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## SAFETY BULLETIN

**DRIVE TOWARD *ZERO* CRASHES**

**Work Zone Safety Is In *Your Hands***

**2017 National Work Zone Awareness**



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Brought to you by Idealsafe  
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**TRANSPORTATION INNOVATION:**  
*Leading the Way to Improve Safety & Compliance*

**2017**  
IDEALEASE SAFETY & COMPLIANCE SEMINAR

**IDEALEASE** **NPTC**  
National Private Truck Council

A one day seminar in your area co-sponsored by Idealease, Inc. and NPTC

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:



## 2017 National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 3-7

*National Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW) is an annual spring campaign held*

at the start of construction season to encourage safe driving through highway work zones and construction sites. The key message is for drivers to use extra caution in work zones.

## 10 Tips for Driving Safely in Work Zones

- **EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED!** (Normal speed limits may be reduced, traffic lanes may be changed, and people may be working on or near the road.)
- **SLOW DOWN!**(Speeding is one of the major causes of work zone crashes.)
- **DON'T TAILGATE! KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND THE CAR AHEAD OF YOU.** (The most common crash in a highway work zone is the rear end collision. So, don't tailgate.)
- **KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOUR VEHICLE AND THE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS AND THEIR EQUIPMENT.**
- **PAY ATTENTION TO THE SIGNS!** (The warning signs are there to help you and other drivers move safely through the work zone. Observe the posted signs until you see the one that says you've left the work zone.)
- **OBEY ROAD CREW FLAGGERS!** (The flagger knows what is best for moving traffic safely in the work zone. A flagger has the same authority as a regulatory sign, so you can be cited for disobeying his or her directions.)
- **STAY ALERT AND MINIMIZE DISTRACTIONS!** (Dedicate your full attention to the roadway and avoid changing radio stations or using cell phones while driving in a work zone.)
- **KEEP UP WITH THE TRAFFIC FLOW.** (Motorists can help maintain traffic flow and posted speeds by merging as soon as possible. Don't drive right up to the lane closure and then try barge in.)
- **SCHEDULE ENOUGH TIME TO DRIVE SAFELY AND CHECK RADIO, TV AND WEBSITES FOR TRAFFIC INFORMATION.** (Expect delays and leave early so you can reach your destination on time. Check the National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse - <http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/2017-02-24/58zrdd/555906633> - for information on work zone delays throughout the country.)
- **BE PATIENT AND STAY CALM.** (Work zones aren't there to personally inconvenience you. Remember, the work zone crew members are working to improve the road and make your future drive better.)



<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/safety-seminar-registration/58zrdd/555906633>

## Idealease 2017 Safety Seminar Schedule

Date	Location
March 2	San Martin, CA
March 22	Dallas, TX
March 28	Harrisburg, PA
March 29	Mobile, AL
March 29	Baltimore, MD
April 4	Milwaukee, WI
April 5	Lexington, KY
April 6	Altoona, IA
April 12	Memphis, TN
April 12	Lodi, CA
April 13	Birmingham, AL
April 18	Chattanooga, TN
April 19	Atlanta, GA
April 20	Tampa, FL
April 25	Youngstown, OH
April 26	Weirton, WV
May 3	Grand Rapids, MI
May 4	Fort Wayne, IN
May 4	Aurora, CO
May 9	Ontario, Canada
May 10	Greensboro, NC
May 17	San Leandro, CA
May 18	Los Angeles, CA
September 12	Santa Rosa, CA
October 3	Charlottesville, VA
October 4	Erie, PA

## Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday, March 12th!

Start now to make sure that all of your drivers are aware of the change to daylight savings time in two weeks. Caution route drivers especially that the amount of daylight will change according to their stops with the change.

- Also, remember to change the batteries in smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors as well.
- Most sleep experts recommend a minimum of 7 hours of sleep a night. Many people sleep an average of 40 minutes less Sunday night, March 12 after Daylight Saving Time returns. Plan ahead to avoid being sleepy. Sleep in Sunday morning and nap Sunday afternoon.

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## Watch for Spring Weight Restrictions

With unseasonably warm temperatures in many Northern Tier States, it is important for the commercial driver to be aware of annual spring weight restrictions. Some begin as early as February and many last into May.

Seasonal weight restrictions may change from year to year based on the weather. Typically, effective dates are set by states based on:

- Frost depths measured along state highways,
- Observed road conditions, and
- Weather forecasts.

Motor carriers and their drivers need to monitor state websites for effective dates and affected highways. In addition, drivers need to watch for road signs indicating seasonal weight restrictions.

Once a state feels its roads have regained stability, it will remove the weight restrictions. This occurs when the frost line is deep enough to allow moisture to escape.

An example of an exceptionally early weight restriction is Michigan. Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and local agencies enacted measures to protect state roadways effective February 10, 2017. For Michigan highways affected by the mandate, see [MDOT](#).

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## Trade groups ask Transportation Secretary Chao to Rescind Proposed Safety Rating Rule

In a letter addressed to Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao, multiple national, state, and regional trade associations ask for the immediate rescinding of a proposed rule to change the safety rating process. The letter also calls for a reform of the Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA) Safety Measurement System (SMS) process.

The current safety rating process uses the results of a comprehensive investigation (i.e., compliance review or audit) to place a carrier into one of three categories: Satisfactory, Conditional, or Unsatisfactory. The proposed rulemaking, "Carrier Safety Fitness Determination," uses on-road safety data, results of carrier investigations, or a combination to arrive at a safety fitness determination. The

rulemaking would do away with the three-tier rating system and replace it with a simple pass/fail. A carrier that does not pass is given an Unfit Status.

The associations, which represent both property and passenger carriers, believe CSA's SMS is based on flawed data and should not be the basis for a new safety rating concept. They are asking Chao to reform the CSA program as mandated by Congress.

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