



Idealease Safety Bulletin

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Have you previewed your CSA Scores with proposed changes?

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) is proposing changes to the Safety Measurement System (SMS) to improve the Agency's ability to prioritize its workload. In keeping with its commitment to continually improve the SMS, and to do so in an open and transparent manner, FMCSA is now providing additional time for motor carriers to preview their data under the proposed improvements and to provide feedback.



Call to action: Motor carriers should log in and see where they stand based on the refined methodology.

The SMS Preview gives motor carriers time to take the following actions:

- Improve safety compliance by diagnosing issues and taking action to correct organizational problems, train drivers, or take other appropriate measures to improve safety;
- Request corrections to any inaccurate data; in particular, motor carriers should focus on ensuring that information related to placardable Hazardous Materials inspections is correct; and
- Provide feedback to FMCSA about refinements they think should be made before the changes are implemented.

The SMS Preview comment period has been extended to July 30, 2012. FMCSA will review comments and make any necessary changes prior to implementation. Carriers can access the SMS Preview through two FMCSA websites:

- Visit the Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA) Website:

<https://csa.fmcsa.dot.gov/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fSMSPreview%2fDefault.aspx>

- Log in with an FMCSA-issued U.S. DOT number and a personal identification number (PIN)

OR

- Log in to the FMCSA Portal <https://portal.fmcsa.dot.gov/login> and select the "CSA Outreach" link.

Information on Storm Relief Efforts

The FMCSA has posted additional [information](#) on its website in support of motor carriers providing relief for victims of Hurricane Sandy. There is a listing of various [toll exemptions](#), the Internal Revenue Service's waiver of the tax penalty on certain diesel fuel in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, New Jersey's granting of special permits for oversize/overweight vehicles, and the International Registration Plan waivers by State.



Brake Safety Week 2012 Results

Commercial vehicle inspectors participating in Brake Safety Week, the annual enforcement and education campaign focused on regulatory compliance of truck and bus brake system maintenance, found at least one in seven vehicles chosen for inspection to exhibit brake-related out-of-service (OOS) violations—rates that are comparable to recent years, but slightly higher for the second year in a row. Of the vehicles inspected during the event, which took place September 9-15, the OOS rate for all brake-related violations was 15.3%. This is higher than in 2011, 2010 and 2009 (at 14.2%, 13.5%, and 15.1%, respectively), but lower than in 2008 and 2007 (18.4% and 17.8% respectively). The OOS rates for inspections in Canada were lower than in the U.S. for 2012, which is consistent with previous findings, and resulted in 10.8% of vehicles being placed OOS for brakes, compared to 15.5% in the United States. This year, 9.6% of vehicles inspected in the U.S. during Brake Safety Week were placed OOS for poor brake adjustment, compared to 5.5% in Canada

Parking Lot Accident Exposure Increases during the Holidays!

As we are drawing near to the holiday season it is time to remind your drivers of the exposures that exist in parking lots as they make deliveries and pickups. Parking lots at this time of the year can be especially dangerous for drivers making deliveries or just stopping for lunch. The exposure exists for a vehicle accident as well as being involved in an accident as a pedestrian. This holiday season pay special attention when operating in a parking lot and observe the following advice:



- Wear your seatbelt – even low speed collisions can throw you around the cab of your truck.
- Obey all traffic signs such as Stop and Yield
- Drive slowly and use your turn signals and headlights – make sure your vehicle is seen and watch for distracted motorists who do not see you coming
- Obey traffic lanes and do NOT drive diagonally across lots (watch for cars cutting diagonally across lots)
- Slow down for speed bumps as not to injure yourself or damage your cargo.
- Use delivery driveway entrances for customers that auto traffic is not likely to use.
- Beware of motorists who are lost or distracted looking for specialty stores that are not frequented.
- Be extra careful at entrances and exits – motorists stop suddenly and for no apparent reason – tailgaters often end up in rear-end collisions, and rushing while turning into access road or side street traffic can also lead to collisions
- Be especially careful in lots that contain Post Offices, package stores and other locations where people are prone to dart in and out hastily in a hurry to be on their way

- Be extra careful during peak times when reckless drivers may speed through lanes while trying to get a “better spot” closer to the shops
- Some drivers are on the “hunt” for an ideal parking spot and may drive erratically – watching for open spots rather than watching where they are driving! These drivers often circle the lanes nearest to their store – parking away from stores may make a longer walk, but prove less dangerous from a vehicle collision standpoint
- Lock your truck at all times when not attended. Parking lots are very busy and are often targeted by thieves.



The first parking lot in the world was created in Fort Wayne, Indiana no doubt just in time for holiday shopping.

