



March 2018

with Carrier Services

Carrier Intervention Policy Changes

Alberta Transportation monitors the safety and compliance of commercial bus and truck carriers. This is to reduce traffic-related deaths and serious injuries involving commercial vehicles on Alberta highways.

If a carrier does not comply with safety laws, the government may intervene with their operations to reduce the risk the carrier poses to the public.

In March, 2018 Alberta Transportation is phasing in a new intervention policy. The new policy will enable the government to quickly and effectively address risks to the public on Alberta highways. An overview of the intervention process is shown on the right.

For more information about the new carrier intervention process, visit: www.transportation.alberta.ca/670.htm



EVENT

Carrier identified as being potential risk through on-road incidents, complaints, monitoring, and/or audit results



RISK ASSESSMENT

Carrier Services considers level of risk to the public based on type of event, history of compliance, type of services provided, and administrative precedent



INTERVENTION

Carrier required to undergo audit or investigation
Carrier may be issued additional interventions (e.g. penalties, rating changes)
Carrier given firm due date to be in full compliance (i.e. no extensions)



ENFORCEMENT

Carrier who fails to comply by due date is suspended as of next business day
Carrier may be re-instated with a conditional safety rating after verification audit
Carrier with conditional safety rating who re-offends within 12 months will be downgraded to unsatisfactory, which will prevent them from operating regulated vehicles and reinstating their status for a period of 6 months

New Manager of Investigations



Joseph Cote was the successful candidate for the Manager of Investigations position with Carrier Services.

Joseph began his career with the Government of Alberta in 2009 as a Transport Officer with the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Branch in Grande Prairie. In 2015 he was promoted to Sergeant of the Grande Prairie district.

Joseph was actively engaged in the Lethbridge College Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Program and provided instruction in transport legislation.

In 2017 he joined the Carrier Services team in Red Deer as the Team Lead Investigator. Now he fills the position previously held by Lloyd Blower, who recently retired.

Joseph has a strong passion for transportation safety and is dedicated to increasing commercial vehicle compliance in Alberta.

Joseph can be reached at joseph.cote@gov.ab.ca.

Selecting a Safety Consultant

Every National Safety Code carrier has a responsibility to operate safely and in compliance with transportation safety laws. In some situations, carriers may choose to invest in a consultant who can help them:

- Better understand safety laws that apply to their company;
- Develop and implement effective safety and maintenance programs;
- Address significant safety concerns;
- Monitor drivers for transportation safety compliance;
- Prepare for or take action after an audit;
- Train drivers and other employees.

Choosing the right consultant is not always an easy task. When selecting a consultant, some questions to consider include:

- Why do you need a consultant?

- What is your budget?
- Do you need a one-time service, or something on an on-going basis?
- Does the consultant need to travel / are they willing to travel to provide the service you need?
- Does the consultant have the skills, knowledge, and experience needed for the job?
- Is the consultant willing to provide references?
- Does the consultant have enough time and resources to commit to the service you need?
- Do you want the consultant to work on something for you, or with you?

For more information about transportation safety requirements in Alberta, visit www.transportation.alberta.ca/671.htm.

Managing Driver Fatigue

Researchers estimate that [20 per cent](#) of all fatal collisions involve driver fatigue. In Alberta, truck tractor drivers are more likely than all other drivers in casualty collisions to be fatigued or asleep at the time of the collision.

Fatigued driving is a major safety issue that has an impact on all road users. Many people think fatigue is only a problem for long-haul drivers, but this issue is just as relevant for drivers travelling short distances. Many drivers have reported falling asleep or nodding off behind the wheel after driving for less than one hour.

Driving while fatigued can result in:

- Slower reaction times;
- Lack of concentration;
- Reduced vigilance / poor judgement;
- Aggressive driving behaviours;
- Loss of total vehicle control.

When experiencing fatigue or drowsiness,

many drivers try to deal with it by opening a window, turning on the air conditioning, turning up the radio, and other things. However, the most effective method for addressing fatigue is to prevent it from happening to begin with.

To manage fatigue, drivers should consider the following:

- Sleep well before taking a trip;
- Take regular rest stops every couple of hours to prevent onset of fatigue;
- Share the driving whenever possible;
- Eat light meals or fruit throughout the journey and drink water;
- If feeling drowsy, stop and take a twenty to forty minute nap.

Carriers can help drivers by encouraging the practices above and having a Fatigue Management Program in place. For more information, visit:

www.transportation.alberta.ca/5305.htm

Carrier Services, Alberta Transportation

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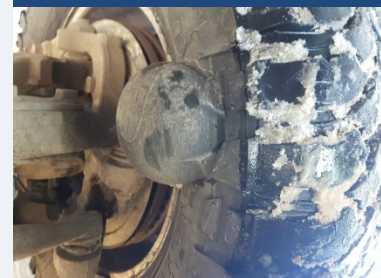
Phone: 403-340-5444 (toll-free in Alberta by first calling 310-0000) Fax: 403-340-4806

DID YOU KNOW?



The Transportation Safety Professionals (TSP) Workshop was designed by the Government of Alberta to provide practical guidance to commercial bus and truck carriers operating under the requirements of the National Safety Code program in Alberta.

For a schedule and more information about the TSP Workshop, visit: www.transportation.alberta.ca/5607.htm



Tire checks are an important part of every trip inspection. Examining tread depth, pressure, and the overall condition of each tire is vital to ensuring they are in safe operating condition.

Ensure drivers check to ensure there are no deep cuts or bulges in the sidewalls of the tire, and that there are no items lodged between dual tires.

For more information about trip inspections, visit: www.transportation.alberta.ca/671.htm