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SAFETY BULLETIN



Your Truck is No Match for a Train!

Ever think how many times a day on your route you cross a train track? Most of the time we take for granted that there is not a train coming and proceed crossing the track. Take time to download the driver's guide and take the safety quiz.

Download: *Stay Alive When You Drive- professional driver's guide and safety quiz* at: <http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/e-learning-survey-/2h6lqg/349982205>.

Safety Tips for Truck Drivers

- At 55 mph, it can take a mile or more to stop a train.
- Stop no closer than 15 feet (one car length) from the crossing. If you are in traffic, don't start if you can't safely clear the crossing.
- Note the overhang – both for your truck and a train – of 3 feet or more.
- Make sure that trailer jacks are in the up position - non-retracted trailer jacks can cause trailers to become stuck on crossings.
- Cell phones are the top distraction for all drivers.
- Trains and Trucks don't mix. Never race a train to the crossing — even if you tie, you lose.
- The train you see is closer and faster moving than you think. If you see

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DID YOU KNOW?

You can download a sample CDL test from the state of California at: <http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/bs-interactive-tdrive-exam-htm/2h6lrg/349982205>.

You can register with the State of Louisiana (<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/pdf-mcsignup-doc/2h6lrg/349982205>) and have them send you an electronic report via e-mail when your commercial motor vehicle, with a US DOT number, undergoes a roadside inspection in the state of Louisiana. You do not need to be a Louisiana based carrier to receive the reports.

FMCSA posts guidance for drivers applying for hearing exemption

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has posted new guidance documents to help commercial drivers apply for an exemption from the hearing standard.

The guidance includes a list of the information that must be sent to the agency to get an exemption from the federal hearing standard in 49 CFR Sec. 391.41(b)(11).

The FMCSA's hearing standard - adopted in 1970 - prohibits drivers who cannot pass the hearing requirement from operating commercial motor vehicles in interstate commerce. Drivers must be able to hear a whispered voice at five feet or have an average hearing loss of no more than 40 decibels in their better ear.

The FMCSA first started granting exemptions from the hearing standard in early 2013 and has since approved numerous

a train approaching, wait for it to go by before you proceed across the tracks.

- Be aware that trains cannot stop quickly. Even if the locomotive engineer sees you, a freight train moving at 55 miles per hour can take a mile or more to stop once the emergency brakes are applied. That's 18 football fields!
- Never drive around lowered gates — it's illegal and deadly. If you suspect a signal is malfunctioning, call the 1-800 number posted on or near the crossing signal or your local law enforcement agency.
- Do not get trapped on the tracks; proceed through a highway-rail grade crossing only if you are sure you can completely clear the crossing without stopping. Remember, the train is three feet wider than the tracks on both sides.
- If your vehicle ever stalls on a track with a train coming, get out immediately and move quickly away from the tracks in the direction from which the train is coming. If you run in the same direction the train is traveling, when the train hits your car you could be injured by flying debris. Call your local law enforcement agency for assistance.
- At a multiple track crossing waiting for a train to pass, watch out for a second train on the other tracks, approaching from either direction.
- When you need to cross train tracks, go to a designated crossing, look both ways, and cross the tracks quickly, without stopping. Remember it isn't safe to stop closer than 15 feet from a rail.
- ALWAYS EXPECT A TRAIN! Freight trains do not follow set schedules.
- If you get stuck at the crossing, get out, call the 800 number posted at the crossing, or call the local police to alert trains of your position. (Information provide by Operation Lifesaver)

Operation Lifesaver, Inc. is a national, non-profit safety education group whose goal is to eliminate deaths and injuries at railroad crossings and along railroad rights of way. Operation Lifesaver has programs in all 50 states, with trained and certified presenters who provide free safety talks to community groups, school bus drivers, truck drivers and student drivers to raise awareness around railroad tracks and trains. For more information, and to request a free safety presentation, visit www.oli.org.

Is your Company Prepared in the event of an accident?

Today more than ever companies that operate commercial motor vehicles need to prepare in advance for an accident that one of your vehicle may have. Depending on the severity of the accident, just the involvement is enough to throw the thought process of most drivers and supervisors into array. Companies need to have a clear and direct plan in place that will be implemented when an accident occurs. This plan needs to be flexible and can be activated no matter what time of the day or night. When an accident occurs the company has a number of immediate items that need to be addressed.

1. The safety and protection of the driver and public.
2. Protecting the company's liability and physical damage exposure.
3. Provide information to Law Enforcement officials.
4. Control of progressive damage that may occur from the accident, including Hazardous material spills, cargo and the vehicles.
5. Compliance with State and Federal Regulations (such as drug and

applications.

To apply for an exemption from the hearing standard, the FMCSA says drivers should submit a list of six items, including a copy of the driver's license, a "Release of Medical Information" form, and a three-year driving record from the state.

The agency is authorized to grant exemptions for up to two years if it determines that public safety will not be harmed. The agency must first evaluate each driver's application, publish it and take public comments, and then decide whether to grant or deny the request.

