

AAMVA Motor Carrier Services Update

June 2005



“Striving to meet the needs of the AAMVA membership, working to improve highway safety and efficiencies in the motor carrier services community.”

AAMVA Regional Conferences

The AAMVA regional conferences have been in full swing through the month of June starting with Region II in Alabama, Region I in New Hampshire and Region IV in Arizona. There have been some very good MCS sessions at the Regional conferences with some of the major issues being discussed. At the Region II conference there was a discussion on the FMCSA New Entrant program and a session on the Highway Watch. In Region IV we had a good general session dealing with such topics as Port of Entry safety concerns, the Patriot Act, NAFTA and Grant Opportunities from FMCSA. A summary of the conferences will be posted on the AAMVA website on the MCS page with some of the presentations available there as well.

HVUT Update

On June 20, 2005 there was a meeting at AAMVA headquarters with representatives from the IRS to discuss the Federal Heavy Vehicle Usage tax (HVUT). Tim Adams, David Saddler and Joan Kalvaitis represented AAMVA and IRP, Inc. The discussion focused on the ongoing work with the development of the electronic filing application process and development of an electronic verification process. At this point the IRS is in the analysis stage and will begin work on developing the applications later this year. The IRS has asked for AAMVA's help as they move forward in this analysis stage to help gather information and provide input from the membership.

Additionally, there is a news release from the IRS outlining changes to the HVUT process. Attached along with this update is a copy of the news release.

Watch for more information as it becomes available.

NCSTS Meeting in Boston

The National Conference of State Transportation Specialized met in Boston, MA, June 12 - 14, 2005. There were discussions on issues relating to household goods movements and hazardous materials with a major portion of the discussions on the Single State Registration System (SSRS) and the new proposed Unified Carrier Registration (UCR).

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With Congress still working on the highway re-authorization bill, it is still uncertain if the UCR will become law. The feeling of those in attendance at this meeting was that the UCR will remain a part of the final re-authorization bill to come out of the House and Senate conference committee. Stay tuned on this one! More information will hopefully be coming soon.

Unified Registration System Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) recently issued a Notice for Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on the Unified Registration System. Under this NPRM, FMCSA proposes a revised registration system. The URS would apply to every motor carrier, freight forwarder and broker required to register with the USDOT except Mexico-domiciled motor carriers registering to operate between Mexico and points in the US beyond the border commercial zones along the US-Mexico international border.

Comments are due on or before August 17, 2005. Please pay special attention to Section IX of the NPRM referring to the PRISM program. Under the proposed rule, states currently issuing inter-state USDOT numbers through the PRISM program would no longer be allowed to do so as FMCSA would not be able to delegate this responsibility. FMCSA is very interested in comments on this particular section of the proposed rule.

Due to the size of the document I am not attaching it with this update. Hopefully within the next week we will have a link to the document posted on the AAMVA web site under the Motor Carrier Services section or if you would like me to email it to you, please let me know and I will get a copy to you.

CVISN 101 Available Online

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) recently announced that the "CVISN 101" training course is now available online. This course provides an introduction to the fundamental knowledge and principles concerning the CVISN program. The course is designed to:

- Introduce students to the four broad program areas of the national ITS/CVO Program:
 - Safety assurance;
 - Credentials administration
 - Electronic screening; and
 - Carrier operations
- Discuss the recommended strategies and technologies to deploy the CVISN Program
- Describe the steps in the CVISN Deployment process

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This web-based course is available from the Consortium for ITS Training and Education (CITE) website and should take about four hours to complete. The course is available at any time. Students can register on-line at www.citeconsortium.org. The course fee is \$150.

Watch for the "CVISN 102" course coming out late summer 2005. This course will build on the "CVISN 101" and will focus primarily on CVISN deployment, including the technologies deployed by states, strategies for addressing technical and institutional issues, and evolving technologies.

PRISM Program Updates

The following are recent updates on the FMCSA sponsored PRISM Program:

- There are currently 38 states with grant agreements to implement PRISM
- Goal is to have 42 by the end of this fiscal year
- There is a new version of the PRISM IRP cab card bar code specifications
- PRISM tech support staff and AAMVA have recently worked out issues to enable roadside officers to initiate inquiries through the NLETS to the PRISM central site
- There is more regular communication taken place with the PRISM Industry Advisory Council
- FMCSA continues to conduct implementation reviews, which is a program to see how states systems are working
- States need to pay special attention FMCSA NPRM on the URS, due to possible impact on the PRISM program

Upcoming Events

- **AAMVA Regional Conferences**
Region III – St. Louis, MO *July 12 – 17, 2005*
- **IFTA Annual Business Meeting** - *July 15 – 16, 2005 Halifax, Nova Scotia*
- **TAFI (Taking Action on Federal Initiatives) AAMVA – FMCSA Partnership** *July 22 – 24, 2005 Washington, DC* *See AAMVA website at www.aamva.org \ for details*
- **AAMVA Motor Vehicle & Traffic Law Institute** - *July 30 – Aug 3, 2005 Salt Lake City, UT*
- **North American Inspectors Championships (NAIC 2005)** - *August 15 – 21, 2005 Tampa, FL*
- **AAMVA International Conference** – *August 27 – September 1, 2005 Fort Worth, TX*

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CONTACT US

If you have questions or comments about this status update or need information on MCS issues or activities, contact Tim Adams, Program Director, MCS via e-mail at tadams@aamva.org or phone (502)-845-0398.