



A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO FLEET SAFETY

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There is a lot of material out there on truck/vehicle safety. Most of it is focused on written policies, driver selection, driver training, vehicle maintenance and record keeping. All of these things are essential to any fleet safety program but do not take into account the major cause of most accidents. Most accidents happen because of behavioral factors. Drivers, with the cleanest records, and driving the best state of the art equipment get into accidents. Here are some key points to a different approach to commercial vehicle safety:

- **Accountability:** It's up to you the driver. No excuses.
- **Respect:** For yourself, your company, your customers, others on the road.
- **Professionalism:** How do you see yourself? Just a job or professional driver?
- **Route planning:** Take the time to think ahead and consider the alternative actions which might need to be taken.
- **Decision making:** Focus, expect the unexpected. The public can be very challenging on the road.
- **Emotions:** These can distract you from your job. Do not carry them in the vehicle with you.
- **Speed:** The road signs are a guide. This takes good judgment on your part.
- **Cell Phones:** Driving requires full attention. And remember, in California, you must use a hands-free device if you chose to talk and drive. Text messaging while driving is illegal.

- **Drugs and Alcohol:** Zero tolerance.
- **Precious cargo:** Not just what you are carrying-you are valuable to your company-we want you to go home in the same condition you arrived at work.

Driving professionally is not for the faint of heart. We know you know

the rules of the road. Consider these points as you go about your day-to-day activities.

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REPO SAFETY SEMINAR RECAP

Thank you to our co-sponsor:



Our recent Safety Seminar on July 11, 2009 at the Dana in San Diego was well received and attended. Over 50 CALR members and their employees enjoyed a day of education and encouragement in the beautiful surroundings on Mission Bay. Towing Safety was again emphasized by Mike Reiter from HAR through an inspirational talk, demonstrations on both wheel lift and flatbed tow trucks, and the distribution of the industry recognized IAR Manual. Ray Radford spoke on professionalism and field etiquette followed by an update on CALR sponsored legislation and the changes implemented by our lobbying efforts. A deli lunch was served outside with

conversation among friends and new acquaintances. Lunch was followed by a panel of experts answering questions from the attendees in nearly all areas of the B & P code. Leslie Scharlin-Medina rounded the days instruction with the latest information on transponder key generation, key cutting including high security applications, and finishing with the distribution of a long reach tool, an air wedge, and an opening wedge for each participant. A survey has been prepared for those who attended and information gathered will be used to enhance next year's seminar schedule. Watch for announcements and don't miss your opportunity to be among the best, most informed, and well trained professionals in the industry!