



# AAT News

December 2019



## Takeaways from Roadcheck 2019

The annual Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) International Roadcheck was held this past June with an average of 17 trucks being inspected per hour and over 12,000 trucks were pulled from the roadway for critical violations.

This year the focus was on steering and suspension systems. 408 steering out-of-service vehicle conditions were found along with 703 out-of-service vehicle conditions.

3,173 out-of-service driver conditions were found with the top three out-of-service conditions:

- ◆ Hours of Service
- ◆ False logs
- ◆ Wrong class of license

16,347 out-of-service vehicle conditions were found with the top three out-of-service conditions:

- ◆ Braking Systems
- ◆ Tires & Wheels
- ◆ Brake Adjustment

## Hours of Service / LOGS

We were recently informed that our CSA score has been dramatically affected due to several preventable CSA /DOT violations that resulted from the DOT inspections. While we require and expect that all drivers maintain their logs in a legal manner, we are asking that additional time and effort be spent on each log.

- ◆ Plan your day; remember a 30 minute break is required in the
- ◆ FIRST 8 hours of ON-DUTY time. Set an alarm on your watch or phone for your 30 minute break.
- ◆ MAXIMUM 11 hours drive time, MAXIMUM 14 hours on-duty time.
- ◆ Make sure and label each stop with the town and state along with the activities, i.e fuel, pre-trip inspection, post inspection, delivery.
- ◆ Form and Matter....does matter☺ Neatness counts.

## This N That

Mother Nature throws us thunder storms, hurricanes, & snowstorms, where flights can be delayed, cancelled or rescheduled for the following day. Dispatchers take great efforts to monitor the weather when planning trips throughout the year; ultimately having no control over the weather or airlines. If this unfortunate event occurs to you while on the road, please be patient and work with the airlines.

Check In Calls are vital for drivers to make twice a day by 8:00 am and 1:00 pm. Leave a message when you start your day and call when you stop for a break. Your location is required. Emails and text messages work too.

Sleeping in vehicles is prohibited. This is against DOT regulations and a serious offense. A hotel room and 10 consecutive hours off is required. During an inspection they may ask you to provide receipts for your lodging for log compliance.

## Annual Drivers Book Updates

Effective December 1, 2019 there will be new insurance certificate that will need to be replaced in your books. Before January 1<sup>st</sup> all IFTA stickers, plates and WEX cards will need to be updated for each driver. See staff with any questions.

## Is There A "Worst" Temperature?



This may sound strange, but colder doesn't always mean worse in terms of slippery road conditions. It goes without saying that you should always exercise great caution at any temperature, but it's worth noting that the roads may be particularly slippery between 22 and 35 degrees Fahrenheit. According to a Road and Track article, when the weather is in this temperature range your tires may actually get less grip than they do at even colder temperatures. The article also points out, though, that the road temperature may not always be the same as the air temperature, depending on traffic patterns and other factors.

Don't just know the current temperature. If the temperature drops overnight, especially if it rained the day before, the roads could be slick with ice. It's not enough to know what the weather is doing on a particular day but know the day before too.

Don't forget the Anti-Gel! Cummins recommends the use of Power Service Diesel Fuel Supplement. If that is not available please use Howe's Diesel Treatment.

## Paper Work/Packet Reminders

- ◆ Please do not put more than one trip's paperwork in each envelope.
- ◆ Fuel receipts must have the Bill of Lading number on each slip.
- ◆ The Fuel Tax and Fluid Checklist must be filled out completely.
- ◆ Bill of Lading—each box for the inspection must be filled out individually (don't just draw a line down thru them all), any notable body issues noted and drivers signature. This is a legal document.
- ◆ Turn envelopes/paperwork in immediately after each trip.

OFFICE CLOSED.....Our office will be closed December 24 & 25, 2019 in observance of the holidays.

At the close of 2019 we gratefully pause to wish you a warm and happy Holiday Season.

Debra, Scott, Penney

Jackie, Donna,

Kara and Patti

