



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration



# CMV SAFETY BELT NEWSLETTER

Enforcement and Program Delivery | Outreach and Education Division | Washington, D.C.

Spring 2010

Vol. 1, Issue 3



## CMV SAFETY BELT USE ON THE RISE

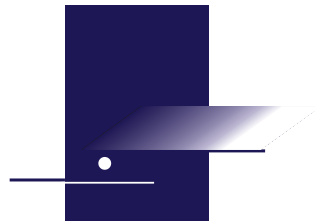
The 2009 Safety Belt Usage by CMV Drivers Survey results released by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) show 74 percent of commercial truck and bus drivers are now using their safety belts. Only 65 percent of drivers were using safety belts in 2007.

"Safety belts save lives," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood. "We applaud those who are buckling up, but we won't rest until every commercial driver is using a safety belt."

"Driving a 40-ton truck or a bus full of people is a big responsibility," said FMCSA Administrator Anne S. Ferro. *(Safety Belt...continued on page 2)*

### Inside This Edition:

Women in Industry	2
National Art Contest Winners	3
CMV Safety Belt Partnership	4



INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION PLAN, INC.

by Mary Pat Paris,  
President and CEO

Commercial motor vehicle operators roll seamlessly across the continent to bring us the goods we need, eased in part by the International Registration Plan (IRP). IRP is a registration reciprocity agreement among the 48 contiguous United States, the District of Columbia and provinces of Canada, providing for payment of fees on the basis of total distance operated in all jurisdictions.

Before IRP, motor carriers operating in more than one jurisdiction needed to obtain multiple plates and cab cards. Now a carrier needs only a single license plate and cab card to travel among jurisdictions. IRP allows for freedom of movement for over two million vehicles, and generates more than two billion dollars in revenue for IRP member jurisdictions to support highway infrastructure and safety programs.

Timely and accurate exchange of information among its member jurisdictions is the foundation upon which IRP is built; and it all starts

with the records a commercial motor carrier driver keeps. Motor carriers that maintain proper records are generally considered to be safer than their counterparts that do not accurately document operations.

Additionally, better record keeping means that jurisdictions receive their fair share of revenue based on actual distance traveled on their highways. This revenue is in turn used to maintain and improve our highway infrastructure and safety.

To alleviate some of the burden member jurisdictions face, IRP, Inc. developed a video training program that provides a brief history on IRP and demonstrates how accurate record keeping is not only a good business practice, but is required for apportioned registration.

The video is available for viewing or download at [www.irpinc.org](http://www.irpinc.org).

*The mission of IRP, Inc. is to serve as the repository of the International Registration Plan and improve compliance by providing quality member services, education and information. Visit [www.irpinc.org](http://www.irpinc.org) for more information.*

(Safety Belt...continued from page 1)

“Drivers owe it to themselves and others to wear a safety belt every time they get behind the wheel.”

A total of 20,818 commercial drivers operating medium- to heavy-duty trucks and buses were observed at 827 roadside sites nationwide for the survey.

Key findings include:

- Safety belt use for both commercial drivers and their occupants was higher at 78 percent in states with primary safety belt laws, versus 67 percent in states with secondary safety belt laws.
- Commercial drivers for regional or national fleets showed higher safety belt use at 78 percent, versus 64 percent for independent owner-operators.
- Safety belt use rates for commercial drivers and their occupants were highest at 79 percent in the West, compared with 75 percent in the South, 68 percent in the Midwest, and 64 percent in the Northeast.

The executive summary for the Safety Belt Usage by CMV Drivers Survey may be found at [www.fmcsa.dot.gov/safetybelt](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/safetybelt). For a copy of the full report, please contact Martha Threatt at [Martha.Threatt@dot.gov](mailto:Martha.Threatt@dot.gov).

## WOMEN IN THE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE INDUSTRY

In 1929, Lillie Elizabeth Drennan was the first woman to receive her Commercial Driver's License (CDL) classification. She continued to make a living in trucking up until her death in 1974. Drennan paved the way for many women drivers and set the standard for women who would follow. Now, out of 8 million licensed CDL drivers in the United States, over 200,000 are women.



advised women to “seek out those opportunities.”

On November 13, 2009, Anne S. Ferro was sworn in as the second female Administrator of FMCSA. Ms. Ferro was the featured speaker at the Women in Trucking Association's “Salute to the Women Behind the Wheel” at the Mid American Trucking Show in Louisville, KY.

Ms. Ferro thanked the crowd of nearly 300 for their years of service and commitment to safety. “Women not only belong in trucking, but we make trucking better.” said Ferro, “Women can raise the bar for the industry with exceptional skills and dedication to safe driving practices. As the traditional population of truckers decreases, opportunities may open for women to play a bigger role.” she said,

According to national statistics, overall women use safety belts more than men. In 2008, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reported 80 percent of women used their safety belts in passenger cars compared to 81 percent of men. However, the 2009 Safety Belt Usage by CMV Driver Survey conducted by FMCSA found that 86 percent of women drivers in the commercial vehicles used their safety belts compared to 74 percent of men – a 12 percent margin among commercial vehicles compared to 1 percent in passenger cars. We can only project that as the number of women in trucking continues to grow, we will see an increase in safety belt use in the commercial vehicle industry.

