

# In the Safety Zone™

A newsletter dedicated to truck driver safety awareness.

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## Safety Alert! The Summer Travel Season is About to Begin



Memorial Day is the day that we pay tribute to the men and women who lost their lives while serving in the military service. Many Americans will visit cemeteries and monuments to honor our fallen soldiers on that day. Memorial Day weekend also marks the start of the summer driving season. More families travel the highways for vacations and extended road trips. The volume of vehicles on the roads and highways also increase the potential for traffic accidents. In a 2014 press release issued by the National Safety Council (NSC), it was estimated that nearly 382 fatalities and 40,900 medical injuries would result from vehicle accidents over the Memorial Day weekend.

There are several things you as a professional truck driver can do to travel safely:

- ◆ **Drive Defensively.** Too often drivers make improper lane changes, fail to signal and apply their brakes at the last minute when merging. Check your mirrors frequently to identify vehicles that might have driven into your blind spot.
- ◆ **Modify your driving** to suit weather, construction zones or heavy traffic. Watch out for drivers in distressed vehicles or workers that may be too close to travel lanes.
- ◆ **Avoid changing lanes** whenever possible.
- ◆ **Do not tailgate.**
- ◆ **Avoid reverse tailgating** by slowing down and letting the vehicle that is following too closely behind you go around your vehicle.
- ◆ **Take a short break at a rest area** if you start to feel tired, flustered or frustrated by other drivers or road conditions.
- ◆ **Keep calm.** Expect heavy traffic. Don't get agitated when traffic slows or stops.

Truck drivers can help keep highways safe by using their professional training while traveling the congested highways this Memorial Day weekend.

### Travel Safely.



## Congratulations to TransForce's Driver of the Year 2014



Congratulations to Jay Bibbs, TransForce's 2014 Driver of the Year! Mr. Bibbs was hired in October 2009 and is the most tenured driver on staff in our Birmingham branch. When he was hired, he was placed on assignment at Averitt Express–Mercedes Benz in Vance, AL and continues to service this customer presently. When he was hired in 2009, he had a clear motor vehicle record (MVR) and still does. He has not had any safety violations or accidents since he started with TransForce. He has had an impressive 100% clean safety record for over five (5) years now.

Mr. Bibbs has also maintained an outstanding performance record on the job at the Mercedes Plant. He knows how to drive every route at the plant and performs any job our client asks of him. Mr. Bibbs also has perfect attendance. In addition, he volunteers for any weekend work the customer needs done. He is highly regarded by everyone at the plant. Mr. Bibbs has set the standard for the customer's expectations from us. When requesting other drivers, the customer says, "Please send us more Jay Bibbs."

Mr. Bibbs, thank you for choosing TransForce as your employer and for your commitment to driver excellence!

## Congratulations to All of Our 2014 Branch Drivers of the Year

We wish to recognize each of you. Our drivers are our greatest assets. We thank you for your service.

Branch	Driver of the Year	Branch	Driver of the Year
Alexandria VA	Vernon Johnson	Jackson, MS	Dennis Welch
Atlanta GA	Jonathan Anderson	Jacksonville, FL	Carl Murphy
Baltimore MD	Vaughn Forrest	Kansas City MO	Jarold Milligan
Birmingham AL	Jay Bibbs	Knoxville, TN	Edward Rogers
Charlotte NC	Chad Hipkins	Lexington, KY	NONE
Charleston, SC	Chris Harvey	Los Angeles CA	Payton Darryl
Chicago IL	Andy Vlahogenis	Louisville KY	Jeffrey Roberts
Cincinnati OH	Tim Gerard	Memphis TN	Don Nehring
Cleveland OH	Michael Prociak	Nashville, TN	Reggie Maddox
Central New Jersey	Victor Washington	Newark NJ	Frank Bellear
Columbia, SC	Larry Cayruth	Oklahoma City OK	Eric Guy
Columbus OH	Pamela Morgan	Phoenix AZ	Clyde Gilbreth
Dallas TX	Vincent Carlis	Pittsburgh PA	Robert Shaver
Detroit MI	Gjelsoh (John) Kalaj	Rancho Cucamonga CA	Salvador Arias
Grand Rapids MI	Robin Robrahn	Reading PA	Dale McComsey
Greensboro NC	William Beasley	Richmond VA	Alexander Freeman
Greenville, SC	Troy Britton	San Antonio TX	Christopher Onesty
Harrisburg PA	Robert "Bob" Steele	Oakland, CA	James Orr
Houston TX	Donald Piper	Tampa, FL	Terrence Hyden
Indianapolis IN	Philip Oliphant	Tulsa, OK	David Langston



## Drivers Must Report All Accidents and Injuries *Immediately*

### As a TransForce driver you are required to:

1. Call your TransForce branch no later than the end of your shift to report all vehicle accidents and injuries (no matter how minor).
2. Have a post-injury medical examination –*this is not optional*. Your branch contact will direct you to a medical facility or emergency room.
3. Complete a written notice of accident or injury form within 24 hours if you are medically able to do so.



## Coming Soon To A Highway Near You – Road Check 2015



This annual three-day event is scheduled to take place on June 2-4. Certified inspectors conduct commercial vehicle inspections in the US, Canada and Mexico to enforce compliance and offer education. The event is sponsored by the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA). The purpose is to identify those violations that are an imminent hazard and which, when discovered, render the driver, vehicle and/or cargo

“out of service”. The special emphasis for 2015 is cargo securement. While checking for compliance with safe loading regulations is always part of roadside inspections, CVSA is highlighting cargo safety as a reminder to drivers and carriers. The proper loading and securing of cargo on vehicles is a matter of public safety. For many types of loads, particularly those that are not sealed or otherwise inaccessible to the driver, regulations require the driver to stop within the first several miles of a trip and recheck the tie downs and other load securing equipment. These annual inspections also create the opportunity to educate the industry and the general public about the importance of safe commercial vehicle operations and the program itself.





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## **\$ Referrals Really Do Pay \$**



TransForce has a fantastic driver referral program.

### **Earn \$500 for Each Driver You Refer**

(\$250 after driver works 200 hours)

(\$250 after driver works 400 hours)

TransForce needs more good drivers to fill local, regional and OTR openings.

If you know a driver who would like:

- <\$> Flexibility in work assignments
- <\$> Good steady weekly pay and company benefits
- <\$> To work for the biggest employer in town

Tell that driver about employment with TransForce. Give the driver your name and your local office phone number. When the driver becomes employed with TransForce, you earn cash!