

# Terminal Transport December 2022

## CHRISTMAS

Merry Christmas to all of our partners and associates. It's been a good year and we have all of you to thank for your part in it.

We will get our drivers home for Christmas. This means where your house is.

## TRAILER INSPECTIONS

There has been an increase in trailer damages lately. Mudflaps, lights, forklift holes, flat tires, etc. **Be kind to your fellow driver.** Inspect it when you drop. Inspect it when you pick up. Note any damages so we can determine where it occurred.

Roadside violations and citations follow the driver. Safety score impacts the entire company. **If you fail to inspect it's on YOU!**

## COLD TEMPS AND TIRES

Tire performance can be impacted by many things. Snow and ice seem obvious for their loss of traction control, but cold temperatures can be impactful alone. Low temperatures result in low tire pressure. This affects tire traction, mpg, and tire life. Make sure to check your tires during your pre trip inspection.



While air temperature affects tire pressure, the pressure from load and friction with the roadway heat the tire up as much as 50 degrees above the ambient temperature. This can lead to issues when pulling off the roadway and parking. Tires that are 50 degrees parked on ice or snow can melt it, but by the time you're ready to pull out, it'll be ice again. This leads to stuck trucks. **We already had an incident this year costing \$955.** To avoid this, let the tires cool off before you park them on ice or snow. If you have a shovel with you, you can use that to clear a space for your tires.

You should be carrying a shovel and some sand or kitty litter to get help get traction. You can purchase a shovel that will do the trick from Walmart or Fleet Farm among other locations. PCA in International Falls has a load of sand in the corner for drivers to use.

## Driver Corner



**Don Johnson** started his driving career in 1978. He's been with Terminal Transport almost 14 years already. He spent a good chunk of his career hauling eggs. When he's not driving, he likes to be at home where he watches tv and spends time with family. His advice to other drivers is to never take a chance if you can't correct it. Thanks for you hard work Don! We appreciate you.

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**CSA SCORES**

Category	Measure	Percentile
Unsafe Driving	2.27	23%
Crash Indicator	0.25	60%
Hours of Service	0.49	47%
Maintenance	3.20	43%
Controlled Substance	0.08	10%
HAZMAT	6	< 5 HM placardable vehicle inspections 80%
Driver Fitness	0.00	0%

**Incidents of damage in the past month – 4**

Driver hit and run on Terminal Tractor – insurance claim

Driver hit parked tanker – Insurance Claim

Trailer mud flaps ripped off by spotters at Michelin

Our deductible is now higher – more accidents mean less money for bonuses, new equipment and raises. Drive carefully!

**PERSONAL CONVEYENCE**

If you are operating in personal conveyance for an approved use and you stop the truck, be sure that you are still in PC before driving again. Driving after stopping the truck in PC can kick you back into the drive time and this can cause a violation. Make sure that you are only using PC for approved uses and do not abuse it.

**WINTER FUEL**

Keeping on trend of how the cold is miserable and makes life harder - Winter brings with it cold temperatures and the risk of gelled fuel. Our fuel providers – Pilot Flying J and Kwik Trip/Star – blend their fuel to help prevent this.

**Pilot** does single treatment when temperatures are below 15F, double treated when they are between -5F and 5F and when temperatures are below -5F, the fuel is treated with double treatments of cold flow improver and 20% of No. 1 fuel or kerosene. Should No. 1 fuel or kerosene not be available, triple treatment of cold flow improver will be used.

**Kwik Trip’s** #2 diesel has winter additive while their TundraMaxx is an 80/20 blend.

The office also has Power Service Diesel fuel treatment and Power Service Diesel 911. If you are through the area, stock up to prevent delays due to gelled fuel. All fuel should be treated below 20F. We also have boxed DEF. Grab a box and keep it in the cab – not the side box where it can freeze and explode.

If you are traveling from the south where it’s warmer and there is more humidity, make sure to drain your tanks somewhere around Iowa’s southern border. Make sure you are in a safe place to do so. The warm southern air condenses as it gets colder, and that condensation can freeze in your tanks or air lines – causing yet another cold weather headache.

It’s been in previous newsletters, but make sure you are prepared for the weather. You should have an ice scraper, hat, gloves, a warm coat, blankets, a candle, boots, a small utility shovel, a flashlight, matches, bottled water, sand or kitty litter, jumper cables and anything else that will keep you warm and safe in the event of an emergency.

Plan ahead. A failure to plan is a plan to fail!

## TOOL FOR SCALE CALCULATOR

Driver, Bryan Clines shared a useful app for helping calculate your load weight distribution. It's called Trucker's Slide Calc.

