

REGULATORY ALERT

September 27, 2005

U.S. DOT WAIVES INTERSTATE DRIVER HOURS OF SERVICE REGULATIONS

ISSUE: The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) Eastern, Southern, Midwestern and Western Service Centers have waived federal CDL driver's hours of service regulations for *interstate* transporters of gasoline, diesel and jet fuel, propane, natural gas/CNG and ethanol. No other petroleum products are covered by the exemption. The waiver also extends to driver qualification and vehicle maintenance requirements.

STATES COVERED BY THE WAIVER – This waiver is applicable nationwide to all *interstate* drivers. This waiver does not apply to *intra*state drivers unless the state office of motor carriers where the driver is licensed issues a separate waiver under state law. Under federal law, all company drivers are considered *interstate* operators if at least one company driver crosses state lines to deliver or pick up product.

WAIVER PERIOD: The HOS waiver period extends from 1:00 PM Eastern Standard Time, September 26, 2005 to 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time October 26, 2005.

COMPLIANCE: In order to qualify for the waiver, drivers must carry a copy of the waiver extension letter in the cab of the vehicle. Make sure the driver is carrying a copy of the waiver letter issued by the FMCSA Service Center that services your region.

WARNING: The waiver **does not** exempt petroleum transporters from the FMCSA drug and alcohol, financial responsibility, commercial driver's license or applicable size and weight regulations.

Got Questions? Contact Mark S. Morgan, Esq. at mmorganptsa@cox.net (202) 364-6767

OR

FMCSA Eastern Service Center (443) 703-2240

FMCSA Midwestern Service Center (708) 283-3577

FMCSA Southern Service Center (404) 327-7400

FMCSA Western Service Center (303) 407-2350