

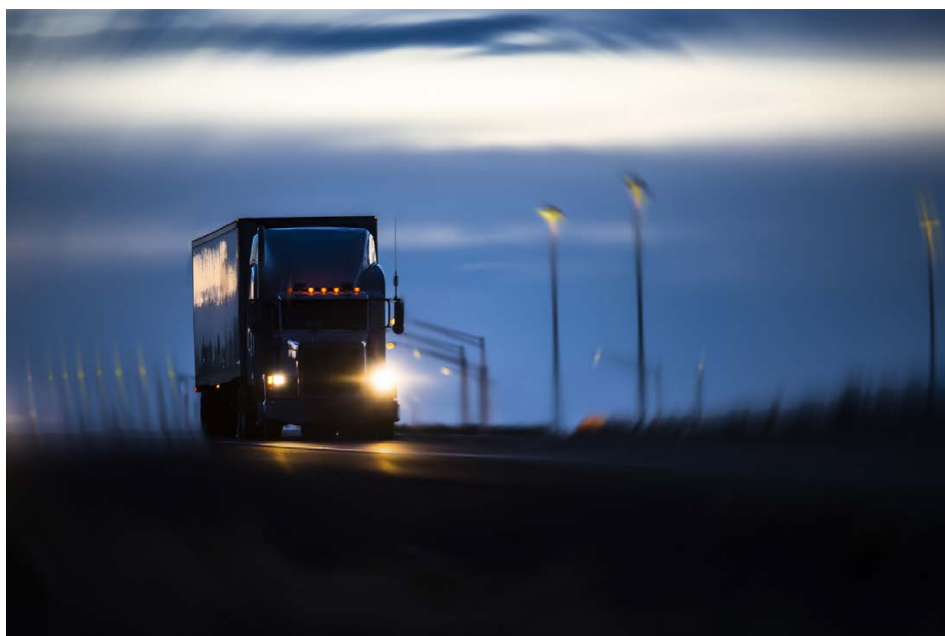
**In This Issue:**

Night Driving  
Are you using the Pre-Employment Screening Program (PSP)?  
FMCSA moves forward with study on crash preventability  
Idealease/NPTC Safety Seminar Registration  
Dates for Operation Safe Driver Week announced by CVSA

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## SAFETY BULLETIN



## Night Driving

*Although the majority of driving takes place during daylight hours, more accidents occur at night and most fatal accidents happen during the night.*

The professional driver understands that it takes maximum defensive driving skills to drive safely at night. Add rain to the mix and the risk multiplies. Between 12 midnight and 6 a.m. is the riskiest time for crashes, because there are fewer drivers yet more accidents than any other time of the day. Many professional drivers have routes or trips that begin or end in darkness. Safe night driving requires preparation, alertness, and a heavy dose of common sense.

### What Makes Night Driving Difficult?

- Poor Visibility – Obviously and naturally, there is very less natural light on the road.
- People Feel More Sleepy during darkness than During Daytime - It is universal that one tends to feel sleepier at night.
- Silence around Makes One Feel More Drowsy – If your will be driving alone and late at night, chances are there will be fewer vehicles around. Silence on



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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:

the road also makes you feel at ease and consequently sleepy.

- Roadway Lighting - Roadway lighting is often very poor. In rural areas there is little or no overhead lighting and in urban locations the lighting may not only be poor but confusing as well due to neon signs and other distractions. The most dependable lighting will come from your own vehicle.
- People Drink Mostly at Night – That's true and implies to people around the world. For some of them it's a habit, while for others it's a party night.
- Car and Truck Lights from Opposite Direction Disturb – Direct & sharp light from the opposite vehicle hits the eyes of the driver and can lead to an accident do to temporary blindness.
- For Those Who Are Visually Impaired – Those who have problem with their eyesight or suffer from night blindness driving at night is a major challenge

### Tips for safe driving at night:

- Condition of Other Drivers - Late in the evening and during the early morning hours is when you are most likely to meet fatigued or impaired drivers. Be alert for motorists that are driving aggressively or erratically during these times. Maintain a safe distance from these drivers and be prepared to stop. If a vehicle comes into your lane head-on, slow down and move your vehicle as far to the right as you can. Never take evasive action into an oncoming lane of traffic.
- Reduce Your Speed
- Fatigue, combined with less available light, reduces vision and reaction time. Reduce your speed when driving at night and especially on unfamiliar roads. Maintain a four second interval when following the vehicle ahead as a space cushion.
- Make sure your headlights are properly aimed. Check with your service provider or maintenance shop for the proper procedure. During your pre and post trip inspections make sure that your lights are operational and clean.
- Keep your headlights and windshield clean. Being able to see other cars and be seen by other drivers helps a lot! If it's bug season, stop and wipe them off at each break.
- Don't overdrive your headlights. Especially when driving on smaller roads without reflector strips, follow a four-second rule. Take note of where the far reach of your low beams are, then count four seconds. If you pass that original place in less than four seconds, then you are going too fast. Two to three seconds may be an acceptable range for major highways with reflector strips. Remember that posted speed limits are for driving in daylight with dry road conditions.
- Use high beams wisely. The use of high-beam headlights when there isn't oncoming traffic can extend the time that you have to react to hazards. Never use your high beams because the high beams of the oncoming car stay on. This will only increase the chances of a head-on crash.
- Don't look at oncoming headlights. Focus on the edges of oncoming traffic and bright objects, as staring directly into headlights can blind you for up to five seconds until your eyes adjust.
- Look around. Keep your eyes moving from side to side, rather than focusing only on the centerline and the road ahead, to help your eyes stay adjusted to the dark and avoid falling victim to "highway hypnosis," a state in which

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/safety-seminar-registration/5d1dql/582526143>

### Idealease 2017 Safety Seminar Schedule

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

reaction time is greatly impaired.