Put in the information regarding gross weight, number of trailer holes and distance between them, this app will tell you the weights of your steers, drives, and trailer tires. This app is free to download and can keep some of the guess work out of deciding which hole to use.

[Click here to download for iPhones](#)

[Click here to download for Androids](#)



## ROADSIDE INSPECTIONS

As part of a standard inspection, an officer will require you to send them your driver logs – this is usually done through email or web service right from the PeopleNet Tablet. All drivers should be capable and comfortable doing this.

Another requirement of the ELD mandate is that all ELD devices must be able to be viewed by an inspector without climbing into the vehicle. If you are asked to hand over your ELD, first press inspection button to notate on your device a roadside inspection. Then, disconnect the cords on the back of the device using the thumbscrews and loosen the ball joint until you are able to remove the device. The tablet will still have battery power to it for about 30 minutes which should be plenty of time for an inspection.

An additional requirement that some drivers may need a refresher on is shipment ID's. When you start a new trip, you must update your logs to reflect the load you are hauling and remove any prior loads. You should put the BOL# under the shipment ID. Your trailer should also be up to date for whatever trip you are on. These can both be found on the ELD page of your tablet. They show up as options in the bottom right corner when you are On Duty.

If you are not comfortable performing any of these requirements, contact Safety for a refresher.

## BROKER TRACKING

Many broker loads require drivers to opt into tracking so that they can monitor the shipments they are responsible for. Choosing to not opt into tracking can result in a chargeback to the company. This chargeback will be passed on to any driver that declines tracking. This chargeback can be

## ROADSIDE INSPECTIONS

### LAST MONTH:

One bad roadside this month:  
**ELD display screen cannot be viewed outside the CMV**  
**Driver failed to enter trailer number**  
**Driving beyond 11 hours**

Three clean roadides last month. Thank you to Bryan Clines, Don Johnson, and Everett Reeves.

### Citations:

Speeding – 64 MPH in 55 MPH

### Long Idle Cost Last month:

# Of Gallons Burned: **1598**

Average Fuel Cost: **\$5.21**

**\$\$ Wasted: \$8325**

Thanks to everyone doing their part to decrease fuel waste!

### Safety Bonus Program

10,500 miles	10,500+ miles	\$200
11,500 miles	11,500+ miles	\$200
Moving MPG	Determined threshold	\$50
Long idle %	Under 25%	\$100
HOS compliance	0 violations	\$50
No citations, accidents, incidents	0 issues	\$50
<b>\$650 monthly! \$7800 yearly!!!</b>		

**RECENT HIRES**

Bryan Clines

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

No Birthdays this month

Ivan Beckman – 1 year

Kenneth Eastwood – 3 years

***Thank You for Being a Part of Our Team!***

\$250. If you have questions about load tracking ask. Dispatch will let you know if a load you are on requires tracking.

**INSURANCE**

We have renewed our insurance policy for the upcoming year. All drivers should have received copies of insurance certifications by mail to your address on file. Digital files have also been sent to your email. This policy renewed on 12/1/2022.

In an effort to keep our premium at a similar level, our deductible has increased. The new deductible is \$10,000 up from \$2,500. This means that we have greater liabilities on accidents. Be sure to take extra care.

**HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT**

If you are taking advantage of the Blue Cross Blue Shield health insurance plan offered by Terminal Transport, **you can get an extra \$20 a month** by taking 7500 steps a day at least 21 days a month. You have to opt into the program and use a phone or smart watch to track your steps. Ask Nick if you have questions about this program or contact BCBS.

Getting regular exercise is important for everyone, but especially truck drivers. People tend to forget the importance of walking, but it is a very effective exercise for truck drivers. It can increase your cardiovascular health, relieve conditions such as hypertension or diabetes, and much more. And it’s so undemanding that almost everyone can squeeze it into their daily schedule. Truck drivers will often go straight to sleep after a day spent in the truck. If you take a half-hour walk instead, it will make a huge difference – you will even sleep better. When you feel ready to take your activity to another level, you can try power walking, and later continue to some more demanding exercises.

Your CDL is reliant on your health. Obesity, hypertension and diabetes are rising issue in general, but especially in the trucking industry. They can creep up on you over years without you realizing it. Maintaining healthy habits can keep you healthy longer and make sure that you don’t put your job or more importantly your life in jeopardy.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

Our annual charity run to Paintsville, KY was delivered by Sheila last month. Many families will have a Christmas this year thanks to the charity run. The parishes were very thankful and we’ve received a number of thank you cards from them. Thank you to Sheila for making the trip!

