

On the Road

March 2016

#### with Carrier Services

### Industry at a glance: new NSC carriers

Carrier Services recently conducted a study to determine what industries new National Safety Code (NSC) carriers are entering into. Based on a recent sample size of new Safety Fitness Certificate applications:

- 37 per cent indicated they identify with the transportation industry (e.g. movement of goods/passengers, general freight);
- 32 per cent of carriers indicated they identify with the construction industry;
- 16 per cent indicated they identify with the petroleum and mining industry;
- 14 per cent indicated they identify with "other" industries (e.g. landscaping, waste management,

repair services, rentals, emergency response, etc.).

- 12 per cent of carriers indicated they identify with the forestry industry;
- 10 per cent of carriers indicated they identify with the agriculture industry;
- 8 per cent indicated they identify with the wholesale and retail industry;
- 5 per cent of carriers indicated they identify with the manufacturing and processing industry;
- 3 per cent indicated they identify with the utilities industry;
- 2 per cent of carriers indicated they identify with the municipal governments industry; and
- 1 per cent indicated they identify with provincial and federal governments.

These percentages include carriers that

indicated they identify with more than one industry type.

For more information about Alberta's National Safety Code program, visit <u>www.transportation.alberta.ca</u> or call 403-340-5444.



### International Registration Plan (IRP) changes

The International Registration Plan (IRP) is a cooperative registration agreement among all 10 Canadian provinces, 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia.

On September 18, 2014 the IRP jurisdictions, including Alberta, voted in favour of amending the definitions of an Apportionable Vehicle. This amendment removes charter buses as being exempt from IRP registration.

Until recently, IRP registration for chartered parties has been optional. As of January 1, 2016 all charter buses that operate into other jurisdictions are required to obtain IRP registration or to purchase trip permits.

The IRP was also amended to remove the requirement to declare travel into other jurisdictions in advance. The lifting of this requirement is known as "Full Reciprocity". All IRP Cab-cards issued on or after January 1, 2016 will automatically show all jurisdictions.

IRP allows carriers to register once for all jurisdictions they operate in rather than having separate registrations for each jurisdiction.

Upon renewal, registration fees will be

calculated and paid to the jurisdictions in which the carrier travelled in the reporting period. Carriers continue to receive registration privileges in all the IRP jurisdictions throughout the year.

For more information about IRP and Prorate, contact the Prorate office at 403-297-2920 or visit

www.transportation.alberta.ca/520. htm



## Evaluating collisions for preventability

The Alberta government monitors the on-road safety performance of carriers using the Carrier Profile system. One function of the system is to identify the number of reportable collisions that a carrier's vehicles were involved in. Points are assigned to each collision on the Carrier Profile depending on its severity and used in the carrier monitoring and intervention process.

A carrier may apply to have a collision evaluated for preventability at any time. Collisions evaluated through the approved process and deemed to be "non-preventable" will be displayed as a "non-preventable" collision on their Carrier Profile. Points will not be assigned to a collision that was deemed "non-preventable".

Unevaluated and "preventable" collisions will be assigned points which are displayed on the Carrier Profile. Collisions that have not been evaluated will appear on the Profile as "not evaluated". If a carrier has reason to believe a collision was "non-preventable", it is their responsibility to send in a Collision Evaluation Application. When a carrier applies to have a collision evaluated, Alberta Transportation, in partnership with the Alberta Motor Transport Association (AMTA), will perform an evaluation. In some cases a committee administered by the AMTA, comprised of trained motor transport industry personnel, may conduct further review of the application and evaluate the collision for preventability.

The Request for Collision Evaluation form is available online at:

www.transportation.alberta.ca/Content/doc Type276/Production/collevalappl.pdf (there may be a cost associated with this request).

Evaluating driver collisions is a critical part of every carrier's safety program. Without a proper evaluation, carriers may not determine the root cause of the collision so that remedial action can be taken. It is important that this action be taken to ensure future collisions do not occur.

For more information about the collision evaluation process, contact Carrier Services at 403-340-5430.

# **Electronic Logging Devices in the news**

In December, 2015 the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) announced that commercial truck and bus carriers who currently use paper logs to maintain hours of service records will be required to adopt Electronic Logging Devices (ELDs) by 2017.

By making ELDs mandatory, the FMCSA hopes to strengthen commercial truck and bus drivers' compliance with hours of service regulations that prevent fatigue.

Recently, news agencies have reported on Transport Canada's intent to follow suit and make ELDs mandatory in Canada. In some reports, they have implied that mandatory ELDs will come into place in 2017.

