

Reminder on the Revised Massachusetts Trailer Inspection Policy for 2009:

A reminder that the new Massachusetts vehicle inspection program includes a single, full or semi-trailer, used in commerce with a GVWR of 3,000 lbs. or more will require a Massachusetts commercial inspection every year. Highlights of the new inspection program:

- The new Massachusetts Commercial Vehicle Inspection program has been recognized by the FMCSA and is the equivalent to the annual DOT federal inspection. Massachusetts registered vehicles are now required to pass just the Massachusetts Commercial Vehicle Inspection.
 - If a trailer passed a DOT annual inspection in 2008, the trailer will need to pass a Massachusetts inspection one year after the DOT inspection was performed.
 - Any trailers over 3,000 lbs. NOT inspected in 2008 will need a Massachusetts Commercial Vehicle Inspection by January 1, 2009.
 - Trailers for personal use (campers, boat, or utility) do not need an inspection.
- Example: A trailer over 3,000 lbs. is utilized for a seasonal landscaping business. Since the trailer would not receive a DOT inspection in the past, it will now need to pass a Massachusetts Commercial Inspection after January 1, 2009.

Ken Haigh

Non-CDL-Driver Short-Haul Exception:
(150-Air-Mile Radius) §395.1(e)(2)

For drivers of property-carrying commercial motor vehicles who stay within a 150-air-mile radius and are not operating vehicles requiring a commercial driver's license (CDL), there is an exception to the record of duty status (log) and 14-hour rules.

Under this exception, drivers are allowed to extend the 14-hour period by 2 hours twice per week, and are allowed to maintain time records instead of logs.

Non-CDL drivers include those who operate property-carrying commercial

motor vehicles that weigh more than 10,000 pounds but less than 26,001 pounds, including many box trucks, service vehicles and delivery vehicles. (More than 18k within CT)

Specific Requirements:

A driver who operates a property-carrying commercial motor vehicle for which a CDL is not required under Part 383 is exempt from the log requirements in Part 395.8 and the 14-hour rule in Part 395.3 if:

- The driver operates within a 150 air-mile radius (172.6 statute miles) of the location where the driver reports to and is released from the normal work reporting location; and
- The driver returns to the normal work reporting location at the end of each duty tour; and
- The driver does not drive after the 14th hour after coming on duty on 5 days of any period of 7 consecutive days, or after the 16th hour after coming on duty on 2 days of any period of 7 consecutive days; and
- The motor carrier that employs the driver maintains for 6 months accurate records showing the time the driver reports for duty each day, the total number of hours the driver is on duty each day, and the time the driver is released from duty each day (and the total time for the preceding 7 days for drivers used for the first time or intermittently, per Part 395.8(j)(2).

Drivers using this exception remain subject to the 10-hour off-duty rule, the 11-hour driving rule, and the 60/70-hour limits in §395.3. A violation of those rules will negate the driver's ability to claim the exception.

Any 7-8 consecutive-day period may be reset with 34 consecutive hours off duty.

Clay Eppard



Breath Alcohol Testing NOW AVAILABLE:

Fleet Safety Services is pleased to announce a new addition to our substance testing services... Our substance testing collections service now includes breath alcohol testing! Whether at our convenient office at 12 Harvard Street in Worcester, MA, or on-site at your location, Fleet Safety can now provide for all your DOT and non-DOT substance testing collections.

Collections at our Worcester office are available from 9am - 3pm, Monday thru Friday. Please call ahead for quickest service. On-site collections can be arranged, whether for random, post-accident, etc.

Our priority is making your compliance easier for you. With the addition of breath alcohol testing to our suite of services Fleet Safety can now be even more of a one-stop-shop for you compliance needs.

Dan Wolpert

REMINDER: To all fuel tax clients, the quarter ends 6/30/2009. Please make sure that you get your Trip Reports and Fuel sheets into Fleet Safety within the first couple weeks of July.

IRS Heavy Highway Use Tax form 2290 is due by June 30, 2009. Anything turned in after that time will be subject to late fees and penalties.

Please make sure you are reviewing your MVRS and returning your Annual Moving Violation forms within 30 days received.

Sincerely,
Fleet Safety!

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