

W.W. Transport INC.

Safety Newsletter

January 2020



DECEMBER SAFETY LEADERS

Congratulations to this month's Safety Leaders!

Brian Cuthbert- Dowagiac, MI
Jonathan Hoefler- Buffalo, NY
Bruce Yarbary- Commerce City, CO

Christopher Foster- Heavy Haul Division
Clark Rissmiller- Martins Creek, PA
Jack Yentzer- Camp Hill, PA

Keep up the great work!



DRUG & ALCOHOL CLEARINGHOUSE

On January 6, 2020, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) completed the implementation of their Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse program. The clearinghouse program was developed to provide a database for employers and other authorized users a real-time report on a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) holders drug and alcohol program violations. The FMCSA's drug and alcohol testing program is something many CDL drivers are used to. These tests include: Pre-employment Department of Transportation (DOT) tests, Randomized DOT tests, and Return To Work (RTW) testing. At W.W. Transport, Inc. we are required to randomly test 50% of drivers for controlled substances and 10% for alcohol per quarter. These include the breath alcohol test and the five-panel urinalysis. In the past, these results have been kept in house and released with a driver's consent to a prospective employer.

If a CDL holder is found to be in violation of any of those tests, the driver is required to go through a Substance Abuse Counselor (SAP) to continue utilizing their CDL in the future. The new program is aimed at keeping our roads safe from drivers who have failed and are unqualified to operate commercially.

The FMCSA has made it mandatory for all CDL and CDL permit holders to register as a driver on their clearinghouse website. When registered, drivers will have the opportunity to: Provide electronic consent to drug and alcohol information to current or prospective employers; Review any incorrectly entered information; to identify any SAP to report return to duty activities, in the case that the driver has unresolved drug & alcohol program violations.

As a CDL holder, to comply with the FMCSA's newly implemented program you must register online at the FMCSA website: <https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/>. Also, you may soon be asked to complete a consent form for W.W. Transport. This will be a one-time signature as it covers you during your entire employment at W.W. Transport. More information on the FMCSA requirements can be viewed at <https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/Resource/Index/Driver-Brochure> for driver specific information.

Seatbelt Safety



Always wear your seat belt. Thousands of lives are lost each year in vehicle accidents where the driver or passenger is not wearing a seat belt. The sudden reduction in speed is what kills or injures motorists, not the speed itself: even a low-speed collision or sudden stop can throw vehicle occupants forward with enough force to cause severe injury or death.

Passengers are 25 times more likely to be ejected from the vehicle if they do not wear safety belts.

Wearing your seat belt prevents you from being tossed about the passenger compartment or ejected from the vehicle. Additionally, drivers wearing seat belts will be kept in position to attempt to regain control of the vehicle.

The majority of fatal accidents occur within 25 miles of the driver's home.

More injuries occur:

- In cities and towns.
- At low speeds.
- On short trips.

The length or distance of your trip should not dictate your seat belt use: it should be worn as long as you are in the vehicle and it is moving. If you need to adjust your seat belt, retrieve an item out of your reach, or take a break from being strapped in, pull off the road to a safe place. Just be sure to buckle back up before getting back on the road.



January Milestones

We appreciate your work for all these years and many best wishes on the anniversary of your service this November!

Donald Ruby, 10 years! Camp Hill, PA
Leroy Sisco, 8 years! Refrigerated Division
Brian Grisham, 5 years! Burlington, IA
David Young, 5 years! Commerce City Shop

Lynford Knepp, 9 years! Burlington, IA
Brad Cahill, 6 years! Burlington Shop
Kirk Lockwood, 5 years! Wood River

SPEED SAFETY

According to the National Highway Traffic Association, speeding has been involved in approximately 1/3 of all motor vehicle fatalities. In 2015, speeding was a contributing factor in 27 percent of all fatal crashes, and 9,557 lives were lost in speeding-related crashes. The consequences of driving above the speed limit are not limited to traffic tickets or losing your safety bonus. They include immediate risks, such as:

- Increased risk in loss of vehicle control.
- Decreased stopping distance when a danger is perceived.
- Increased severity when an accident does happen.
- Lowered effectiveness of safety equipment.

To minimize these risks, it is important to pay attention to the following areas when you are driving your commercial motor vehicle



Stopping time:

A complete stop includes perception, reaction, brake activation, and deceleration.

The time it takes you to stop varies based on how quickly you react, your driving speed, the weight of load, the weather conditions and other factors.

Driving speeds:

Slow down:

- On curves.
- On ramps.
- In work zones.
- In inclement weather.
- In low visibility, such as nighttime.
- In the rain, reduce your speed by one-third.
- On snow or ice, reduce your speed by half.



Preparation:

Make sure that you are as prepared as possible before setting out. For example:

- Perform thorough pre-trip and post-trip inspections every shift.
- Know the difficult road conditions you will encounter in your route (such as curves, raps, and work zones.)
- Be prepared for inclement weather.
- Minimize or eliminate distractions, including mobile electronic devices, fatigue, and pain.

Remember that use of handheld electronics while driving is prohibited by the FMCSA.

Backing Accidents: G.O.A.L

Backing accidents account for a large percentage of losses that companies experience. Most often, these accidents are considered preventable because it is the driver's responsibility to ensure that the path behind the vehicle is clear.

The most common types of backing claims are:

1. Backing into parked vehicles
2. Backing into vehicles while at stop sign or intersection
4. Backing into dock and hitting guard rail
5. Backed into dock and hitting overhang
6. Vehicle rolled back into another vehicle or fixed object.

Some of the main causes that contribute to backing accidents are:

- The driver is in a hurry
- The driver is inattentive or distracted
- The driver is parking in a crowded area
- There are obstructions that block the driver's view

Ways to prevent a backing accident:

1. If possible, avoid backing up by planning your routes.
2. Know your blind spots and other limitations of vision.
3. Before backing, walk around your vehicle to make sure it is clear of vehicles or pedestrians.
4. Turn your flashers on to alert others to your intent.
5. Back up slowly and use your horn if necessary.
6. Back up from the driver's side, if possible.
7. Don't forget to look for overhead obstructions such as: power lines, signs and canopies when backing
8. Reduce distractions: turn off radio, avoid in-cab distractions, open vehicle windows to hear surrounding noises.
9. Use a spotter if available.

Most backing accidents are preventable. If you are not confident the area behind you is clear you should stop, look and proceed with caution. Never assume that an area is clear; Always remember G.O.A.L...Get Out And Look.