



# Idealease Safety Bulletin

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## Mirrors: a Reflection of Safety

The mirrors on your vehicles provide your driver with real time information so they can operate the unit safely. If the mirrors are in poor condition and or out of adjustment the lack of the information that they provide can contribute to or be the sole cause of an accident. It always amazes me when I look at a fleet of trucks how many of them have damaged or out of adjustment mirrors. Make a habit of checking the mirrors in your fleet at least once weekly to make sure they are adjusted and tight. By getting in your unit after a driver returns from his/her route and taking a look at where the mirrors are adjusted will tell you whether your driver is using the mirrors properly for defensive driving.



### REMINDER

Did you post your OSHA 300A logon Wednesday for all employees to view? The log is to remain posted from February 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30.

### Use of Mirrors

1. A professional driver watches his mirrors nearly as much as he watches the road ahead.
2. Vision is restricted when using mirrors.
3. As a precaution, you should always check for traffic with and without mirrors.
4. Proper adjustment of mirrors is essential in safe driving.
5. To adjust mirrors accurately on a combination unit, the vehicle must be in a straight line. The driver must be in a normal position behind the steering wheel while making adjustments
6. Mirrors should be clean and without cracks
7. Mirror heads and support brackets should be properly tightened to reduce vibration at the mirror head.
8. Keep your eyes moving while you are driving! Do not stare at any one object for more than two seconds.

### Mirror Station

1. If you have the room at your facility I would suggest that you consider making a mirror check station.
2. The Mirror station requires to that you have a flat level hard surface that is 30' wide by 80' long.
3. Use white outdoor marking paint to make the station.
4. Require drivers before starting their route to go through the station to make sure their mirrors are properly adjusted.
5. For directions in setting up a mirror station go to: <http://www.idealease.com/download/Newsletter/Mirrorstation.doc>

### Safety Meeting Exercise

As part of your next driver safety meeting have a driver get into the cab of a unit with the engine shut off and key removed and sit in the proper driving position with seat belt fastened. Tell the driver that you are going to have one of his/her fellow drivers go to the back of the truck/trailer and walk away from the unit in a straight line. Have the driver in the cab blow the horn when he/she can see the other driver in the mirrors. Before starting the exercise have the drivers guess the total distance from the back of the unit to where the driver will be when the horn blows. This will show the drivers the distance of the blind spot located directly behind their unit.

## Registration is now open online for the 2012 Idealease/NPTC Safety Seminars!

### Upcoming seminars to be held in March:

- [March 13 Madison, WI](#)
- [March 14 Youngstown, OH](#)
- [March 15 Cleveland, OH](#)
- [March 20 Ventura, CA](#)
- [March 21 Los Angeles, CA](#)
- [March 22 Santa Fe Springs, CA](#)
- [March 27 Atlanta, GA](#)
- [March 28 Chattanooga, TN](#)
- [March 29 Nashville, TN](#)

### NEW FOR 2012 SEMINARS!!!!

This year during the seminar you will receive Drug and Alcohol Supervisor Training. This training meets the requirements of FMCSA CFR 382.603 that requires all supervisors of commercial motor vehicle drivers to have the training for reasonable suspicion drug and alcohol testing.

To view the schedule of all seminars in 2012 and to register for a seminar go to: [www.Idealease.com/safety](http://www.Idealease.com/safety)

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