

Terminal Transport July 2023

ROADBLITZ RECAP

As we start the second half of our Fiscal year, we need to pay closer attention to our Safer scores. These scores are determined by the inspections that our equipment receives at the state scales. Over the past several weeks we have had 7 inspections that have shown no violations, which is excellent, and I would like to thank those drivers for their efforts. However, we have had several issues in the past several months that will cause our scores to increase. These incidents, either positive or negative, impact our scores. These scores are like diesel fuel prices, quick to move up and slow to move down!

Several of these categories look critical, but the smallest violation will drive these scores up. An example being, if you are not wearing your seat belt, this will give us a violation of “unsafe driving”. Is this unsafe driving? According to the DOT it is and can cause our scores to elevate to a height that will then mandate that the scales inspect all our equipment. Once you are on the scale, the inspectors are free to inspect anything and everything. A new truck, trailer and driver have over 5000 combinations that can be inspected so most likely if they want to find something, the inspector can. The best remedy is to avoid this situation, so do what you’re supposed to do on your pre-trips and look for any defects that may negatively impact this score.

Another category is “Controlled Substances”. Many states are passing laws to allow various controlled substances to become legal. These are state passed laws and are not Federal. Using a controlled substance violates Federal Laws and is therefore illegal for OTR Drivers. Any use will result in immediate termination. These violations are of a serious nature and will stay on our Safer score for over a year. If you have questions about any of the categories, please give David a call to discuss. We would much rather discuss these categories internally with you than with an inspector on a scale. Thank you for your cooperation.

SUMMER HOURS

Although by the time this newsletter comes out, we will be beginning summer hours. June 19th our office will be closing at 4pm and this will

Driver Corner







Kevin Cook is this month’s featured driver. He is from Wood River, IL. He’s been driving since 2017 and has been with Terminal Transport for almost 1 year! When not driving, Kevin enjoys hunting, fishing, and camping. He’s a big animal person and has 3 dogs, one of which just had a litter of puppies! His advice to other drivers is always keep your eyes moving, get out and look if you’re not sure, and if you’re tired, get off the road. Thank you for all the good work you’ve done so far! Keep it up!

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CSA SCORES

Category	Measure	Percentile
Unsafe Driving	2.62 	37%
Crash Indicator	0.28	47%
Hours of Service	0.55 	50%
Maintenance	3.31 	44%
Controlled Substance	0.05 	7%
HAZMAT	8.00	< 5 HM placardable vehicle inspections 80%
Driver Fitness	0.00	0%

Incidents of damage in the past month

SUV tried to beat Semi from On Ramp - \$TBD

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

inside of the tire! By turning the tires all the way right or left you expose the face of the tire, exposing the whole tire’s face! This will help you recognize uncommon wear on the inside of the tire, alerting dispatch of a potential tire failure. It is important to catch this wear early to possible save the tire by getting it balanced or at least being able to move it to a trailer position to run, then cap the tire saving the casing. Running it into the cords ruins the tire and eliminates any casing use. These casings can be worth as much as \$200.00

remain until September 18th when we return to regular office hours. Please make sure you have all the dispatch information prior to 4pm. Dispatch will still be available through their cell phones, but it is important that you get your next load information prior to that time. Another item I would like to mention is we have now 5 cement pads in Eagan to drop heavy loads onto. It is important that is you have a light load try not to use the concrete, please. If you see someone else’s trailer on the pads advise dispatch. Your cooperation is appreciated.

MARY CARLSON

Mary is the newest member of the Terminal Transport office. She brings over 20 years of experience in Human Resources management and recruiting. Most recently came from a position in the trucking industry doing operations, HR and recruiting. Mary is newly married as of May. Her hobbies include riding motorcycle, fishing in both summer and winter, walking and cooking for friends and family.



Mary is the new Recruitment Manager. She has taken Nick’s position as he’s transitioned into a dispatch/operations role.

Please extend a warm welcome to Mary next time you’re through the office.