# 2010 NATIONAL "BE READY. BE BUCKLED." KIDS ART CONTEST

## Grand Prize Winners

The CMV Safety Belt Partnership congratulates the winners of the 2010 National "Be Ready. Be Buckled." Safety Belt Art Contest.

"From the delivery of goods and services to taking our children to and from school, trucks and buses are important to our way of life. It's very exciting to see our nation's youth get energized about an issue that is very important to commercial vehicle safety," says FMCSA Administrator Anne S. Ferro. "All participants did an excellent job in depicting their own reasons as to why it is important for CMV drivers to use safety belts."

The national "Be Ready. Be Buckled." Safety Belt Art Contest was open to children related to CMV drivers or anyone working in commercial vehicle industry. The contest is a creative way for children across the United States to get involved in encouraging CMV drivers to buckle up.

Grand Prize winners are broken into two categories. The winner for K – 2<sup>nd</sup> grades is Vijeyta Revankar of Seabrook, Texas. The winner for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grades is Adam Carr of Tampa, Florida.

The Grand Prize winners each received a U.S. savings bond. The American Trucking Associations (ATA) and Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association (OOIDA) generously donated these and other prizes. The winners were recognized at the U.S. Capitol during the American Society of Safety Engineers' National Occupational Safety and Health week in May. A 2011 calendar due for release later this year will feature artwork from ten additional contestants.



Vijeyta Revankar, 8 - Seabrook, Texas



Adam Carr, 11 - Tampa, Florida

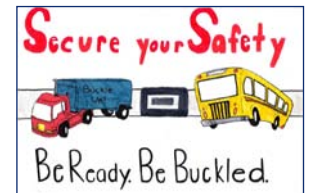
### Calendar Artwork



Sharease, 12  
Erie, Pennsylvania



Emma, 7  
Wilmington, Delaware



Lindsey, 12  
Omaha, Nebraska



Aishani, 9  
Plano, Texas



Reilly, 5  
Independence, Missouri



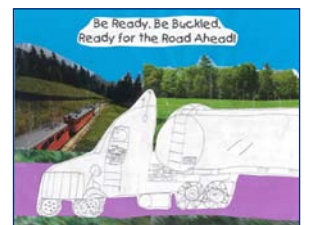
Sara, 11  
Locust Grove, Oklahoma



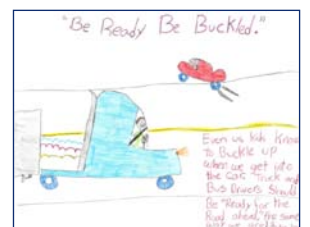
Steven, 8  
Lynden, Washington



Ava, 7  
Erie, Pennsylvania



Seth, 7  
Haven, Kansas



Emily, 9  
Locust Grove, Oklahoma

# CMV SAFETY BELT PARTNERSHIP

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

On Tuesday, March 15, 2010, the CMV Safety Belt Partnership held its quarterly meeting. Thanks to the International Registration Plan for hosting this quarter's meeting. Notes from the meeting are provided below. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Martha Threatt at (202) 366-0627 or [Martha.Threatt@dot.gov](mailto:Martha.Threatt@dot.gov).

### **Technology Countermeasures Study Brochure**

- A condensed tri-fold brochure version of the initial study is being drafted by Partnership members. The brochure is intended to highlight the importance of installing safety belt devices designed to increase safety belt usage.

### **2009 Safety Belt Usage by Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers**

- The results of the 2009 Safety Belt Usage by CMV Drivers survey results were released. The executive summary may be found at [www.fmcsa.dot.gov/safetybelt](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/safetybelt). For a full copy of the survey and estimation of use by categories, please contact Martha Threatt at [Martha.Threatt@dot.gov](mailto:Martha.Threatt@dot.gov) or call (202) 366-0627.

### **West Coast May 5<sup>th</sup> Press Event**

- Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Jubitz Truck Stop, 10310 N. Vancouver Way, North, Portland, Oregon  
Materials related to safety on the roads, including safety belt improvement usage, were distributed to CMV drivers throughout the day at rest areas and truck stops along I-5 and other road stops from Canada through California.
- Statistics and appreciation for the increase in safety belt use were the key messages to drivers.
- Contact Diane Hurns at [dhurns@asse.org](mailto:dhurns@asse.org) for additional information

