Schools out! Summer is here! Remember, Safety First!

With the arrival of summer, many of us are looking forward to spending more time outdoors. School is out, so there are many children going to and from, and participating in, outdoor activities throughout the day. Adults, too, are taking advantage of the longer daylight hours, so let’s all commit ourselves to staying alert and staying safe.

Here are some safety tips for drivers I urge you to follow:

- The last week of school is an exciting time for children and they may become preoccupied and forget the rules of the road. Use extra caution when driving through school zones.
During those last few days of school, be aware that kids may be arriving or leaving school at different times throughout the day.

- Remember that playground speed limits remain in effect year round. Observe carefully when driving around playgrounds and parks. Small children are less predictable and harder to see than adults.

- Watch for clues, a hockey net or ball in the road or on the sidewalk can mean kids are playing nearby. Pay attention and always anticipate the unexpected.

- Always watch for small children as you’re backing up. Walk around your vehicle to make sure no kids or pets are behind it.

International Roadcheck 2016 will take place on 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

ATRI Announces new app to help truckers find parking

The American Transportation Research Institute (ATRI) announced its involvement in a new trucking industry initiative to help professional drivers find available truck parking.

Beginning in late summer, truck drivers who need

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2016 Idealease Safety Seminar Schedule:

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to stop, park, and rest will be able to use a free mobile app called Park My Truck to locate important truck parking information and find available spaces. The app is being developed by the Truck Parking Leadership Initiative, of which ATRI is a key member along with the National Association of Truck Stop Operators (NATSO) Foundation, and the American Trucking Associations (ATA).

The Truck Parking Leadership Initiative was developed based on feedback from professional drivers, motor carriers, and truck stop operators who are very familiar with truck parking availability as a critical need. Park My Truck allows any parking provider - whether public or private - to report their parking availability for free through this app; it doesn't require any special technology except internet access.

The groups encouraged all parking providers - including truck stops and travel centers, state DOT rest areas, and others - to participate in the initiative by providing information and reporting the number of spaces available in their lots.

Administered by the NATSO Foundation, Park My Truck will be accessible by internet or through smart-phone apps by all professional drivers, trucking fleets, or other industry participants.

Truck parking providers can contact the NATSO Foundation at (703) 549-2100 or hello@parkmytruck.com to establish an account to provide truck parking availability.

Memorial Day Holiday

As we celebrate the upcoming Memorial Day Holiday let us not lose site of the freedom that we all enjoy. On May 3, 2000, President William J. Clinton, designated that 3:00 pm on Memorial Day as a time for US citizens to observe one minute of silence in respect and reverence to those individuals who have given the ultimate sacrifice to protect the freedom of the United States of America. Also keep in your thoughts and prayers for the well being of the lives of the men and women who currently serve in our armed forces.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Now is the time to prepare your terminal facility for the long Memorial Day holiday weekend!

This is the first three day holiday weekend of the year and it is not uncommon for thieves to target truck terminals and truck dealerships over the holidays.
Diesel fuels in your unit’s tanks are especially vulnerable to theft. Another theft item that has escalated in the last two years is the Diesel Particulate Filter (DPF). The DPF is constructed with precious metals. Thieves use a battery powered saws all to cut off the DPF.

Thieves know it is a good opportunity for a successful theft as the possibility exists for no one to be at the facility.

- Make sure that you take extra precaution to secure the trucks and items of value at your facility.
- If your units do not have anti-siphon devices or locking caps, instruct the drivers not to fill the units at the end of the day.
- Make sure that all security alarms and cameras are in working order. Walk the perimeter of the yard to make sure that security fencing is in good condition.
- Move units and all other material such as pallets, tires, etc far enough away from the fence so they cannot be used to climb on to get over the fence.
- Review your security lighting to make sure it is operational and adequate. Lighting can be obstructed by vehicles or trees allowing a thief a place to be unseen.
- Consider blocking the entrance and exits to the lot so units cannot be stolen.
- Throughout the three day weekend assign management personnel to check the terminal randomly.
- Notify local law enforcement officials of your hours of operation over the holidays so they know when to expect activity at your location.

Using a little prevention and common sense can deter a thief from striking your facility and disrupting your business!

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