



REGULATORY ALERT

March 23, 2005

CDL CHANGES AND NEW REQUIREMENTS

New regulations become effective in 2005 which will affect all CDL holders and employers. The two (2) major regulation changes concern HazMat endorsements and penalties for serious traffic violations.

HazMat Endorsements

NEW/FIRST TIME ENDORSEMENTS

Effective February 1, 2005 all applicants for initial HazMat endorsements must be fingerprinted and receive clearance approval from TSA (Transportation Safety Authority) before they can be issued a HazMat endorsement.

RENEWALS

Effective July 1, 2005 all applicants for renewal of their HazMat endorsement must be fingerprinted and receive clearance approval from TSA prior to issuance. Additionally all applicants seeking renewal will be required to pass a knowledge test before the renewal will be issued.

PROCEDURE

CDL holders should receive their notice to renew 60-90 days prior to expiration. TSA requires a 45 day processing period for issuing clearance approvals if no problems arise. Initial rejections will take longer to process.

Fingerprinting will be done by either a TSA-approved vendor or state agency. For example, Pennsylvania will use their State Police while New Jersey will use IBT, a vendor. Cost of the service will vary. New Jersey has set a \$94.00 non-refundable fee payable to the vendor at the time of application; other states may be more or less expensive.

NATC and its staff will keep you advised of the progress or lack thereof as this situation evolves. During the interim if you have questions concerning this issue or other compliance issues contact our main office at (609) 426-0555.

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