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SAFETY BULLETIN



October 9-15 Fire Prevention Week

National Fire Prevention Week is coming and it is a good time to review with your drivers how to prevent fires and how to react to a fire that occurs in their commercial motor vehicle.

Fire extinguisher inspection is a vital part of a driver's daily vehicle inspection process. It amazes me how many times I will be looking at a truck and find the fire extinguisher has lost its pressure due to a leak or was used and returned to the truck without being recharged. The actions of a driver at the time of a fire are crucial in saving lives and controlling the amount of loss.

When a fire occurs in a commercial motor vehicle the driver has to know two things:

September 23, 2016

Brought to you by Idealsafe

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Register Now for a 2016 Idealease / NPTC Safety Seminar

Idealease and the National Private Truck Council NPTC will again be hosting safety seminars in 2016. The one day seminar this year will focus on the new Electronic Logging Device (ELD) regulation, basic safety and compliance, regulation changes and CSA. In addition, this year attendees will receive the mandatory two hour Drug and

1. Knowledge about fires
2. How to operate a fire extinguisher

Fire safety and fire extinguisher operation should be part of every new driver's orientation program.

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety regulations require that all commercial motor vehicles have a fire extinguisher on board that is of the correct size, type and properly secured and labeled. Did you know that a CMV with hazardous materials is required to have a different size extinguisher than those not carrying hazardous material?

Here are the requirements:

§393.95 Emergency equipment on all power units.

Each truck, truck tractor, and bus (except those towed in driveaway-towaway operations) must be equipped as follows:

- (a) Fire Extinguishers.

Minimum ratings

- A power unit that is used to transport hazardous materials in a quantity that requires placarding must be equipped with a fire extinguisher having an Underwriters' Laboratories rating of 10 B:C or more.
- A power unit that is not used to transport hazardous materials must be equipped with either:
 - A fire extinguisher having an Underwriters' Laboratories rating of 5 B:C or more.
 - Labeling and marking. Each fire extinguisher required by this section must be labeled or marked by the manufacturer with its Underwriters' Laboratories rating.

Visual Indicators

The fire extinguisher must be designed, constructed, and maintained to permit visual determination of whether it is fully charged.

Condition, location, and mounting

The fire extinguisher(s) must be filled and located so that it is readily accessible for use. The extinguisher(s) must be securely mounted to prevent sliding, rolling, or vertical movement relative to the motor vehicle.

When a fire occurs in a Commercial Motor Vehicle the driver should take the following actions:

- Get the truck off of the roadway and into an open area if possible. Park away from buildings, trees, vehicles or anything else that may catch fire.
- Call 911 on your cell phone to report the fire and location.
- If the fire is already to a size that cannot be extinguished get away from the

Alcohol supervisor training as part of the seminar. 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.

[Click Here](#) to register

2016 Idealease Safety Seminar Schedule

October 4	Green Bay, WI - SOLD OUT
October 4	Erie, PA
October 5	Butler, PA
October 5	Columbia, SC
October 6	Cleveland, OH
October 12	Chicago, IL

truck. Your life and the life of the general public is your first responsibility.

- If you are operating a tractor trailer and can safely disconnect the trailer from the tractor do so as not to damage both units and cargo in the fire.
- If the engine is on fire turn off the engine as soon as possible.
- Do not open the hood if possible and try to extinguish the fire from the louvers, radiator or underside of the truck. Opening the hood will provide additional oxygen to fire and it will increase at a more rapid rate.
- If the fire is in your trailer or cargo box of the truck keep the doors shut. Here again additional oxygen will increase the intensity of the fire.
- A tire fire will not likely be extinguished with a fire extinguisher. Try throwing dirt or sand on the tire to smother the fire.

What you can do to prevent the likelihood of a fire starting in your Commercial Motor Vehicle:

- Complete a thorough pre and post trip inspection daily of the fuel, electrical, exhausts systems, tires and cargo of your truck.
- Keep the unit clean from excess grease, fuel and oil.
- Monitor your dash gauges while in operation for signs of overheating.
- Utilize your mirrors for signs of smoke or flames.
- With new Post Emission 2007 and newer units be aware of regeneration of the after treatment program and where the regeneration occurs as exhaust temperatures reach high levels of heat.
- Know the cargo that you have on board and its fire potential.



Keep your family safe with a working smoke alarm in every bedroom

Did you know that roughly half of home fire deaths result from fires reported between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., when most people are asleep?

Smoke alarms save lives. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you time to get out. In fact, having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a reported fire in half!

*This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "**Don't Wait – Check the Date!** Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years,"* represents the final year of our three-year effort to educate the public about basic but essential elements of smoke alarm safety.

Why focus on smoke alarms three years in a row?

Because NFPA's survey data shows that the public has many misconceptions about smoke alarms, which may put them at increased risk in the event of a home fire. For example, only a small percentage of people know how old their smoke alarms are, or how often they need to be replaced.

As a result of those and related findings, we're addressing smoke alarm replacement this year with a focus on these key messages:

- Smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years.
- Make sure you know how old all the smoke alarms are in your home.
- To find out how old a smoke alarm is, look at the date of manufacture on the back of the alarm; the alarm should be replaced 10 years from that date.

Operation Safe Driver Week is Oct. 16-22

On August 2, 2016, the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) announced that its 2016 Operation Safe Driver Week would be held during Oct. 16-22, 2016. During this event, law enforcement agencies throughout North America will engage in increased traffic safety enforcement and education that will be focused on at combating unsafe driving behaviors by commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers and passenger-vehicle drivers.



The CVSA holds Operation Safe Driver Week in partnership with the FMCSA. It is supported by industry and transportation safety organizations, and aims to reduce the number of crashes, deaths and injuries involving large trucks, buses and cars due to unsafe driving behaviors.

Some unsafe behaviors that enforcement will be tracking throughout the event include the following:

- Speeding
- Failure to use a seatbelt while operating a CMV or in a passenger vehicle
- Distracted driving
- Failure to obey traffic control devices
- Traveling too closely
- Improper lane changes

According to the CVSA, unsafe driver behavior by CMV drivers and passenger-vehicle drivers continues to be the leading cause of crashes. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) "Large Truck Crash Causation Study" cites driver behavior as the critical reason for more than 88 percent of large truck crashes and 93 percent of passenger-vehicle crashes.

For additional information:

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/rograms-operation-safe-driver-55sbl7/533284728>

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