### **2010 CMV Safety Belt Art Contest**

- The grand prize winners of the 2010 "Be Ready. Be Buckled." Art Contest:
  - K – 2<sup>nd</sup> grades – Vijeyta Revankar, 8, Seabrook, Texas
    - Miss Revankar was awarded a framed certificate, a remote controlled replica of a tractor and trailer with the "Be Ready. Be Buckled." logo and \$100 U.S. Savings bond courtesy of Owner Operator Independent Drivers Association
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grades – Adam Carr, 11, Tampa, Florida
    - Mr. Carr was awarded a framed certificate, an all expense paid trip May 2 – 3, 2010 to Washington, D.C. for the "Safety in the Workplace" recognition ceremony as part of NAOSH week and a \$100 U.S. Savings bond. All prizes courtesy of the American Trucking Associations.
    - Contestant and his family will participate in kick-off events for NAOSH week sponsored by the Association Society of Safety Engineers.
- All 40 contestants will receive a letter of appreciation signed by the FMCSA Administrator Anne Ferro.
- Along with the grand prize winners' artwork, ten other contestants' drawings will be featured in a 2011 "Be Ready. Be Buckled." calendar. A limited number of prints will be available to Partnership members. The calendar will also be available for download at [www.fmcsa.dot.gov/safetybelt](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/safetybelt) along individual files for all 12 images.

### **North American Occupational Safety and Health Week (NAOSH) 2010 Kick-Off Events**

*sponsored by The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE)*

- Sunday, May 2, 2010 – 10:00 am
  - Brunch at the National Zoo, Washington, D.C.
- Monday, May 3, 2010 –
  - 9:00 – 10:00 am: "The Smithsonian Safety Secrets," and Iron Man Presents "Safety for Super Heroes" at The Smithsonian, S. Dillon Ripley Center, 1100 Jefferson Dr. S.W., Washington, D.C.
  - 10:30 am – 12:00 pm: NAOSH 2010 Kick-off Event with OSHA, CSSE and ASSE Officials and 60+ Partner Organizations, U.S. Department of Labor, Frances Perkins Building Auditorium, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C.

*(continued on next page)*

- 12:30 – 1:30 pm: The ASSE Reception, recognition ceremony for the 2010 “Be Ready. Be Buckled.” art contest and the Eighth Annual NAOSH Week Poster Contest Winners and Entrants, The U.S. Capitol, Room 202/203
- 3:00 pm: A tour of The U.S. Capitol Building for all interested attendees
- To provide materials for handouts to participants during the kickoff events, please contact Diane Hurns at dhurns@asse.org NAOSH runs from May 2-8, 2010 (www.asse.org/naosh10)

#### Partnership Updates and Events

- *IRP, Inc. Annual Meeting*, May 11 through May 14 – to provide hand outs and information, please contact Tim Adams at tadadms@irpinc.com
- *Drive Smart Virginia* in partnership with Virginia State Police and a grant from FMCSA will target drivers along I-81, May 17 through May 24. Contact information: Kristin Smolenski at Kristin.Smolenski@drivesmartva.org
- *Click It or Ticket Mobilization* – May 24 through June 6. Contact information: Glaciera Mason at Glaciera.Mason@dot.gov
- *2010 Roadcheck* – June 8 through June 10. Contact information: Laura Zabrinksi-Martin at communications@cvsa.org
- *TRB-FMCSA sponsored and NIOSH supported, International Conference on Commercial Driver Health and Wellness* – November 8-10th, 2010, Baltimore, Maryland.
  - Abstracts for presenters were due April 9<sup>th</sup>, please contact Dr. Jerry Krueger at JerryKrueg@aol.com

#### “Be Ready. Be Buckled.” Promotional Materials and Partnership Web Site

- Print materials and giveaways with the “Be Ready. Be Buckled.” brand are available for distribution for Partnership member events and conferences.
- Please provide an updated overview and logos of your organization to Martha Threatt by June 30 to update the Partnership web page.

*Thanks to everyone who was able to participate, especially those who are new to the Partnership!*

#### Next Meeting:

**Tuesday, September 7, 2010 - 10am -12 noon**  
10am – 12 noon  
Owner Operator Independent Drivers Assoc.  
1100 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC

#### Upcoming Meetings:

**Tuesday, December 1, 2010**  
American Trucking Associations

**Tuesday, March 1, 2011**  
CVSA

For additional information or questions, please contact: Martha Threatt at (202) 366-0627 or Martha.Threatt@dot.gov

## QUARTERLY “BE READY. BE BUCKLED.” NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

- June – *Copy Deadline: June 25, 2010*  
*Editing Deadline: July 12, 2010*  
*Publication Date: July 23, 2010*
- January – *Copy Deadline: December 3, 2010*  
*Editing Deadline: December 17, 2010*  
*Publication Date: January 4, 2011*
- October – *Copy Deadline: September 3, 2010*  
*Editing Deadline: September 17, 2010*  
*Publication Date: September 28, 2010*

**FMCSA CMV SAFETY BELT PARTNERSHIP CONTACT:**  
Martha Threatt, Marketing Specialist, FMCSA, (202) 366-0627