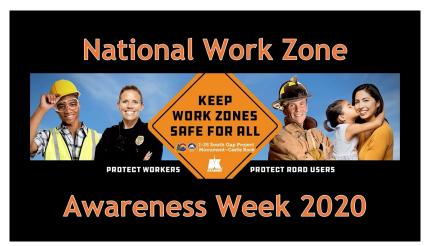
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Work Zone Awareness

We are now in the middle of work zone season and you cannot drive anywhere without experiencing a work zone. As traffic volumes begin rebounding as COVID-19 lockdown orders are relaxed, renewed emphasis is being placed on highway work zone safety especially as higher incidences of speeding recorded during the pandemic are abating only slowly. "Though overall [motor vehicle] fatalities have decreased in the long run, the top three crash contributors – impaired driving, lack of restraint use and speeding – have persistently each accounted for nearly a third of all crash fatalities," noted John Saunders, director of highway safety for the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, in testimony during a June 30 hearing before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation's Subcommittee on Transportation and Safety. Now is the time to reinforce to your drivers the dangers that exist around 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 and TURN ON YOUR FOUR WAY FLASHERS. (Speeding is one
 of the major causes of work zone crashes.)
- DON'T TAILGATE! KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND THE VEHICLE AHEAD OF YOU. (The most common crash in a highway work zone is



July 17, 2020

Brake Safety Week to Remain on CVSA's Calendar of Events

Brake Safety Week, slated for late August, will proceed as scheduled, according to the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA).

CVSA's annual event will take place August 23rd through 29th as a part of law enforcement's efforts to reduce brakerelated crashes and remove unsafe commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) from the roadways.

How is this different than any other time of the year?

Throughout the year, law enforcement checks brake components as a part of the roadside inspection process. However, during this year's enforcement campaign, roadside inspectors will pay special attention to hoses and tubing. Brake Safety Week 2020 will be used to highlight the importance of these brake components.

The week-long event is a part of the greater Brake Safety Awareness Month. During August, law enforcement will provide outreach materials to drivers, motor carriers, mechanics, and others on the importance of properly maintained brakes.

Importance of brake safety

A CMV's brake components must work together to slow and stop a vehicle. If the brake hoses/tubing are not working 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.)





- 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. <u>Check the National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse</u> 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.)



Idealease Announces a New Safety Webinar Series

Due to the cancellation of our on-site safety seminars in 2020 we will be presenting a safety webinar series starting next month to keep you informed and up to date on changing regulations as well as a review of existing regulations. The webinars will be one hour in length and will address six separate topics regarding compliance and safety. Look for registration information in

future safety bulletins and on the Idealease website. Here are the dates and webinar topics:

Aug. 12	Who is required to comply with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations		
Aug. 26	Qualifying a driver of a commercial motor vehicle		
Sept. 9	Keeping your driver safe during a pandemic		
Sept. 23	New hours of service regulation changes and the ELD		
Oct. 7	How the Drug and Alcohol Testing regulations apply to you a motor carrier		
Oct. 21	Developing a proactive safety and loss control program		

properly, it can affect the entire braking system and create a safety issue.

To function properly, hoses and tubing must be:

- · Properly attached
- · Without damage and leaks
 - Flexible

When roadside inspectors identify critical out-of-service brake violations, the vehicle cannot be operated until the defects are repaired. During last year's Brake Safety Week, officers placed 13.5 percent of the CMVs they inspected out of service due to brake-related vehicle violations.

Vehicles that pass the vehicle portion of an eligible roadside inspection may receive a CVSA decal.



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FMCSA Announces Another Extension to its Emergency Exemption

An emergency exemption for truck and bus drivers assisting with the COVID-19

pandemic relief efforts has been extended for yet another month.

The exemption was first issued on March 13, 2020, and has been revised and extended multiple times with the most recent extension due to expire on July 14, 2020. An enforcement notice posted on July 13, 2020, extends the emergency

extension yet another month through August 14, 2020.

This latest extension contains the same restrictions and conditions as the July 14th extension (as detailed below). A number of items and personnel were no longer eligible for the emergency declaration as of June 15, 2020.

USPENDED FOR

Who qualifies?

The revised exemption is limited to the transportation of:

Livestock and livestock feed; Medical supplies and equipment related to the testing, diagnosis, and treatment of COVID-19; and Supplies and equipment necessary for community safety, sanitation, and prevention of community transmission of COVID-19, such as masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, soap, and disinfectants.

Under the emergency declaration, eligible motor carriers and drivers providing direct assistance in support of relief efforts related to the COVID-19 outbreak are not required to comply with Parts 390 through 399 of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. This includes rules covering hours of service, vehicle inspections, and driver qualification, among others.

What is direct assistance?

Direct assistance means transportation and other relief services provided by a motor carrier or its drivers related to the immediate restoration of essential supplies like meat or disinfectants.

Direct assistance does not include routine commercial deliveries. Also, it does not include transportation of mixed loads with a nominal quantity of qualifying emergency relief added to obtain the benefits of the emergency.

Direct assistance ends when a driver or commercial motor vehicle (CMV) is used in interstate commerce to transport cargo or provide services that are not in support of emergency relief efforts or when the motor carrier dispatches a driver or CMV to another location to begin operations in commerce.

A driver who provides relief assistance may travel back to his or her terminal with an empty CMV under the exemption.



Some rules unaffected

Drivers and motor carriers operating under this exemption must continue to comply with the commercial driver's license, drug and alcohol testing, financial responsibility (insurance), hazardous materials, and size and weight requirements.



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The FMCSA's emergency declaration says drivers and carriers must also comply with:

All applicable state laws and regulations, including speed limits and other traffic restrictions;

49 CFR §392.3, which prohibits the operation of a CMV while the driver is too ill or fatigued to drive safely; and Prohibitions on texting while driving and using a handheld cell phone while driving.

The declaration also includes a need to provide fatigued drivers with 10 hours of rest upon completion of their relief efforts.

Finally, the declaration requires motor carriers to report any recordable crashes to the FMCSA office in the state where the carrier is based. The notification must be made by phone or in writing within 24 hours and include the date, time, location, driver, vehicle identification, and brief description of the crash.

Termination date

The latest exemption will remain in place until 11:59 pm Eastern Time on August 14, 2020, or until the national emergency is terminated, whichever happens first.











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