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## SAFETY BULLETIN



**F M C S A**  
*Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration*



November 6, 2015

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### Fuel Additive Use during Cold Weather Conditions

As colder weather approaches you need to use fuel additives to prevent fuel jelling. Fuel additive should be added anytime the ambient temperature is below 32 degrees F. Power Service and Penray are popular manufactures of fuel additives and both companies have two different products available through Navistar and Idealease locations.

**Look out for the 2016 Safety Seminar Schedule!**

## FMCSA Misses Release Date of Long Awaited ELD Final Rule... Wait for it!

After pushing Sept. 30 most of the year as the publication date for a Final Rule to mandate the installation and use of electronic logging devices by trucking fleets and drivers, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's latest projected date for the rule — Oct. 30 — has also come and gone, and no rule has yet been produced.

The rule is still hung up at the White House's Office of Management and Budget. It was projected by the DOT in an October-issued report to clear there last Monday, Oct. 26.

In February, FMCSA projected a publication date of Nov. 9, before immediately reversing course and changing its forecasted publication date back to Sept. 30 — the date the agency set last fall as its target publication date.

The DOT should issue next week new projected publication dates for its current rulemakings, which could offer a new date to expect an e-log rule, if the agency doesn't publish it before then.

## Protecting the Truck during Cold Weather!

1. Diesel supplement should be added to the ultra low sulfur diesel fuel when temperatures drop below 32 degrees.
2. If your truck is equipped with an engine block heater it should be plugged in when the temperature is below 32 degrees. Trucks that are not utilized should be started and let run every day to bring the unit up to normal operating temperature.
3. Initial start up procedure should be as follows: Complete pre-trip of unit, unplug block heater, turn ignition switch to on, and wait for glow plug lights to go out, start engine, leave engine run until engine operating temperatures increase.
4. For trucks equipped with air brakes, drivers should purge air tanks daily. If the unit is equipped with an air drier, bringing the PSI to 120 will automatically purge the system.
5. If you are driving in snow, ice, slush, rain, etc., before parking the unit for the day you should lightly apply the brakes while the unit is moving to dry the brake shoes, drums, rotors and pads so the brakes do not freeze while parked.
6. Make sure windshield washer solvent is full and that all windows are clean.
7. Remove any ice-snow build up from steps and grab handles to prevent a slip or fall.



When parking the unit make sure if heavy snow is forecast that the unit is not left parked in an outside dock or near a building overhang. Snow can drift off of the building causing excessive accumulation on the top

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### POWER SERVICE:

- The "Red Bottle" is Power Service 911 and is to be used only when the fuel in a unit has been jelled and NOT TO BE USED AS A PREVENTATIVE MEASURE TO KEEP FUEL FROM JELLING
- Power Service Diesel Fuel Supplement + Cetane "White Bottle" is to be added to the fuel at each fill when the ambient temperature is < 32 degrees F.
- This is the additive you should use on a regular basis during the winter months.

### PENRAY:

Winter Thaw Emergency Diesel Fuel Supplement dissolves already gelled fuel fast and reduces clogging of fuel filters, prevents ice crystal build-up in fuel lines and filters by disbursing moisture.

Penray also eliminates hard starting, pounding, excessive smoking and helps improve combustion and is 100% compatible with low sulfur fuel and fuel blends.

**Here again, Winter Thaw Emergency is ONLY TO BE USED WHEN THE FUEL IS ALREADY JELLED!**

### Winter Pow-R Plus Diesel Fuel Supplement

- ULSD compliant
- Prevents gelling of diesel fuel.
- Prevents ice crystal formation.
- Reduces cold filter plug point b as much as 30°F.
- Helps enhance cetane.
- Helps improve fuel economy.
- Utilizes HAFI® technology.
- Improves cold weather starting. Stabilizes and prevents corrosion. Helps reduce emissions.
- Helps improve lubricity.



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## Parking Lot Accident Exposure Increases during the Holidays!

