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# **Mirrors a Reflection of Safety**

The mirrors on your vehicles provide your driver with real time information so they can operate the unit safely. If the mirrors are in poor condition and/or out of adjustment the lack of the information that they provide can contribute to or be the sole cause of an accident. It always amazes me when I look at a fleet of trucks how many of them have damaged or out of adjustment mirrors. Make a habit of checking the mirrors in your fleet at least once weekly to make sure they are adjusted and tight. By getting in your unit after a driver returns from his/her route and looking at where the mirrors are adjusted will tell you whether your driver is using the mirrors properly for defensive driving.

## Use of Mirrors

- 1. A professional driver watches his mirrors nearly as much as he watches the road ahead.
- 2. Vision is restricted when using mirrors.
- 3. As a precaution, you should always check for traffic with and without mirrors.
- 4. Proper adjustment of mirrors is essential in safe driving.
- To adjust mirrors accurately on a combination unit, the vehicle must be in a straight line. The driver must be in a normal position behind the steering wheel while adjusting
- 6. Mirrors should be clean and without cracks
- Mirror heads and support brackets should be properly tightened to reduce vibration at the mirror head.



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February 8th, 2019

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## DOT Asks Public to Point Out Obsolete Regulatory Guidance



Stakeholders are being asked to identify and submit comments on obsolete regulatory guidance for agencies represented in the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). The Department is reviewing its existing guidance documents to determine whether they need to be updated or revised. The public has been included in the process to identify candidates for repeal, replacement, or modification. Specific to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), the agency intends to publish a separate notice inviting public comments on regulatory guidance dealing with commercial driver's licenses (CDLs).

DOT guidance documents serve the following purposes:

- Clarify the pertinent statutory and regulatory requirements
- Assist with statutory and regulatory compliance
- Communicate the Department's position
  on an issue

8. Keep your eyes moving while you are driving! Do not stare at any one object for more than two seconds.

#### Mirror Station

- 1. If you have the room at your facility, I would suggest that you consider making a mirror check station.
- 2. The Mirror station requires to that you have a flat level hard surface that is 30' wide by 80' long.
- 3. Use white outdoor marking paint to make the station.
- 4. Require drivers before starting their route to go through the station to make sure their mirrors are properly adjusted.
- 5. For directions in setting up a mirror station Click Here.

## **Safety Meeting Exercise**

As part of your next driver safety meeting have a driver get into the cab of a unit with the engine shut off and key removed and sit in the proper driving position with seat belt



fastened. Tell the driver that you are going to have one of his/her fellow drivers go to the back of the truck/trailer and walk away from the unit in a straight line. Have the driver in the cab blow the horn when he/she can see the other driver in the mirrors. Before starting the exercise have the drivers guess the total distance from the back of the unit to where the driver will be when the horn blows. This will show the drivers the distance of the blind spot located directly behind their unit

## If I Am Stopped On the Side of the Road Where Do I Place the Warning Triangles?

- 1. First activate your 4-way hazard flashers immediately
- 2. Next place the warning reflective triangles as follows:
- One on the traffic side of and 4 paces (approximately 3 meters or 10 feet) from the stopped commercial motor vehicle in the direction of approaching traffic.
- One at 40 paces (approximately 30 meters or 100 feet) from the stopped commercial motor vehicle in the center of the traffic lane or shoulder occupied by the commercial motor vehicle and in the direction of approaching traffic.
- One at 40 paces (approximately 30 meters or 100 feet) from the stopped commercial motor vehicle in the center of

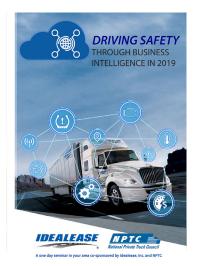
the traffic lane or shoulder occupied by the commercial motor vehicle and in the direction away from approaching traffic.

- Hills, curves, and obstructions. If a commercial motor vehicle is stopped within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill, or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning signal in the direction of the obstruction to view a distance of 100 feet to 500 feet from the stopped commercial motor vehicle so as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway.
- · Divided or one-way roads. If a commercial motor vehicle is stopped upon the traveled



Comments will be accepted for 60 days following the Department's notice in the Federal Register. Parties must include the agency name and the Docket Number DOT-OST- 2017-0069 at the beginning of their comments.

## **Registration Is Now Open Online for the** 2019 Idealease / NPTC Safety Seminars!



## Click here to register for a Safety Seminar in your area!

Idealease and the National Private Truck Council NPTC will be hosting safety seminars again in 2019. The one-day seminar this year will focus on new safety technologies available on trucks today, basic safety and compliance, regulation changes and CSA. The seminars will be provided to all Idealease customers, potential customers and NPTC members at no additional charge. The seminars provide important information applicable to both the novice and experienced transportation professionals.

## Spring Seminars

| 3/27/2019 | Orlando, FL        |
|-----------|--------------------|
| 3/28/2019 | Tampa, FL          |
| 4/2/2019  | Memphis, TN        |
| 4/3/2019  | Atlanta, GA        |
| 4/3/2019  | Mannheim, PA       |
| 4/4/2019  | Charlotte, NC      |
| 4/4/2019  | Weirton, WV        |
| 4/17/2019 | Ventura, CA        |
| 4/18/2019 | San Leandro, CA    |
| 4/23/2019 | Portland, OR       |
| 5/1/2019  | Plymouth, IN       |
| 5/1/2019  | Grand Rapids, MI   |
| 5/7/2019  | Upper Marlboro, MD |

portion or the shoulder of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place the warning devices as follows, one warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one warning device at a distance of 100 feet in a direction toward.

What Electronic Logging Device (ELD) User Documentation Must Be Onboard A Driver's Commercial Motor Vehicle for an Interstate Driver of a Commercial Motor Vehicle?

Beginning on December 18, 2017, a driver using an ELD must have an ELD information packet onboard the Commercial Motor Vehicle containing the following items:

- 1. A user's manual for the driver describing how to operate the ELD.
- 2. An instruction sheet describing the data transfer mechanisms supported by the ELD and step-by-step instructions to produce and transfer the driver's hours-ofservice records to an authorized safety official.
- 3. An instruction sheet for the driver describing ELD malfunction reporting requirements and recordkeeping procedures during ELD malfunctions.
- 4. A supply of blank driver's records of



duty status (RODS) graph-grids sufficient to record the driver's duty status and other related information for a minimum of 8 days.

5/9/2019 Aurora, CO 5/21/2019 Baltimore, MD 5/23/2019 Milwaukee, WI

#### Fall Seminars

| TBD        | Chicago, IL         |
|------------|---------------------|
| TBD        | Lexington, KY       |
| TBD        | Springfield, IL     |
| 10/15/2019 | Reno, NV            |
| TBD        | San Leandro, CA     |
| TBD        | Eugene, OR          |
| TBD        | Green Bay, WI       |
| TBD        | Erie, PA            |
| 9/12/2019  | Nashville, TN       |
| 10/23/2019 | Modesto/Turlock, CA |
| TBD        | Salt Lake City, UT  |
| TBD        | Louisville, KY      |
| TBD        | Kelowna, BC         |
|            |                     |



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