

ISSUE 2

ROAD KNIGHTS NEWS

YOUR FAVORITE TRUCKING & LOGISTICS NEWS!

02 - 2022



“Motivational Trucking Quotes
“Life on the road can be one of two things. If you are flexible--able to adapt and change to new situations and events--truck driving means constant adventure.”
- Connor Syrewicz.



About Road Knights, Inc

We offer quality transportation and logistic services to all across USA clients at reasonable prices. Our courteous staff have the professional tools and experience necessary to help with all your needs. Our professional trucking company is well renowned throughout hole USA. Our

team is up for every job, managing projects with the skill and experience our clients have come to expect. Road Knights, Inc. is a family owned trucking company that has been in operation since 2010 with a headquarter in Schiller Park, IL.Our trucking company is a full truckload and LTL carrier,

specializing in refrigerated or climate controlled freight; and flatbed services, applicable to special equipment or atypical shape/sized loads.We always stand behind our work, with customer satisfaction being our #1 priority.



4741 25th Ave
Schiller Park, IL 60176

Phone: (773) 756-5999
Fax: (773) 270-3908
Email: Info@RoadKnights.us
Website: www.roadknights.us



05

Winter Driving Statistics

Drivers are at highest risk on the road during winter.

04

Higher gas prices hitting truckers

For a lot of truckers, it's the highest they've seen fuel prices in about 12 years.m.

First five drivers of the month of January

WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT YOU ARE WORKING WITH US!



- 1. Bobby Joseph
- 2. Aleksandar Arsevski
- 3. John Howard
- 4. Jaques Lacroix
- 5. Dionte Chapple



4741 25th Ave
Schiller Park, IL 60176
Phone: (773) 756-5999
Fax: (773) 270-3908
Email: Info@RoadKnights.us
Website: www.roadknights.us



Meet the winner Bobby Joseph

Hi, My name is Bobby D. Joseph. This month makes 4 years driving with Road Knights. I tried to be a truck driver in 2003 and got scared of OTR leaving the island and trying something new and became a school bus driver instead. I did that for 8 years then switched to driving with Pepsi. I worked with Pepsi for 3 years and decided to try trucking again since I felt comfortable. I drove for Averitt express for 2 years then my brother in law was working with Road Knights at the time asked me to try it. 4 years now



and I'm still here. I really enjoy working here, no complaints. If you have a goal and here to make money no matter what, this is the place to be. Just do what you have to do and run, and everyone has your back. I will recommend Road Knights to anyone and everyone looking for a wonderful company to work for



HISTORY

History of Trucking Industry - Amazing Photos



WE



LIKE



OUR



JOB!



THE MOST COMMON MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY VIOLATIONS

UNDERSTANDING FMCSA GUIDELINE VIOLATIONS

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) regulates motor carriers to ensure all motorists on the road stay safe. While there are specific safety protocols in place that all motor carriers and their drivers must adhere to, safety violations are not uncommon.

Here are the top motor carrier safety violations reported by the FMCSA

Moving Violations

Moving violations were number one on the list of violations found by the FMCSA. These violations include:

- Speeding - The high demand to get deliveries made quickly can result in driving over the speed limit.
- Tailgating - Following too closely behind another vehicle is a bad driving habit that can cause a severe accident.
- Improper lane changes - Changing lanes without signaling or cutting off other motorists are dangerous road maneuvers that should never be made.
- Improper turns - Making u-turns or left-hand turns when road signs clearly state that it is not permitted can cause a devastating accident.
- Reckless driving - Even though the FMCSA mandates driving defensively to stay safe, this is still a top safety violation.
- Failure to yield to the right of way - Not obeying the right of way rule can put other motorists in danger.
- Railroad crossing violations - Trucks must make a complete stop before proceeding through a railroad crossing.
- Failure to obey traffic control devices - Running stoplights and speeding up to beat a yellow light is a recipe for a motor vehicle crash.

What Is a Good CSA Score?

CSA is a program run by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) designed to enforce safety measures for both drivers and owner-operators. CSA stands for Compliance, Safety, and Accountability, and your CSA score matters.

CSA scores are calculated on a zero to 100 percentile scale, with 100 indicating the worst performance and zero indicating the best performance. The FMCSA sets intervention thresholds on a per-category level, based on the BASIC's relationship to crash risk.

Carriers with scores greater than 65% in Unsafe Driving, Crash Indicator, and HOS Compliance are subject to FMCSA investigations. For hazardous materials and passenger carriers, the threshold is even lower, at 60% and 50%, respectively. The remaining BASIC categories have an 80% threshold for most carriers, after which the FMCSA will intervene.

