

## FMCSA Administrator Speaks to Congress

On July 21, 2011, FMCSA Administrator Anne Ferro spoke to congress and proposed technical changes and asked for Congress' support on FMCSA's authorizing laws.

The main purpose for changing these authorizing laws is to improve on preventing and deterring unsafe operators, drivers and vehicles, and to improve screening in order to quickly remove unsafe drivers and carriers from our roads.

The three areas that the changes will improve on are  
-Raising the bar to enter

the industry and operate on our roads;

-Holding motor carriers and drivers to the highest safety standards to continue operations; and

-Removing the highest risk drivers, vehicles and carriers from our roads and prevent them from further operating.

Ferro stressed that these changes are by no means meant to impede the safe drivers and carriers that the FMCSA regulates, which is 90 percent of all carriers and operators. The changes are aimed at the other 10 percent of opera-

tors and carriers that are not conducting business safely and are out on the roads endangering everyone.

### IN THE NEWS

For more information on this discussion:

<http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/about/news/speeches/OralStatement-AnneSFerro07212011.aspx>

## Upcoming Deadlines

It's that time of year again! You must have your 3rd quarter fuel tax reports to the State by September 30th. Our fuel tax customers must submit their required information by September 12th.

- The deadline for 2290's has been extended to November 2011.
- Please be aware that SCAC codes expired on June 30th.
- 3rd Quarter New York, KYU & NM

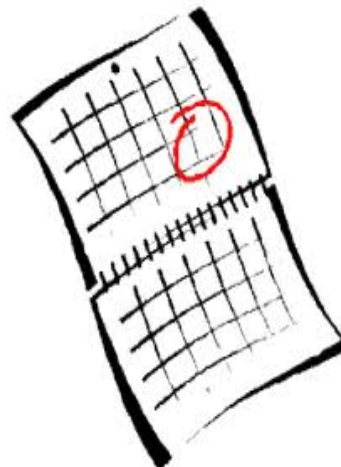
weight distance tax filings are due to each state.

- OR permit holders must submit their monthly reports with a post mark date of the last day of the month.

Also, year end deadlines are just around the corner! Remember, IFTA, NM WDT, and UCR must be renewed by December 31st to avoid penalties and interest.

All renewal services can be purchased online at

[www.dotprocessagents.com](http://www.dotprocessagents.com)



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**Choice,  
not  
circumstances,  
determines  
ones success.**





## FMCSA's "Share The Road Safely" Program

Surveys indicate that most highway users are intimidated by the mere size of a commercial truck or bus.

As part of the Share the Road Safely Program, the "No-Zone" campaign is a highway safety message that is educating people about the blind spots around large trucks and buses. Some No-Zones are so large that a car basically disappears from the view of the truck or bus driver. Truck drivers are aware of this but most car drivers are not, which can cause serious

danger on the highway.

Many times a car or smaller vehicle will cut in front of a large truck or bus in heavy traffic not realizing that it takes much longer for a truck or bus to stop or slow down when hitting the brakes. To prevent these situations, the Share the Road Safely Program teaches other highway users about the operating characteristics of large vehicles.

If you are interested in educating the public about how

to Share the Road Safely, talk to your company about participating in No-Zone demonstrations or placing No-Zone decals on your trucks or buses.

<http://www.sharetheroadsafely.org/supportingmaterials/supportingmaterials.asp>



Information courtesy of [www.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov)

## FMCSA Alerts Carriers to Aggressive Marketing Attempts to Sell Supervisory Training for Drug & Alcohol Testing Requirements



Carriers are being warned to be alert to aggressive marketing attempts to sell supervisory training for drug & alcohol testing requirements.

The FMCSA has received many inquiries regarding numerous companies attempting to sell this training and the FMCSA is not familiar with these companies or the training that they are offering.

FMCSA regulations require supervisors of CDL drivers to take 60 minutes of training on the symptoms of alcohol abuse and also another 60 minutes of training on the symptoms of controlled substance abuse. The purpose is to

qualify supervisors for determining when or if reasonable suspicion testing is needed.

Please note that the FMCSA does not certify trainers or training companies nor does it pre-approve the curriculum being presented. It is up to the employer to select which training to attend making sure that it follows the regulations of the FMCSA.

