



Truck Drivers SAFETY CHECKLIST

Company _____ Unit/Description _____ Name _____ Date _____

Pre-trip inspection: Are you driving to an accident today? You may be and you don't know it. Over-the-road (OTR) hauling and transportation forms a major distribution network for goods and products. With the ever-increasing vehicle traffic on our streets and highways, having safer commercial vehicles is imperative.

Random inspection of OTR vehicles may detect one or more safety violations. The discrepancies may range from minor, such as non-working lights, to more serious, such as faulty brakes.

Accidents are rarely caused by just one faulty item. Combine bad weather, driver fatigue, and vehicular problems and the potential for accidents increases dramatically. Removing just one of these conditions reduces the potential for an accident.

Minor deficiencies can cause accidents. The probability for an accident increases as the discrepancies increase.

Another important reason for proper maintenance of all OTR vehicles is to avoid breakdown. Any breakdown puts the driver in jeopardy – while setting flares, evaluating the problem and seeking assistance. These can expose you to other vehicular traffic, especially during nighttime hours.

You, the professional driver should identify discrepancies during the pre-trip, walk-around inspection. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, enforced by state and federal Departments of Transportation (DOT), requires a pre-trip inspection of trucks engaged in interstate commerce.

We all benefit from being accident free. All commercial trucks, whether semi tractor trailer combinations or straight trucks are subject to breakdowns or accidents. Why take the chance? Do the required pre-trip inspection, before the journey. Random checks should also be made when stopped during the trip.

A checklist is attached that will help you with the pre-trip inspection. Check each applicable item and note deficiencies. If any safety item, such as air, lights, steering and brakes, does not pass, then get it fixed. Do not leave the facility until the condition is corrected.

Complete the checklist properly and maintain the completed forms. Maintain these records in a safe place, as required. They can be a beneficial confirmation that you are a responsible operator.

Always buckle up and have a safe and productive trip.

Signature _____