Carriers with good CSA scores will benefit from lower insurance

premiums, fewer DOT audits and roadside inspections, and a better reputation with current and potential customers, so staying well below those thresholds can have an outsize impact on your operations and profitability.

Driver speeding: how to reduce accidents and costs

Commercial vehicle speeding can cause accidents and increase fleet costs. It doesn't help the industry's reputation either. Fleet and compliance managers actively promote safety solutions to combat speeding concerns. But talking about it isn't enough. This article addresses the technology that helps fleets monitor, analyze, and take action on driver behavior.

What are the dangers of driver speeding?

In 2019, 5,005 large trucks were involved in fatal crashes, up 2% from 2018. In the same time period, the large truck involvement rate (large trucks involved in fatal crashes per 100 million miles traveled by large trucks) increased 4% from 1.61 to 1.67, according to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA).

Any vehicle going too fast is at greater risk of a crash. Commercial vehicles, in particular, because of their size and high center of gravity and weight, take longer to stop and can be tipped or thrown off balance by turns when speeding. A truck can jackknife when the speeding driver has a heavy load that shifts during transport and the truck is unstable. Additionally, commercial trucks are more likely to cause severe collisions.

Speeding has a negative impact on our business bottom line too. The speeding driver will run up fuel costs, can cause more wear-and-tear on the vehicles, and require more maintenance. Our fleet's brand can also suffer damages if others on the road associate our drivers with high-risk behaviors.

According to the American Trucking Association, "A truck traveling at 75 mph consumes 27% more fuel than one going 65 mph; so limiting truck speed to 65 mph would save 2.8 billion gals."

Knowing that We have to be wondering how to stop speeding drivers. Before we get to that, it helps to understand what causes drivers to speed.

What causes commercial drivers to speed?

-Poorly planned routes
Truck drivers keep to a tight schedule.

They face limits on the number of hours they can drive and when they need to take breaks, yet they also want to complete deliveries on time. As a result, a poorly planned route can contribute to trucker speeding.

A well-planned route takes time, road condition, and potential delays into account. Considering these in advance can help take off the stress about making a timely delivery from the mind of the driver.

-Engrained driving habits
Drivers recognize that speeding is a safety concern. Yet, in a survey by the National Safety Council, 64% still said they're "comfortable speeding." This attitude needs to change.

Coaching and education can make a difference but technology helps too.

-Distracted driving
The speeding driver may not even realize that they're speeding when driving distracted. A driver talking on a cell phone or eating while driving can unwittingly pick up speed.

How are speeding citations calculated?

Like a teenager asking what the consequence would be before deciding whether or not to break a rule, you may get asked: "How much is a speeding ticket in a semi-truck" or "How much is a speeding ticket in a commercial vehicle?" Of course, the answers will vary based on context. Yet, to generally answer "how much is a speeding ticket for truck drivers" we can say that, while the dollar amount varies from state to state, the penalty will often consider:

- Driving speed
- Posted speed
- Where the speeding was recorded
- Driving conditions at the time

Additionally, beyond the fine, a commercial driver's license (CDL) speeding ticket can also mean:

- Disqualification from driving. Two or more serious violations "within a three-year period will lead to a disqualification for 60 days, and a subsequent conviction within three years will get you a 120-day disqualification."
- 50% higher Negligent Operator Treatment System (NOTS) points for the same speeding ticket conviction compared to non-CDL peers
- Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA) score point severity reflecting the amount of speed over the limit

Another common question is: "Can fleets face action over speeding drivers?" A lawyer filing suit after a truck accident will typically bring the initial suit against the speeding truck driver's company. Determining liability for the different parties will be part of the legal action. Top questions that need answers include whether the truck driver was operating the vehicle conscientiously and if there were any equipment-based or mechanical malfunctions.

How can fleets reduce driver speeding?

The National Surface Transportation Safety Center for Excellence (NSTSCE) in 2019 surveyed nine carriers that had experienced significant improvements in safety and concluded "a strong safety culture, advanced technologies, training and management practices all are key." There was no single fix that made a significant difference but here are some of the areas you can change:

BE PROACTIVE ABOUT SAFETY
Addressing driver safety begins first with educating drivers about the dangers. The truck driver needs to know to adjust speed when driving in heavy traffic, construction zones, or when there's low visibility or wet pavement due to rain, sleet, snow or fog. The FMCSA further cautions truck drivers to slow down on curves (which often have reduced speed limits), on exit and entrance ramps, and when driving with a full load.