While Transport Canada supports the implementation of mandatory ELDs,

they have **NOT** announced an official date for implementation. However, Alberta's federally regulated carriers may be required to install and use ELDs by 2017 if they operate in the United States.

Transport Canada's drivers' hours of service regulation applies to federally regulated carriers and will not affect provincially regulated carriers if mandatory ELDs are adopted into legislation.

Alberta's drivers' hours of service regulation applies to provincially regulated carriers. Alberta's official position on the adoption of mandatory ELDs into legislation has not yet been determined.

For more information about Alberta's current policy on ELDs, visit www.transportation.alberta.ca/5610.htm.

#### DID YOU KNOW?



According to the National Safety Council, a "preventable" collision is one in which the driver failed to do everything that reasonably could have been done to avoid it. A "non-preventable" collision is one in which a driver commits no errors and reacts reasonably to the errors of others.

A company that has been involved in any collision should investigate the contributing factors to that collision and determine whether any revisions need to be made to the safety program related to things such as defensive driving or vehicle maintenance.

Safety officers can use Part 4 of the Carrier Profile report to monitor collisions and develop policies or training programs around collision prevention.

Setting the standards for safe driving may save lives, time and money. More information about defensive driving and collision preventability is available online at: <u>www.nsc.org</u>





By now, you've heard of 511 Alberta. As Alberta's official road reporting service since 2013, 511 Alberta has made a name for itself the old fashioned way: through dedication, accuracy, and a tireless work ethic that is necessary to provide the service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. It's that old school formula that has made 511 Alberta a trusted name amongst Albertans. In its continued pursuit of excellence; 511 has recently added a new program that is truly a game changer in the realm of highway condition reporting in Canada.

In early February, 511 Alberta proudly launched a Canadian first: A Citizen Reporting tool, that allows Albertans to contribute road condition updates to the 511 Alberta map. Inspired by successful programs in Utah, Virginia, and Wyoming, the tool ensures that 511 Alberta remains the most accurate, and up-to-date source for road condition information. The Citizen reporting tool is available as part of the 511 Alberta mobile app, which can be downloaded for free on Apple and Android devices.

511 Alberta has used social networking tools since its launch in 2013. Predominately it has been used as a customer networking/information resource but not as a major source of real time information. While social media and external apps can provide a wealth of crowdsourced information for a department of transportation, their ad hoc structures make it more difficult for the department of transportation to use and quality control the information. Department of transportationmanaged citizen reporting programs allow the agencies to build the data collection application to suit their needs, funnel the information into pre-existing traveler information architectures, and train the reporters to ensure high-quality information.

Utilising tools like the Citizen Reporter to gather reliable crowdsourced data will undoubtedly make transportation safer and more efficient.

The Citizen Reporting Program enlists volunteers to report on current road conditions along specific roadway segments in Alberta. The volunteers will be drawn from a diverse pool including but not limited to Alberta Transportation employees, RCMP/Sheriffs and other law enforcement agencies, professional drivers, experienced commuters and other volunteers. The Citizen Reporting Program involves utilising citizen reporters to provide road weather conditions to help fill gaps in the existing road condition reports and support more timely and accurate forecasts. The citizen reports are not expected to replace existing infrastructure sources or information from the maintenance field personnel. Rather, these reports provide an important supplemental dataset to the operations and maintenance staff.

Keeping in tune with the strong message of safety, especially during the winter season, 511 Alberta also announced an additional new feature on their website. Through the use of GPS technology, Albertans can now locate all active snow plows on provincially maintained highways with the information updated every 20 seconds. These features outlined are key development in the evolution of traffic safety in the province.

For more information on 511 Alberta, their services, and their new features Visit <u>http://www.511.alberta.ca</u>

Or follow on Twitter: @511Alberta

#### DID YOU KNOW?



Carriers can monitor their onroad safety performance by reviewing their Carrier Profile. Taking action to address safety issues identified on the Profile can benefit a carrier in many ways.

The Alberta Government provides two free Carrier Profiles to each National Safety Code carrier every year.

Request your Profile online today at: <u>https://www.trans.gov.ab.ca/</u> <u>TravisWebLogin/redirect.htm</u>



In 2014, the Victoria Day long weekend recorded the highest number of fatalities. The Easter Long Weekend recorded the highest total number of collisions.

Do your part in preventing collisions this spring. Drive safe.

Visit <u>www.saferoads.com</u> for more information.

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