For more information regarding this training visit: <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/about/news/new-at-fmcsa?drug-and-alcohol-testing.aspx>

***You are the only one who can use your ability. It is an awesome responsibility.***



## New FMCSA Survey Shows Increase in Safety Belt Use Among Commercial Truck and Bus Drivers

The U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood recently announced that new FMCSA Administration data shows that 78 percent of commercial truck and bus drivers wore safety belts while operating behind the wheel in 2010. This is compared to 74 percent in 2009. Secretary LaHood said, "The rise in safety belt use by commercial drivers is good news, but we will not rest until all drivers are

buckling up when they drive."

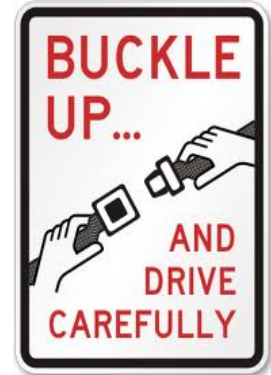
The 2010 survey observed 26,830 commercial drivers operating medium to heavy-duty trucks and buses at 998 roadside sites nationwide. The survey found that safety belt use for commercial drivers and their occupants was higher, 80 percent in states where law enforcement may stop drivers for not wearing safety belts, compared to 72 percent in

states with weaker enforcement belt use laws.

FMCSA Administrator Anne Ferro said, "Commercial drivers owe it to themselves, their families, and everyone on our roads to wear a safety belt."

A regional breakdown showed safety belt use rates were highest in the West at 82 percent, 79 percent in the South, 73 percent in the Midwest, and only 69 percent in the Northeast.

For more info:  
[www.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov)



## Factors Affecting Diesel Fuel

The price of diesel at the pump reflects the costs and profits for the whole production and distribution chain, including:

- The cost of crude oil to refineries
- Refining costs & profits
- Distribution & marketing costs & profits & retail station operation
- Taxes.

As the economy grows and expands, the price of diesel fuel goes up as heavy-duty vehicle use of diesel fuel

increases. When there is an economic slowdown as in 2009, diesel fuel prices drop below retail gasoline prices as demand for diesel fuel is reduced.

For current weekly retail on-highway diesel fuel prices you can visit:

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/wohdp/diesel.asp>

Or you can call the 24-Hour Diesel Prices Hotline at:

202-586-6966.

Information courtesy of: US Energy Information Administration.

## UCR Fees and Filing of Form 2290

On June 15, 2011 the Board of Directors of the Unified Carrier Registration Plan voted on the yearly fees and fee brackets. The Board voted unanimously to recommend that the fees for the 2012 registration year be kept at the same levels as originally set for 2011.

In Regards to Form 2290,

For purposes of efficient tax administration and to alleviate taxpayers' potential filing burden, the IRS has postponed the due date. The due date for filing Form 2290 for the 2011 short

taxable period has been postponed to November 30, 2011. These temporary regulations state that the taxpayers should file a Form 2290 no earlier than November 1, 2011, for taxable use during the 2011 short taxable period.



### Tu' Habla Espanol?

#### FMCSA Spanish Home Page:

<http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/spanish>

#### Mexico-Based Motor Carrier Home Page:

[http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/spanish/mmc\\_spanish.html](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/spanish/mmc_spanish.html)



Don't get overburdened with paperwork or information! We are here to help make this industry as easy to understand as possible! Feel free to contact us at any time to answer questions!

Don't Forget!

**"You don't have to be out there alone... We can help!"**



### Off Duty

9			1					5
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#### Sudoku Rules:

- Fill the empty cells with numbers 1-9.
- A number can appear only once on each row.
- A number can appear only once in each column.
- A number can appear only once in a region block.

### Contact Us

If you have any questions, concerns, suggestions for future newsletters please feel free to contact us. We would love any input you have to make this the best and most informative newsletter available!

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### Fun Facts

This section is where you can find interesting facts that pertain to the transportation industry. Enjoy them on your own or store these fun facts away to impress your friends!

- The most heavily traveled section of the Interstate Highway System is the 405 Freeway in Los Angeles, CA with a 2006 estimate of 390,000 vehicles per day.
- Interstate east-west routes are assigned even numbers.
- Interstate north-south routes are assigned odd numbers.
- Speed limits are determined by individual states and typically lower speed limits are located in northeastern states, while higher speed limits are located in southern and western states.

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