Driver coaching and incentive programs emphasizing a culture of safety can help. Both are made easier with fleet software. Fleet managers can easily run reports to identify the drivers with the greatest number of speeding events. They can also create rules to get notifications of drivers speeding or driving aggressively and provide additional training for those drivers.

AI dashcams can help fleets stop accidents and proactively detect unsafe driving such as speeding, and can instantly alert drivers to modify their behaviors.

AI dashcams also provide data to calculate driver risk scores to help predict future accidents. KeepTruckin's DRIVE score objectively measures risk against its broader network of over 400,000 vehicles to give us a holistic understanding of our drivers' performance over time. The scoring incorporates safety events like speeding to determine a driver's accurate risk profile.

Additionally, We can use the dashcam video evidence to protect innocent drivers and avoid the fallout for your fleet from a potential nuclear verdict.

How KeepTruckin's AI-powered safety platform helps reduce speeding

KeepTruckin's safety platform offers several features focused on addressing speeding concerns and reducing accident costs:

- Real-time email alerts so fleet managers can act quickly to correct driver behavior
- Centralized view of driver speeding events in the Fleet Dashboard provides actionable context for immediate coaching

Higher gas prices hitting truckers



GREENVILLE, SC (WSPA) – The pain you are feeling at the pump could lead to higher prices at grocery stores, according to the South Carolina Trucking Association.

Whether it's unleaded, plus, or premium, you may feel the gas prices are hitting your wallets hard, but drivers in the trucking industry are feeling the pinch too.

"Feeling some pain at the pump. Literally, and all signs seem to point to more, and significantly more probably in the next few months to come with what's going on world-wide," said Rick Todd, President & CEO of the SC Trucking Association. "Fuel cost next to labor are probably the second highest cost of operating a truck. It has significant impacts on fleet owners and drivers, if you're owner operator. That impact varies depending on your business model, but none of the impacts are good right now," he said.

"It's ridiculous," said Clifford, an independent truck driver. "I'm only putting in \$800 today, but to fill this up, it'll probably run me about \$1,200," he said.

Clifford said that's about \$500 more than he's used to paying.

Todd said he's hearing similar concerns from some of the association's 600 members—across the state.

"Well, they're saying they're seeing it going up and they're concerned

about what they read and hear about too in terms of how high can they go and for how long. We were already concerned about inflation, so this will only add to that and there's not a whole lot that can be done about it," Todd said.

"It's going to get pretty rough because the company I'm with, we're noticing a lot of our customers that had stuff to move, they're shutting it down until either prices drop or something changes. They're not going to move their stuff because they don't want to pay the fuel surcharge," Clifford said.

Junior Holder is the Store Manager at Quality Foods in Greer.

"There's not a thing that comes in this store, including the customers that don't get here by fuel," Holder said. "You know all of our stuff comes in on trucks, and if it goes up, they got to go up," Holder said.

"Some of these independent guys that's got bread routes, and have to buy their own gas, now they're having to struggle a little bit," Holder said. "It don't really affect your corporate drivers, it affects their company," he said.

"The people we buy from have more struggle with that than we do. It's going to be harder to get stuff to the warehouses. That's

where most of the independent truckers, they haul it from the point of origin, to the warehouses, that's the ones who're really having the trouble," Holder said. "I mean there's no way that these costs don't get passed on to consumers, because we are so truck dependent. I mean you don't have a deep water river where you can barge a product straight to your house. You don't have an airport to land a plane to deliver to you. You don't have a train track that leads up to your house or grocery store," Todd said. "So, these costs will be passed on to the consumer, depends on what they buy—pretty much everything. So, it's going to be a rough little ride here for awhile I think," Todd said.

While no one knows what the future holds, the trucking industry is bracing for the future.

"It's going to slow everything down. It's going to hurt everybody," Clifford said.

"We're kind of use of having tight capacity, but this just adds a little bit of fuel to the fire, so to speak when you talk about pressure when you talk about delivery schedules, the supply chain in general and what it costs to move goods," Todd said.



4741 25th Ave
Schiller Park, IL 60176

Phone: (773) 756-5999
Fax: (773) 270-3908
Email: Info@RoadKnights.us
Website: www.roadknights.us



"HIGH GAS PRICES"

TRUCK DRIVERS HIT HARD BY RISING GAS PRICES

DENHAM SPRINGS - The recent surge in gas prices is taking a toll on truck drivers, and that cost will likely affect consumers in the long run.

