, and tires will not

**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 and will be provided to all Idealease customers, potential customers and NPTC members at no charge. The seminar provides

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.
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.

important information applicable for both the novice and experienced transportation professionals.

[Click Here](#) to register

2016 Idealease Safety Seminar Schedule:

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 21	Santa Fe Springs, CA
September 22	Santa Barbara, CA
October 4	Green Bay, WI
October 4	Erie, PA
October 5	Butler, PA
October 6	Cleveland, OH
October 12	Chicago, IL

FMCSA Reminds Medical Examiners and Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers that Revised Driver Examination Forms Must

Be Used Beginning April 20, 2016

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) reminds Medical Examiners (MEs) and commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers that, as of April 20, 2016, certified MEs performing physical examinations of CMV drivers must use the revised versions of the Medical Examination Report (MER) Form ([MCSA-5875](#)) and the Medical Examiner's Certificate (MEC) Form ([MCSA-5876](#)).

In April 2015, FMCSA published the [Medical Examiner's Certification Integration final rule](#), designed to facilitate the electronic transmission of MEC information from FMCSA's National Registry to the State Driver's Licensing Agencies, and required the use of revised MER and MEC forms.

In December 2015, FMCSA [announced a 120-day grace period](#) – from December 22, 2015 through April 20, 2016 – during which MEs may use either [the old "substantially in accordance with" versions or the newly revised versions](#) of the MER Form and MEC Form.

FMCSA provided a grace period to ensure that MEs had sufficient time to become familiar with the new forms and to program electronic medical records systems.

MEs and CMV drivers with questions are directed to contact the FMCSA Medical Programs Division at (202) 366-4001 or FMCSAMedical@dot.gov

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.

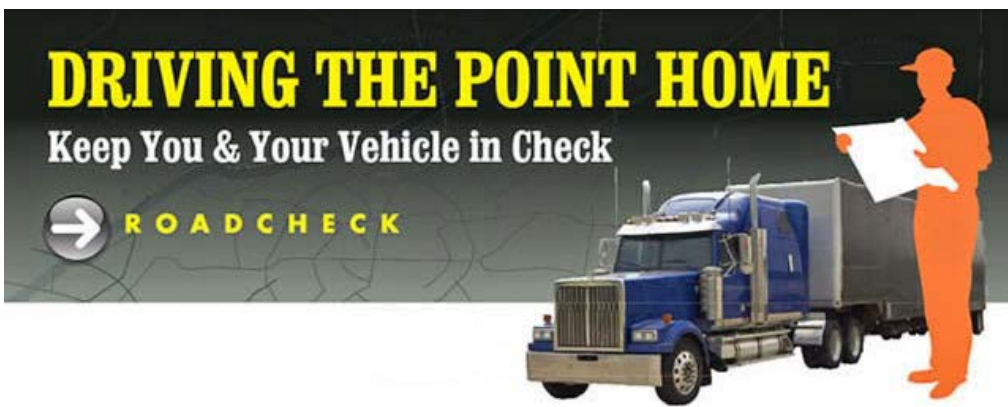
The rules impose sanctions for driver offenses, including civil penalties **up to \$2,750** and disqualification for multiple offenses. Motor carriers are also prohibited from requiring or allowing their drivers to text or use a hand-held mobile phone while driving and may be subject to civil penalties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

Tips for Controlling Distracted Driving:

- **Out of sight, out of mind.** Putting your phone on silent and storing it somewhere that is not visible, but easily accessible, is the best way to avoid temptation. Everyone knows the feeling of seeing a notification and wanting to immediately respond because we all live busy lives, but in order to stay safe and keep other motorists safe, it's best to keep your phone out of sight.
- **Never text and drive.** There's very few driving habits that are worse than texting and driving. Taking your eyes off the road to send a one-word text takes at least 5 seconds. If you're going 60 mph on the highway, your vehicle travels more than the length of a football field in five seconds. Do not take those five seconds for granted because a lot can happen in that short

amount of time – debris can fly into your lane, an animal can run in front of your car, or another driver might change lanes and hit the brakes.

- **Be prepared to drive before getting behind the wheel.** Eat your granola bar at home. Save the newspaper for when you get to work. Make sure you're fully awake by getting the proper amount of sleep the night before. There are many ways in which we can get sidetracked throughout the day and there are certainly times when we have to multitask. Driving is not one of those times.
- **Properly secure every item in your vehicle.** You don't want something to fall to the floor and spill while you're traveling at 60 miles per hour down the highway. Try to suitably secure all items and definitely do not place anything on your lap or near the driver's side floor. Items can slide under your brake pedal and prevent you from stopping if incorrectly secured.
- **Set a good example for young drivers and speak up when uncomfortable.** Young drivers who have grown up in the age of tremendous technological advancement may not know the risks involved in distracted driving. Talk to them about why it's important to focus and why sharing the road with other drivers is a big responsibility. Also, if you're a passenger in a vehicle and an electronic device distracts the driver, say something or offer to type the text and send it yourself. Safety is much more important than avoiding a few minutes of awkward conversation.



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.

[International Roadcheck Checklist for Drivers](#)

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