

Safety Newsletter

October 2007

CVSA OPERATION SAFE DRIVER 10/21 to 10/28

Please try to fax your physical from the doctors office, that way if any part of the physical isn't filled out properly, it can be fixed before you leave. This will save you time later on. Thanks for helping!!

If your blood pressure is 140/90 or above, you have hypertension. This will put you on a yearly physical schedule. Ask your doctor to take your blood pressure twice. Sometimes a higher reading is caused by nerves.

Court Stays HOS Regulations until Dec. 27, 2007

The D.C. Court of Appeals recently decided to keep the current hours-of-service (HOS) regulations in place until Dec. 27, 2007, to give the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) more time to consider possible changes in the rules in light of the court's earlier July 24, 2007, decision. At that time, the court voided the 11-hour driving limit and the 34-hour restart provisions of the HOS regulations on procedural grounds.

The ATA filed a motion with the court on Sept. 6, 2007, asking that the Court keep the current HOS provisions in place for an eight month period, allowing the FMCSA time to issue a new final rule. In its motion, ATA stated that a stay was needed to

prevent serious disruption to trucking operations.

On Sept. 21, 2007, FMCSA filed a memorandum with the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals asking the court to delay implementing the recent ruling on the HOS regulations governing CMV drivers. The agency expected the necessary regulatory process to take approximately 12 months, and urged the court to grant a stay of 12 months rather than the 8 months requested by ATA. Under the court's Rule 41, however, any stay of a mandate does not extend beyond 90 days ordinarily, thus the Dec. 27, 2007, date.

FMCSA to Track Mexican Trucks

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration said Thursday it would be tracking Mexican trucks participating in a cross-border trucking program with satellite technology.

The agency said it planned to issue a contract "to provide satellite terminals for the near real-time tracking of commercial trucks traveling throughout the continental U.S. and Mexico . . . at no cost to the participating trucking companies."

FMCSA Administrator John Hill said the tracking will allow the agency to monitor the carriers for safety violations and violations of cabotage

rules.

U.S. trucks traveling in Mexico will also be tracked, FMCSA said. There was no announcement for when the contract would be issued.

OPERATION SAFE DRIVER

Please remember that the CVSA and DOT will be conducting a mass enforcement blitz from October 21st through October 28th. Be aware and Be prepared!

It's time to start thinking about tire chains! Soon the pumpkins will be replaced by snowmen and you will have to pay attention to chain laws. Please be sure that you are ready for when the flakes start falling!

For the computer savvy- there are some great websites that offer tire chain info, road condition info and much more. Many states have their own websites that offer up this kind of thing. Just be sure that the information is up to date!

You can reach the Safety Department at ext 7484