

The Distributor

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Fathers Day

June 15th

When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be twenty-one, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years.~ Mark Twain

CVSA ROADCHECK 2008

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance International annual RoadCheck is scheduled for 3-5 June 2008.

Last year, from 5-7 June 2007 approx. 708 Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Certified Inspectors at 1,449 locations across North America performed 62,370 truck and bus inspections – the highest number of inspections ever conducted in the 20 years of the International Roadcheck event. Equally as impressive was a record number of the most comprehensive roadside inspections conducted, the North American Standard Level I – 49,454 of the total.



Happy Birthday

“You know you're getting old when the candles cost more than the cake.”~ Bob Hope

◆ Sandra Murray	June 2 nd
◆ Kim Coultas	June 4 th
◆ Ken DeRocher	June 6 th
◆ Mark Ross	June 6 th
◆ Patrick Keyes	June 8 th
◆ Terry Long	June 8 th
◆ John Hoffman	June 14 th
◆ Randy Haberman	June 16 th
◆ Glen Gildersleve	June 18 th
◆ Robin Surber	June 18 th
◆ Jess Salyer	June 20 th
◆ Robben Finch	June 25 th



"Sto lat " (One Hundred Years) is a traditional Polish song that is sung to express good wishes to a person. It is also often used to wish someone longevity or good fortune, or as a toast.

Happy Anniversary

Our gratitude and appreciation for your hard work and dedication surpasses words. Thanks!

◆ "Micky" Harbaugh	1 Year
◆ "Bobby" Harbaugh	1 Year
◆ Brian Zweg	1 Year
◆ Belinda Yeater	2 Years
◆ Robert Yeater	2 Years
◆ Ethan Magill	3 Years
◆ Scott Baldwin	4 Years
◆ Scott Boersema	4 Years
◆ Linda LaCount	5 Years
◆ Rex Kasper	5 Years
◆ Duane Martinson	7 Years
◆ Tim Zenger	9 Years
◆ Steve Buck	19 Years



DRIVER TOSSES HIS COOKIES!

May 19th 2008

MORRIS, Ill. - You'd need a lot of milk to dunk all the cookies that spilled on an interstate highway in Illinois this morning.

Police say a trailer loaded with 14 tons of "Double Stuff Oreos" has overturned, spilling the cookies still in their plastic sleeves into the median and roadway, about 50 miles southwest of Chicago. It shut down the highway and backed up traffic.

Illinois State Police Sgt. Brian Mahoney says the truck's driver was traveling from Chicago to Morris on Interstate 80 around 4 a.m. Monday when he fell asleep at the wheel and slammed into the median.

Mahoney says the force of the crash ripped open boxes of the cookies, but their plastic wrappers kept them from covering the ground. "The boxes came out of the trailer and were ripped open," he said.



The crash about 50 miles southwest of Chicago remains under investigation. Mahoney says no charges have been filed

but both lanes of traffic remain closed while authorities remove the cookies. There were no injuries and the roadway has since been re-opened.



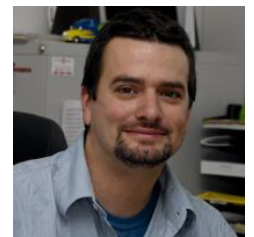
RECURRING THEMES WITH NAVIGATION SYSTEMS

With the upsurge of Navigation system use in trucks and passenger vehicles, there have been more and more reports of people not paying attention to the road and focusing only on where their Navigation system is telling them to go. Cases in point:

Navigation System On, Brain Off: Brad Adams, 52, crashed his charter bus (carrying two dozen high school softball players, who had to be sent to a hospital) into a pedestrian bridge in Seattle's Washington Park Arboretum in April (bus: 11 feet, 8 inches high; bridge, 9 feet, 0 inches). Adams said he missed warning signs because he was busy following the navigation system. [Seattle Times, 4-17-08]

Five days after that, in King's Lynn, England, a Streamline taxi minibus had to be pulled from the River Nar after the driver, who said he was obediently following the navigation system instructions, drove straight into the water. [Lynn News, 4-23-08]

From the desk of Ken DeRocher:



I wanted to take the opportunity to welcome Jaimee to the Safety department. Most of you are probably already familiar with her voice because she started with SPD back in January as the Receptionist.

Jaimee had transitioned back to the Safety Department as the new Safety Assistant and has done a remarkable job so far. I think she will prove to be a wonderful fit and an overall great asset to the company.

She has the all the skills we are looking for and a wonderful personality to top it off!! So if you have not already met Jaimee make sure you take the time to stop in introduce yourselves and say hi!





Cell Phone Safety

There have always been distractions while driving, such as turning a radio, eating/drinking, and especially talking on a cell phone. Cell phones have caused numerous truck-related crashes across the country. A few years ago, a truck driver who was talking on a cell phone hit and killed a two-year girl. Recently, a five year-old girl suffered severe head injuries from a crash caused by a driver who was distracted by his cell phone.