The new guidance documents and release form can be viewed online at <http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/1J3FDZ3/2h6lrl/349982205>.

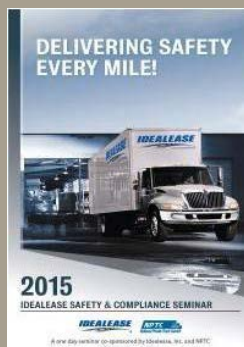
Also on the FMCSA's website are documents to apply for exemptions from the diabetes and vision standards.

NEWS:

National Truck Driver Appreciation Week
September 13-19, 2015
Make plans now to recognize your drivers!

CVSA Brake Safety Week
September 6-12, 2015

Sign Up Now for one of Seven Safety Seminars to be held this Fall!



Idealease, its members and the National Private Truck Council NPTC will again be hosting safety seminars in 2015. The one day seminars this year will focus on basic safety and compliance, regulation changes and CSA. The seminars and will be provided to all Idealease customers, potential customers and NPTC members at no charge. The seminar provides important information applicable for both the novice and experienced transportation professionals.

October 7	Erie, PA
October 13	Toledo, OH
October 14	Grand Rapids, MI
October 14	Charlotte, NC
October 20	Las Vegas, NV
October 21	Los Angeles, CA

- alcohol testing if required).
- 6. Documenting and protecting the physical evidence at the scene (Spoliation of evidence).
- 7. Securing witnesses to the accident.
- 8. Addressing the News Media
- 9. Having your vehicle towed to a safe and secure site.

To register for an upcoming seminar in 2015 click on the following link:

www.idealease.com/safety-seminar-registration

Recommendations for a company to prepare for an accident:

- 1. Put together an accident response team. Ideally this team would consist of the safety director, the driver involved, insurance accident investigator, company's attorney and if needed an accident reconstruction expert.
- 2. Have an accident action plan in place that outlines the direction and responsibilities of the response team.
- 3. Develop written policy for drivers to follow when involved in an accident regardless of severity. This would include reporting, conduct at the scene, responsibilities, drug and alcohol testing, etc.
- 4. Include accident scene training as part of your new driver orientation program. Drivers should know exactly what to do and what NOT to do in the event of an accident.
- 5. Place Accident Kits in the units. This kit should include a camera, accident report, pencil, and instructions. Place and expiration date on the outside of the kit that coincides with the expiration date of the camera. It is recommended that these kits be sealed or secured so the materials Drivers need to be trained on how to use the camera and which pictures should be taken and which pictures NOT to take.

Websites to assist you with your accident investigation and reporting:

Accreditation Commission for Traffic Accident Reconstruction

www.actar.org

At this website you can download State and Province accident blank reports. Also, available is the code overlay sheets for the reports so you can understand the coding on an accident report that you receive from a state or province. Click on Crash Reports and Overlays on left side of home page.

Harris Technical Services

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/downloads-cdrlist-pdf/2h6lqn/349982205>

At this website you will find a listing of automobiles 1994 through 2014 with of Event Data Recorders (Black Boxes). Black Box information can be valuable in determining the actions of another vehicle with regards to speed, braking, etc prior to the collision.



Hurricane Erika is Coming!!!

Hurricane Season is Here!

June 1st was the official start date of the 2015 hurricane season that runs through November 30th. We are now right in the middle of the season and have hurricane Erika coming out of the Caribbean with expected land fall in Florida early next week. If we have learned anything from prior storms, preparation is critical. Now is the time to re-evaluate emergency plans and update as needed. The information below should help your company and employees as well to prepare now to make steps to minimize loss in the event of a major hurricane this year. Below are selected links to information to help you prepare for and recover from hurricanes and tropical storms.

1. National Hurricane Center

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/2015-08-28/2h6lqq/349982205>

2. Weather Channel.com

The Weather Channel's comprehensive storm site, complete with a drop-down menu of satellite photos and computer-generated projection maps.

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/ter-tropical-stormdetails-html/2h6lqs/349982205>

3. FEMA Hurricane Background And Preparedness Information

Comprehensive information on disaster planning and recovery, provided by the Federal Emergency Management Administration.

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/hazard-hurricane-index-shtm/2h6lqv/349982205>

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/ronment-hurricane-prepare-html/2h6lqx/349982205>

4. Google Automatic Hurricane News Alert

Simply enter your email address and Google News will automatically email hurricane updates to you. (We have entered the topic "Hurricane Update" for you.)

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/alerts-q-hurricaneupdate-hl-en/2h6lqz/349982205>

5. Hurricane Preparedness Planning For Businesses

This document contains information useful before, during and after a storm. Included in the document are templates for assigning tasks and responsibilities to staff members, as well as recommendations for developing a comprehensive plan.

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/hurricaneplanforbusinesses-pdf/2h6lr2/349982205>

6. A Site to Share with Employees On Preparing Their Homes

<http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/lish-disaster-prevention-shtml/2h6lr4/349982205>

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