

SAFETY !

PUBLIC DEMANDS IT . . .

GOVERNMENT MANDATES IT . . .

MOTOR CARRIERS MUST COMPLY . . .

In 1984, the U.S. Congress passed the Motor Carrier Safety Act. The act directed the Secretary of Transportation to determine the safety fitness of all motor carriers subject to federal regulations. In 1990 Michigan adopted these regulations for motor carriers operating within the state. Virtually all businesses operating trucks are subject to these regulations. Failure to comply could result in a "*conditional*" or "*unsatisfactory*" safety rating, and subject the motor carrier to civil and criminal penalties and sanctions.

Regulations change frequently and carriers are required to remain current as changes occur. The Michigan Truck Safety Commission has established a comprehensive safety education program that provides Michigan motor carriers with assistance and training to meet their compliance requirements. These services include: on-site safety evaluation audits, compliance instruction, CDL assistance, drug and alcohol testing assistance, hours of service instruction, materials, video library, and an 800 information "*Hotline*."

Regulations require companies to:

- maintain minimum levels of financial responsibility
- maintain complete and accurate driver qualification files
- ensure drivers are medically qualified
- implement drug and alcohol testing program (policy and procedures)
- ensure drivers are properly licensed
- maintain true and accurate hours of service records for all drivers
- maintain complete and accurate vehicle maintenance file
- perform and document annual inspections of all commercial motor vehicles
- meet accident recording requirements
- comply with Hazardous Materials Regulations and employee training

IT DOES PAY TO BE SAFE!

Compliance is mandatory and places added responsibilities on the carrier but, compliance can be profitable too. A sound safety program can result in lower insurance premiums and worker compensation claims, lower fuel and maintenance costs, reduced overtime and higher productivity.

You are invited to contact the MTSC office at (800/682-4682) to discuss your compliance requirements. We will be happy to explain our services and explain how compliance can be accomplished easily and quickly.

Sincerely,

Ron Edwards; Director of Safety