As we are drawing near to the holiday season it is time to remind your drivers of the exposures that exist in parking lots as they make deliveries and pickups. Parking lots at this time of the year can be especially dangerous for drivers making deliveries or just stopping for lunch. The exposure exists for a vehicle accident as well as being involved in an accident as a pedestrian. This holiday season pay special attention when operating in a parking lot and observe the following advice:

- Wear your seatbelt – even low speed collisions can throw you around the cab of your truck.
- Obey all traffic signs such as Stop and Yield
- Drive slowly and use your turn signals and headlights – make sure your vehicle is seen and watch for distracted motorists who do not see you coming
- Obey traffic lanes and do NOT drive diagonally across lots (watch for cars cutting diagonally across lots)
- Slow down for speed bumps as not to injure yourself or damage your cargo.
- Use delivery driveway entrances for customers that auto traffic is not likely to use.
- Beware of motorists who are lost or distracted looking for specialty stores that are not frequented.
- Be extra careful at entrances and exits – motorists stop suddenly and for no apparent reason – tailgaters often end up in rear-end collisions, and rushing while turning into access road or side street traffic can also lead to collisions
- Be especially careful in lots that contain Post Offices, package stores and other locations where people are prone to dart in and out hastily in a hurry to be on their way
- Be extra careful during peak times when reckless drivers may speed through lanes while trying to get a “better spot” closer to the shops

- Some drivers are on the “hunt” for an ideal parking spot and may drive erratically – watching for open spots rather than watching where they are driving! These drivers often circle the lanes nearest to their store – parking away from stores may make a longer walk, but prove less dangerous from a vehicle collision standpoint
- Lock your truck at all times when not attended. Parking lots are very busy and are often targeted by thieves.

***The first parking lot in the world was created in Fort Wayne, Indiana no doubt just in time for holiday shopping.***

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## **OOS Violations down for 2015, Brake Safety Week data shows**

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) held its annual Brake Safety Inspection Week, September 6-12, 2015, for North America. Commercial motor vehicle safety inspectors performed brake system safety inspections on 18,817 large trucks and buses.

During the course of the week, a total of 2,321 commercial vehicles were placed out-of-service (OOS) for brake violations. The overall brake violations were down, however, compared to 2014.

<b>OOS Rate For:</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
All brake-related violations	12.3%	16.2%
Brake Adjustment	7.7%	10.4%
Brake Components	6.9%	9.3%

The results came from roadside safety inspections conducted throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Safety inspectors looked for:

- Out-of-adjustment brakes;
- Loose or missing parts;
- Air or hydraulic fluid leaks;
- Cracked, damaged, or work linings;
- Pads, drums, or rotors; and
- Faulty brake-system components.

The inspectors also measured the pushrod stroke, where applicable.

Brake Safety Week is part of the Operation Airbrake Program sponsored by CVSA in partnership with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators (CCMTA).

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## **Georgia's Department of Public Safety to Launch Year-Long Enforcement Emphasis**

The following comes from meetings with the Motor Carrier Compliance Division of Georgia's Department of Public Safety and from a press release issued by DPS.

The press release makes it appear the entire effort is geared toward miscreant motor carriers and drivers – and that is part of it – however, MCCC officials assure Georgia Motor Truck Association (GMTA) all distracted driving, aggressive driving, etc. will be targeted among all motorists. Despite these assurances, there is no doubt the news media will portray this as a trucking issue.

GMTA urges members to be prepared and to continue the fine safety efforts that mark GMTA

member companies as the best in the business.

## **MISSION AND SCOPE**

Georgia ranks 5th in the nation in number of fatal crashes involving commercial motor vehicles. The Mission of the Department of Public Safety's "Stop the Threat" initiative is to implement a highly visible, sustainable, crash elimination effort to effectively reduce traffic crashes involving commercial motor vehicles in Georgia.

To target unsafe driving behavior, as well as to establish an attitude of safety compliance among motorists on Georgia's highways, the Motor Carrier Compliance Division (MCCD), supported by the Georgia State Patrol (GSP), shall strategically deploy highly visible law enforcement personnel in marked vehicles in both high crash rural and high crash urban areas throughout Georgia during periods that collisions involving commercial motor vehicles most commonly occur.

By strategically focusing on reducing unsafe driving behavior and establishing a sustainable attitude of safety through a highly visible law enforcement presence, "Stop The Threat" shall create a safer transportation environment for the Nation's motorists by targeting for unsafe commercial vehicle drivers who place the public in danger by driving while impaired (to include fatigued driving), driving while distracted (texting & cell phone use), speeding, following too close, improper lane changes, improper lane use, failure to wear seat belts, and mechanical deficiencies.

The "Stop the Threat" initiative shall occur in all geographic MCCD regions (1-9). The initiative shall focus law enforcement resources in both rural and urban areas on interstate and non-interstate transportation arteries, as identified by the Department as "High Crash Corridors" and "High Risk Rural Routes."

[Click here for full details about this effort.](#)

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