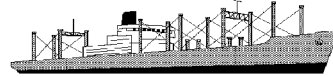




Rollin' On [®]



An Electronic and Facsimile Newsletter for the Transportation Industry

Volume XVI, Issue 12

Copyright © 2011

December 2011

CSA COMPLIANT, A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION, PLUS CHANGE OF ADDRESS, & NEW YEAR'S WISH

As the year winds down, our thoughts turn to family, holidays, festive gatherings and of course the big jolly fat guy. It is time for reflection and to give thanks.

We also come up with resolutions for the new year. One good resolution for the short list is to be CSA compliant. Although many changes will come and go, the feds will never go away. Jimmy Hoffa and Al Capone learned that first hand. The staying power of the federal government is limitless.

For those who do not know, FMCSA initiated CSA – Compliance, Safety, Accountability – early last year in order to, as the FMCSA put it, improve large truck and safety, and to reduce crashes, injuries and fatalities created by commercial motor vehicles. It involves the feds and state gov's working together to address safety issues. It's intended to make the roads safer for everyone, kind of a "we're all in this together" type of feeling that has you looking around for the Village People singing the YMCA song.

Within CSA, the Safety Measurement System, which has replaced SafeStat, crunches data relating to drivers and vehicles in order to identify carriers with problems and then to assist those carriers – "We're from the government and we're here to help", very frightening words indeed among God fearing people.

Within SMS there are seven BASICs (Behavior Analysis and Safety Improvement Categories):

The Obligatory Disclaimer

This newsletter is for informational purposes, does not provide legal advice and does not create an attorney-client relationship

LARRY R. DAVIDSON
Attorney at Law
121 SW Morrison St., Suite 1020
Portland, Oregon 97204
(503) 229-0199
Fax (503) 229-0644
E-Mail: larry@rollin-on.com
www.rollin-on.com

1. Unsafe Driving
2. Fatigued Driving (Hrs of Service)
3. Driver Fitness
4. Controlled Substances/Alcohol



BEST WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAYS AND FOR A HAPPY AND ENJOYABLE NEW YEAR. AND MAY YOUR TRANSPORTATION TRAUMAS BE TRIVIAL.

5. Vehicle Maintenance
6. Cargo-Related
7. Crash Indicator

The measurement for each BASIC is determined by the number of violations or crashes related to that BASIC, the severity of the

violations or crashes, and when the adverse safety events occurred.

Following the measurement, the carrier is placed into a peer group of carriers with the same number of inspections. Percentages are then determined by comparing the carrier with the other carriers, with the highest percentage being the worst.

This just scratches the surface as there is much more. For now, the takeaway is that the feds, with help from the states, can be expected to step up enforcement. Meanwhile, shippers will be watching the scoreboard to see how their carriers are doing, at least in the eyes of the government.

Change of address: Not of scenery

After nearly 17 years at the same location, I have moved down the street a few blocks. My phone number is the same, but my fax number has changed. Same email address – I got my domain name in 1996, before it was trendy.

New Year's Wish: A giant turnaround

There is a growing gap between the haves and the have nots. Most of us know, or know of, folks who have lost their home, perhaps of several decades, due to finances.

Let's hope that the new year brings signs of a growing economy and concomitant willingness on the part of companies, collectively sitting on billions upon billions of cash, to, across the board, invest and to hire locally. Their reason to do so: It's good business.

That's it for now. Until next time, keep the cargo *rollin'*!

Short Bio

Admitted to the state bars of Oregon, Alaska, Florida and Massachusetts. Practicing law for over 30 years and emphasizing transportation law, business law and related litigation