With diesel approaching \$5 per gallon in the area, it's costing close to \$800 for some truckers to fill up. Michael Crowell, an independent driver out of Las Vegas, said he's already seen prices higher than that elsewhere.

"They're affecting the way we are living right now," Crowell said.

According to Crowell, the spike in fuel costs has cut profits by at least 25 percent.

"We're not making any money out here because diesel fuel is so high," Crowell added.

Dijore Seshie, who also owns his own truck, said they've already had to pass some of that cost on to the companies they haul for.

"It's either you drop everything and go sit down, and that's not a solution. So we just have to keep hoping things go back down," Seshie said.

For a lot of these truckers, it's the highest they've seen fuel prices in about 12 years.

SAFETY



Winter Driving Statistics for Driver Safety

Drivers are at highest risk on the road during winter.

However, it may come as a surprise that the summer months can be more deadly for drivers than the winter. Nevertheless, looking at most winter driving statistics, it becomes evident that storms, rain, fog, snow, and ice on the roads represent a considerable traffic hazard.

Over 70 percent of the nation’s roads are located in snowy regions, which receive more than five inches (or 13 cm) average snowfall annually. Nearly 70 percent of the U.S. population lives in these snowy

regions. Snow and ice reduce pavement friction and vehicle maneuverability, causing slower speeds, reduced roadway capacity, and increased crash risk. Average arterial speeds decline by 30 to 40 percent on snowy or slushy pavement. Freeway speeds are reduced by 3 to 13 percent in light snow and by 5 to 40 percent in heavy snow. Heavy snow and sleet can also reduce visibility. Lanes and roads are obstructed by snow accumulation, which reduces capacity and increases travel time delay.

Each year, 24 percent of weather-related vehicle crashes occur on snowy, slushy or icy pavement and 15 percent

happen during snowfall or sleet.

Over 1,300 people are killed and more than 116,800 people are injured in vehicle crashes on snowy, slushy or icy pavement annually. Every year, nearly 900 people are killed and nearly 76,000 people are injured in vehicle crashes during snowfall or sleet. Snow and ice increase road maintenance costs.

State and local agencies spend more than 2.3 billion dollars on snow and ice control operations annually. Each year, these road agencies also spend millions of dollars to repair infrastructure damage caused by snow and ice.



4741 25th Ave
Schiller Park, IL 60176
Phone: (773) 756-5999
Fax: (773) 270-3908
Email: Info@RoadKnights.us
Website: www.roadknights.us



Join Us!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR CDL DRIVERS AND OWNER-OPERATORS



ROAD KNIGHTS IS OFFERING A REFERRAL BONUS FOR YOU WHO BRING A NEW DRIVER ON BOARD WITH US. IF YOU HAVE SOMEONE WHO YOU THINK WOULD LIKE TO COME AND WORK WITH US, RECOMMEND US AND GIVE THEM CONTACT INFORMATION. HE WOULD GET A GREAT OPPORTUNITY AND YOU WILL GET \$1,000 BONUS, \$500 AFTER 6 MONTHS AND ANOTHER \$500 AFTER A YEAR



Who we are?
We are trucking company located in Chicago IL. Our company works with new equipment and well-maintained trucks and trailers. We have very well organized 24 hours available support. We are always taking care of our drivers, and looking forward for long term cooperation!

If you are a CDL driver and looking to become an Owner/Operator driving new or newer equipment, than look no further! Our team goes above and beyond to cater to each owner/operators needs.

We offer:
Trucks available: Piterbilt and Cascadias (2019 - 2022)
Trailers: Refeer, Conestoga Flatbad, Regular Flatbad, Dry van, (2020)

OTR Company Driver |*FLATBAD
Possibility being home every weekend
-80c per mile

OTR Company Driver |*REEFER & DRYVAN
Required to be on the road for at last 3 weeks – 5 days off
-75 cpm
OTR Operating Lease |*REEFER, DRYVAN & FLATBAD
--Take home 80%
-Rent the truck for \$799 + 18c per mile

FLATBAD SING UP BONUS OF \$5 000
- Direct Deposits every Friday
- ELD (Provided by Keep Truckin
- Cash Advance
- Clean DOT Inspection Bonuses
- 24/7 no forced Dispatch
- Fuel Card, Best – Pass for Tolls

We require:
-Valid CDL, Class A
-Minimum 1 years OTR experience
-No DUI
-no SAP drivers

-No major chargeable accidents in the past 3 years



DRIVE WITH US!

WE ARE HIRING OWNER OPS & COMPANY DRIVERS!

 **773 756 5999**

 **recruiting@roadknights.us**

roadknights.us

