

AAMVA Motor Carrier Services Update

August 2005



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

Highway Re-Authorization Passed by Congress

Congress has passed and President Bush has signed into law the Highway Re-authorization bill, HR 3 - “Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)”. This bill provides for many transportation programs including highway safety projects and initiatives. The following is just a short list of some of the programs funded or created by the bill:

- Creation of the Unified Carrier Registration (UCR) program to replace the Single State Registration System (SSRS)
- Highway Use Tax Evasion Projects including HVUT
- Continued funding for CVISN and PRISM
- Truck Parking Facilities
- Highway Safety Improvement Program
- Highway Safety Research and Outreach Programs
- Motor Carrier Safety Grants
- Funding for States for New Entrant Audits
- Data Quality Improvement
- Patterns of Safety Violations by Motor Carriers Management
- Commercial Drivers License Information System Modernization
- Etc.

AAMVA International Conference Fast Approaches

The AAMVA **International Conference “Commitment to Communication”** will take place August 28 – September 1, 2005 in Fort Worth, Texas. The annual international conference is one of the best opportunities of the year for motor vehicle and law enforcement administrators to come together. The preliminary agenda features a number of concurrent sessions to allow more interaction between the participants. Industry partners are preparing their exhibit materials for display on Sunday August 28th. We’re looking forward to seeing the advances made in technology and processes over the last year.

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National Truck Driver Appreciation Week

National Truck Driver Appreciation Week 2005 (August 21 - 27) is when America's 3.24 million drivers are in for a nationwide pat on the back, recognizing their hard work moving the goods and products making up our national economy. Please visit www.ntdaw.org to access the full details.

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.

AAMVA solicited comments from the membership and submitted comments based on the responses received. Please contact Tim Adams [at tadams@aamva.org](mailto:atadams@aamva.org) for a copy of the comments submitted by AAMVA.

Brake Safety Awareness Week August 28 – September 3, 2005

Beginning August 28 and continuing through September 3, a special educational event will take place across the US and Canada at a number of truck stops and other locations where truck drivers and mechanics congregate. Brake Safety Awareness Week is a part of Operation Air Brake, a larger campaign sponsored by the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) to promote vehicle brake safety.

Braking systems on commercial vehicles are complicated and contain many parts that require constant inspection and attention to ensure proper operation and performance. By far, brakes comprise the largest percentage of out-of-service violations that are cited during roadside inspections. Brake Safety Awareness Week is an educational event. It will concentrate solely on the importance of proper commercial vehicle brake inspection, maintenance and operation. CVSA Certified Inspectors will be teaming up to with trucking companies, trucking associations, truck stops and brake suppliers to educate drivers and mechanics on the proper steps to take for inspecting and maintaining commercial vehicle brakes, with a special emphasis on brake adjustment.

For additional information, please visit the CVSA website at www.cvsa.org.

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Continuing to Improve Highway Safety and Security

Congressman Hal Rogers and Kentucky Governor Ernie Fletcher cut the ribbon on the latest ITS highway safety and security project in Kentucky on Friday August 12, 2005. The ceremony took place at Kentucky's Weigh Station of the 21st Century located on Interstate 75 in London, Kentucky, with representatives from many state, federal and local governmental agencies and organizations in attendance.

The Integrated Safety and Security Enforcement System (ISSES), is the first system of its kind in the United States. The technology includes:

- A Radiation Detection System;
- A License Plate Reader;
- An Infrared Brake Monitoring System; and
- A Chemical Detection Unit

This technology will help enforcement to address Homeland Security issues addressing radiological detection/identification, identification of unsafe or illicit transportation of hazardous materials including chemicals and radiological materials and screening shipments for illicit drugs. Additionally, through the use of the license plate reader and the thermal imaging system, inspectors will be able to identify the vehicle and motor carrier and detect brake or other safety problems with a vehicle. Partners in this project include the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Kentucky Vehicle Enforcement, University of Kentucky Transportation Center, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

For information on the project please contact Kentucky CVISN Project Manager David Jackson via email at David.Jackson@ky.gov or Tim Adams, AAMVA MCS Program Director via email at Tadams@aamva.org or by phone at (502) 845-0398.

UMA and ABA Unification Fails

Due to unresolved issues between the United Motorcoach Association ([UMA](#)) and American Bus Association ([ABA](#)), their unification efforts have been halted. The effort was to combine the UMA and ABA to create the American Motorcoach Association. After almost 15 months of negotiations to consolidate, they have agreed to end the unification effort. However, the two associations agreed to continue to work closely on public policy issues, retaining the joint Public Policy Committee that began working early this year to give the bus/motorcoach industry a single voice on industry issues.

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Sharing Information with the Membership

Has your jurisdiction implemented a new process for electronic credentialing? Has your jurisdiction recently implemented PRISM or a new CVISN process? Is there something exciting happening in your jurisdiction with respect to motor carrier services or highway safety?

If so, please share the news with your fellow jurisdictional members. We are always looking for interesting information to share with the AAMVA membership and would like to hear from you. Please send any information you would like to share to Tim Adams via email at tadams@aamva.org or give Tim a call at (502) 845-0398.

Upcoming Events

- **ITS America CVFM Summer Meeting** – August 30 – September 1, 2005
Chicago, IL
- **AAMVA International Conference** – August 27 – September 1, 2005
Fort Worth, TX
- **IFTA Managers Workshop – Law Enforcement Seminar** – September 21 – 24, 2005
Mesa, AZ
- **CVSA Fall Workshop** – September 24 – 29, 2005
Biloxi, Mississippi
- **IRP Annual Meeting** – November 3 – 7, 2005
Orlando, FL
- **International Truck & Bus Safety 7 Security Symposium** – November 13 – 16, 2005
Alexandria, VA
- **NCSTS Winter Meeting** – January 15 – 17, 2005
New Orleans, LA

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.