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## SAFETY BULLETIN



June 2, 2017

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847-304-3190

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## 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.



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 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:

- 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.

## Celebrate and Participate in National Safety Month

This June, the National Safety Council (NSC) is celebrating your passions with the theme of "Keep Each Other Safe" By sharing your stories and providing you with resources such as posters, tip sheets, safety checklists and an infographic.



Join NSC and thousands of organizations across the country as we work to raise awareness of what it takes to Keep Each Other Safe. Observed annually in June, National Safety Month focuses on reducing leading causes of injury and death at work, on the road and in our homes and communities.

Visit the NSC Safety Month Website at: [nsc.org/nsm](http://nsc.org/nsm)

## CVSA's 2017 International Roadcheck Enforcement is starting next Tuesday.

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.](#)

## Six Most Common CSA Violations

### The Truck

#### Violation: Lighting

28% of all roadside vehicle violations last year, out of 2.4 million inspections, dealt with lights or reflective materials.

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/safety-seminar-registration/5ck444/572223095>

### Idealease 2017 Safety Seminar Schedule

Date	Location
September 12	Santa Rosa, CA
October 3	Charlottesville, VA
October 4	Erie, PA

Light violations are a severity point assessment of 6 CSA points and a conspicuity of reflective tape violations are 3 CSA points.

**Prevention:** Pre and Post trip inspections and reporting of lighting defects on the daily vehicle inspection report.

### **Violation: Brakes**

25% of vehicle violations are for brakes, with over 1 million brake violations last year, each with four CSA points.

**Prevention:** Training is key. Make sure drivers know what to look for and when to get assistance with their brakes. The only way to find a brake adjustment problem is to carefully measure the stroke, and adjusting a brake that has an automatic adjuster won't fix the problem (and may make it worse).

### **Violation: Tires**

11% of vehicle violations are for tires (half for tread depth), with a CSA severity of eight points.

Steer tires must have 4/32 inch of tread depth; other tires must have 2/32 inch.

**Prevention:** Pre and Post Trip inspections that identify tires that are getting close to regulation requirements being reported on the daily vehicle inspection report.

Drivers need to know how and when to check inflation (with a gauge!) and when it's time for a replacement.

## **The Driver**

### **Violation: Logs**

"Form & Manner" and "Log Not Current" violations make up 25% of all driver violations at the roadside, far and above any other violation. A form/manner violation carries just one CSA point, but a log that isn't current is worth five.

**Prevention:** Review hours of service regulations with all drivers upon orientation and throughout the year during driver meetings.

Monitor hours of service documentation for violations.

Implement a progressive disciplinary policy for violators with termination as the ultimate action taken.

Consider implementing electronic logging devices.

### **Violation: Medical issues**

12% of driver violations are related to medical issues, often a failure to have a valid medical certificate. These carry a low CSA point value of one or two, although driving while physically ill is a 10-point violation.

**Prevention:** Track the expiration of your drivers' medical cards and make sure they get updated, placed in drivers' files, carried in the vehicle and turned in to the state licensing agency. Make sure drivers know exactly what's required of them, and have consequences in place for those who fail to comply.

Some of these violations may go away once we have the National Registry of Medical Examiners, and once interstate CDL drivers no longer have to carry their medical cards (in Feb. 2015).

### **Violation: English ability**

This violation has been surging in recent years, currently at 9% of all driver violations and carrying four CSA points.

Compliance is complicated because there is no yes/no standard. Key for a roadside inspection is being able to fill out paperwork, speak with officers and answer their questions, all in English.

**Prevention:** Your hiring practices should filter out drivers who simply cannot meet the standard. Use training and practice to help drivers know how to respond to typical questions about their logs, their trips and cargo, their insurance, registration, license and their vehicle.

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**Our mailing address is:**  
430 North Rand Road  
North Barrington, IL 60010