Despite advancements in technology, the most important element in cell phone safety on the road is the driver. It is important to remind drivers of the correct procedure for using cell phones and other electronic devices. The following tips are provided to assist drivers in operating their vehicle and cell phone in a safe and responsible manner.

1. **When possible, drivers should use their cell phone when parked in a safe area.** This is the safest way to handle a phone call.
2. **Drivers should be aware of traffic conditions before answering/initiating a call.** Drivers should never use their cell phone in heavy traffic, especially at night. If they have to use their phone in those situations, they should pull over in a safe area.
3. **Drivers should be familiar with the phone's features.** When drivers purchase or are provided with a cell phone, they should receive a complete demonstration of the phone's operating features. If they do not have that option, drivers should read the owner's manual.



I would like to thank Dana for all her wonderful ideas, positive attitude and fantastic disposition that she brings to dispatch. Steve and I are delighted that she has joined our small little family in our dispatch office.

Ken DeRocher would like to thank Dave for being such an easy going person to work with!!

Thank you! I really appreciate all of the support and encouragement that you have given me as I transition fully into my position in the payroll department....Lisa Upton



June 20th is the first day of summer. Reminder: summer break is starting for school children.

As we approach summer, we need to remember that school age children will not be in school; therefore, we will have more pedestrians on the roadway.

June Fun Facts!

June is the sixth month of the year and takes its name from the Roman goddess Junno, the goddess of marriage.

6th June D Day in 1944,

9th June Shavuot.

14th June Flag Day.

15th June Fathers Day.

18th June 1815 Battle of Waterloo

20th June First Day of Summer.

21st June Longest Day.

24th June Midsummer Day /feast of St. John the Baptist.

SPD FIND A WORD PUZZLE

R J P Q M C C T I N T E R S T A T E
 A J S G W X H I A W T A O A X E Y D
 G X S E C N A I L P M O C S S T T E
 H A Z M A T B C T V A C T C A A E B
 P F A O K A J S C I O U E M R T F T
 F R V Q O N H T G O Z R R F O S A A
 T E V I O O C E S L D T M M A A S L
 K I R N B U T P N A O A I J D R H F
 D G J S G H A D O T U I N K C T O K
 G H K P O O P E I I B N A D H N P C
 G T E E L D S C T O L V L A E I Z E
 Q L N C S R I K A N E A K T C B O D
 U I W T Y U D L L X D N O N K V E P
 A N O I B G M T U M R D A P L Q Y O
 L E R O Y T R L G Y O U X O Z N T R
 C R T N G E P R E Z P W V Q S Z A D
 O S H X C S D C R J T R A C T O R B
 M N P Q J T J T L I U B R E T E P N
 M K E D W A S H I N G T O N T Q O S
 B L F Y P Q O D R I V E R I B Y E M

Compliance	Hazmat	Safety
curtainvan	inspection	shop
dispatch	interstate	spd
dot	intrastate	stepdeck
doubledrop	kenworth	terminal
driver	logbook	tractor
dropdeck	ltl	violation
drugtest	peterbuilt	volvo
flatbed	qualcomm	washington
fmcsa	regulations	wta
freightliner	roadcheck	

FYI-SPD Drivers:

We have had to replace way too many tarps lately, it is easier to fix a tear then it is to fix wind lash. For repeat offenders will be subject to deductions from their safety bonus.

Thank you,
 Safety Department

Angels of the Highway

A story from thetruckersreport.com forums by Jakki

I met an angel in Clarksville, Tennessee. I was tired, road whipped and I needed to find a place to sleep. Forget the T.A. on the Hwy. 24, exit 62, too many lot lizards for my taste. I decided to move on toward my stop hoping to find a place to lay my head for the night. Asking on the C.B, I stumbled across my question on where a truck stop would be between Nashville and Clarksville, the only answer was a small fuel stop on exit 24. I pulled in and lucky found a hole.

My poor little Yorkie who waits patiently for his rendezvous with the nearest bush jumped happily to get his chance to pee in Tennessee. I walked back to my truck my head thinking of the bunk, when an older gentleman approached me. His face was kind and his eyes shone with love, his hair was gray and scruff lined his rugged features. His comment was about my dog and he showed me a picture on his cell phone of his little Jack Russell Terrier. I thought this old man was pretty picture savvy.

We conversed for several minutes and I asked him if he knew Clarksville well enough to point me in the direction of my next pick up. I broke out my atlas; the pages wore with years of thumbing through them. His laugh was explosive as I sat in the driver's seat with my tattered atlas and a magnifying glass. He left me there exploring this new place in Tennessee and returned with a new atlas, large bold print and laminated pages. Hell, I didn't even need my glasses, it was a dream come true.

I found what I was looking for and handed back his atlas, he pushed it toward me saying it was mine now. I was shocked, how could I ever take this old man's atlas? "You will use it more than me, I know where all my stops are" He spoke in a Tennessee drawl. Of course I refused, but he insisted. All it will cost you is a hug. I gladly obliged.

And then he was gone.
 You know it is an angel when they disappear as quickly as they appear.

If you are ever in the Nashville/Clarksville area give a holler to Papa Smurf. You will be blessed when he answers.