TIRES

Drivers should be inspecting their steer tires every day as part of their pre-trip. We are seeing wear on the inside of the tires that are not being picked up on the daily inspections because the drivers are not turning their steer tire fully to the left or right to expose the



PAPERWORK

Due to the rising price of mail, all hard copies of paperwork are now to be dropped either at the office in Roseville or the soon to be installed drop box in the yard in Eagan. Please keep all paperwork until you have an opportunity to stop by one of these places.

Do not mail any more envelopes via USPS.

All paperwork is still to be sent in via Transflo.

MARIJUANA LEGALIZED MN

Minnesota recently joined the growing list of states legalizing recreational marijuana. This is a friendly reminder that Marijuana is still illegal federally, and commercial drivers are prohibited from using marijuana. A positive test for marijuana will still get you terminated and subject to a substance abuse program to get your driving privileges reinstated.

You should also be aware of products containing CBD. While CBD itself is legal, due to lax regulations, THC can often be found in CBD products, and testing positive for THC will also result in termination and require you to complete a substance abuse program to get your driving privileges reinstated.

BRAKE VIOLATIONS

Nearly 800 trucks were placed out of service during an unannounced CVSA initiative in April. Over one in ten vehicles that was inspected had a brake related critical inspection item indicating they were unsafe for the roadway. The top three violations were:

- 20% Brakes Violations – 479. A vehicle or combination of vehicles is declared out of service when 20% or more of its service brakes have an out-of-service condition resulting in a defective brake, such as a brake out of adjustment, an audible air leak at the chamber, defective linings/pads, a missing brake where brakes are required, etc.
- Other Brake Violations – 368. Examples of other out-of-service brake violations are worn brake lines, broken brake drums, inoperative tractor protection system, inoperative low air warning device, air leaks, hydraulic fluid leaks, etc.
- Steering Brake Violations – 81. Examples of automatic standalone out-of-service steering axle brake violations are

ROADSIDE INSPECTIONS

LAST MONTH:

5 bad roadsides – 1 violation

- Expired AVI
- Flat Tire
- Speeding
- Failure to operate in lane

2 Citation for Speeding


3 good roadsides last month thanks to:

- Corbett Charpentier
- Xavier Bails
- Joanna Carney

As of April a bad roadside will forfeit your bonus for the month it occurs in. This means that getting a violation could cost you \$650.

Long Idle Cost Month

Of Gallons Burned: 2559 

Average Fuel Cost: \$3.80 

\$ Wasted: \$9724.20 

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
\$650 every month!		

RECENT HIRES

Gene Merk

BIRTHDAYS

George Spivey – 7/5

Corbett Charpentier – 7/6

Ralph Benecewicz – 7/7

Mario Gonzalez – 7/11



ANNIVERSARIES

Babette Seidel – 3 years

Jeff Bach – 4 years

Chris Deptula – 4 years

Thank you for being a part of our team!

inoperative brakes, mismatched brake chambers, mismatched slack adjuster length, defective linings, etc.

This was just a one day inspection. Be sure that you are inspecting your braking systems every day on every trip. We want to avoid citations, but more importantly, we want to keep you and the public safe!

DRIVER LICENSE RENEWALS

When renewing your CDL you should add a tanker endorsement. Some of you have this endorsement and it can be helpful when we are looking for reloads particularly in the fall as farm chemicals are moving. There is a small fee for this endorsement but there is no test required, fingerprinting, etc. This is also a reminder that when you renew your physical, you must tie this physical to your license through the respective state’s that you have your drivers license in. It is very important that you complete this procedure with the state, or you are in violation.

DAMAGE ON THE ROADWAY

See below for images of damage to the one box on one of our trucks. This is another reminder of why we don’t run at night any more than absolutely necessary. Something was hit on the roadway and it damaged the one box (part of the exhaust system). It’s not repairable and is a \$9,000 replacement.

If you ever hit an obstruction on the roadway, make sure to report it and do a thorough inspection. Everything seemed fine until it started smoking.