- Wear sunglasses during the day. Wearing sunglasses during bright days helps keep your eyes more sensitive for driving in the dark.
- If you're tired, get off the road and sleep. If you feel sleepy, caffeine can never be a substitute for sleep, nor is loud music or rolling down the windows. Pull over and rest, and stop every two hours for a break out of your vehicle even if you're not feeling sleepy. Don't set out on a trip tired.



## **Pre-Employment Screening Program**

### **Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration**

## **Are you using the Pre-Employment Screening Program (PSP)?**

PSP was designed to assist the motor carrier industry in assessing individual operators' crash and serious safety violation history as a pre-employment condition. A carrier will pay \$10 for each requested driver history. An annual subscription fee of \$100 also applies. Carriers with fewer than 100 power units qualify for a discounted annual fee of \$25 per year.

Individuals can request a personal driving history for a fee of \$10. No subscription is necessary for individual drivers.

The program is voluntary. It is not part of CSA. Motor carriers may request, through a third party provider, NIC Technologies, driver information for the purpose of pre-employment screening. The driver must provide written consent. Individual drivers may request their own driver information record at any time. The information will be retrieved from the Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS).

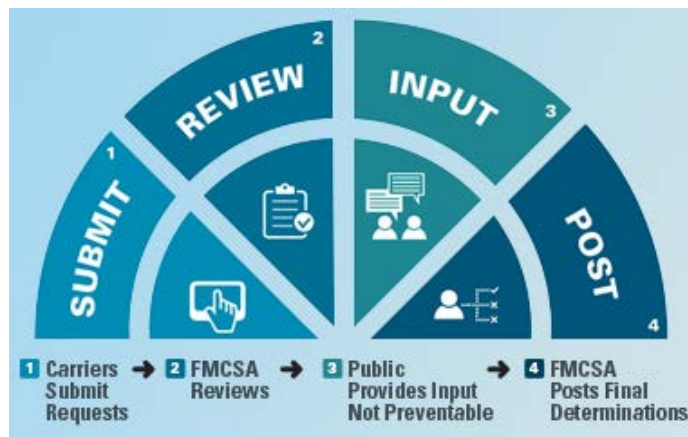
MCMIS electronic profiles will contain 5 years of crash data and 3 years of inspection data, however, MCMIS will not include conviction data. To enroll in the PSP go to: [www.psp.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.psp.fmcsa.dot.gov)

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## **FMCSA moves forward with study on crash preventability**

Beginning August 1, 2017, motor carriers with eligible accidents have the opportunity to participate in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA's) Crash Preventability Demonstration Program. The study is expected to last a minimum of 24 months.

The agency will begin to accept Requests for Data Review (RDRs) through DataQs for eligible crashes. Individuals submitting an RDR should include supporting documents, photos, or videos to support claims.



**A crash is eligible for participation in the program if it occurred on or after June 1, 2017, and:**

- The commercial motor vehicle (CMV) was struck:
  - By a motorist driving under the influence (or related offense);
  - By a motorist driving the wrong direction;
  - In the rear;
  - While legally stopped or parked, including when the vehicle was unattended;
  - By an individual committing or attempting to commit suicide by stepping or driving in front of the CMV; or
  - By cargo or equipment from another vehicle;
- CMV sustained disabling damage after striking an animal in the roadway; or
- Crash was a result of an infrastructure failure, falling trees, rocks, or other debris.

The agency currently uses all accidents as defined in Section 390.5 of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations to arrive at a motor carrier’s Crash Indicator BASIC score under its Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA) enforcement model. FMCSA believes studies show that crash involvement is a strong indicator of future crash risk, while many stakeholders argue that preventability should be taken into consideration.

**As a result, the Crash Preventability Demonstration Program will:**

- Gather data to examine the feasibility, costs, and benefits of making crash preventability determinations on certain crash types; and
- Offer insight into preventability determinations and FMCSA’s ability to identify the highest-risk motor carriers.

To learn more on the study and how to participate, click [here](#).

**Dates for Operation Safe Driver Week announced by CVSA**

During the week of October 15-21, 2017, motorists throughout North America will experience heightened traffic safety enforcement, the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) announces.

CVSA's annual Operation Safe Driver Week is an educational outreach opportunity for law enforcement to reach both the commercial motor vehicle (CMV) and passenger-vehicle driver. Law enforcement will identify and issue warnings and/or citations to any driver (commercial or non-commercial) exhibiting unsafe driving behaviors.

During Operation Safe Driver Week, enforcement will track unsafe driving behaviors, such as speeding, distracted driving, texting, seatbelt usage, traveling too closely, improper lane change, failure to obey traffic control devices, and so forth. CVSA, in partnership with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), hopes the event will aid in improving driving habits in and around CMVs.



Unsafe driver behavior continues to be the leading cause of crashes, CVSA reports. According to the "Large Truck Crash Causation Study," published by FMCSA, driver behavior is a critical reason for more than 88 percent of large truck crashes, and 93 percent of passenger-vehicle crashes.

## Mark Your Calendar:

**CVSA Brake Safety Day - Sept. 7th**  
**National Truck Driver Appreciation Week - Sept. 10-16**  
**Operation Safe Driver Week - Oct. 15-21st**

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