
PRISM News

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Hot Topic

The complete Social Security number (SS#) is available again on the census file. FMCSA has received an exemption to allow the states to view this information on MCMIS and to capture on the census file.

MCS -150 date of last update

Motor carriers no longer are required to provide an updated MCS-150 to the state registration offices IF:

- the information has been updated by another state or through another fleet within the state, or
- the carrier updated the information on MCMIS directly with FMCSA within the previous 12 months from the beginning of the new registration year.

The state just needs to check MCMIS to see when the last MCS-150 update occurred. If the date is within the 12-month period prior to the first day of the new registration period, then neither a new MCS-150 nor updates to the preprinted information on the renewal is



Safer highways through safer trucking

necessary. The update program for the renewal package should be modified to check for this date. States also need to decide if they want to continue pre-printing this information when the date is within the 12-month period.

New MCMIS

The New MCMIS program is scheduled for implementation this year. Final implementation is scheduled for September and training for operation of the new system will be scheduled by FMCSA in August. You will be hearing more about new MCMIS and the training shortly.

New States on Board

We're pleased to announce that the States of Washington and Louisiana recently received approval of their PRISM implementation plans.

In addition, two of the biggest IRP states in the country have surfaced on the PRISM scene. Oklahoma has submitted a letter of intent to FMCSA to implement PRISM and Illinois recently received an introductory briefing on the program.

Arkansas and Nebraska have also expressed interest in the program and PRISM briefings have been scheduled with each of these states.

New Committee formed

FMCSA has asked state members of the PRISM community and industry representatives to serve on a PRISM Implementation Committee. The purpose of the committee is to work towards uniform implementation and assist with communication among States.

During its first meeting on April 13, the Committee members adopted the Committee Charter and elected Ruth Skluzacek of Iowa and Tim Adams of Kentucky to be the Chair and Vice chair of the Committee.

The Committee members also agreed that the formation of subcommittees to deal with specific issues would be beneficial. Based

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on this decision, a standing committee for data processing is being established.

States would like FMCSA to explore the possibility of providing technical support to the States during their initial implementation of the PRISM program.

Committee members agreed that the growth of the program has brought about the need for a dedicated PRISM website to include information on all aspects of the program.

FMCSA reviewed the three types of OOS Orders which are being issued by the Administration: Imminent Hazard, Unsat/Unfit, & Failure to Pay. Committee members agreed that the group should recommend that PRISM States take registration sanction actions for all Federal OOS Orders issued.

FMCSA explained the findings of the intrastate feasibility study. The basis of the study findings are that in order to truly benefit from the program, States must have been issuing intrastate USDOT numbers and collecting the related roadside data for a while to identify unsafe intrastate motor carriers more accurately.

Procedural Manual Developed

The Procedural Manual, a continuing work in progress, is available to assist states in implementation of the PRISM Program requirements. It is designed to aid in accomplishing the day-to-day operations of PRISM.

The manual will be available on the Web in the future. Until then, hard copies can be obtained by e-mailing

Oberman1345@AOL.com.

Training Brochure Templates

Templates for brochures to be used for training the motor carrier industry, the IRP customer service representatives and law enforcement are under development. These templates are designed to provide consistency of information and to eliminate the need for every state to develop the same information packages.

Training Schedule

MayNew Hampshire
Guideline training

August...MCMIS Training

VOLPE as the Central Site

The migration of the central site from Iowa to VOLPE has been completed. A HELP desk has been established at VOLPE and can be reached by E-Mail at:

PRISMTechnicalSupport@volpe.dot.gov

Target File requirement for leased vehicles made easier

A list of leased vehicles that are registered in non-Prism states can now be sent to Volpe for data entry rather than every state developing programming to accomplish this task. This task will eventually be obsolete when all states are in PRISM.

Less expensive file transfers

The IE mailbox has been the method used by all states to transmit files with PRISM information. There is now an alternative method to transfer these files. States can retrieve updates to the census and target files from the VOLPE FTP Site and transmit updates directly to the Volpe FTP Site.

New PRISM Team Member

Susan Alonzi joined the PRISM team in September 2001. She is headquartered in DC with Mary Pat Woodman. This Georgia native earned her MBA in 1992 just prior to joining the Office of Motor Carriers. She has worked as a safety investigator in Kentucky, South Carolina and Georgia. She has also worked as a State Programs Specialist for the South Carolina Division in SC.

SafeStat Pilot

After the successful use and refinement of SafeStat during the PRISM Pilot, the FMCSA implemented the program nationwide in 1997. Since that time, national motor carrier SafeStat scores have been updated biannually. These reports are used by FMCSA Division Offices to prioritize and establish their CR workload for the next six months. SafeStat has proven to be a better means of identifying and prioritizing high-risk motor carriers for compliance reviews.

The widespread use of SafeStat data by motor carriers, the general public, the insurance industry, shippers, and State enforcement personnel has led to an increasingly urgent demand for more frequent and timely updates to the individual motor carrier SafeStat

The FMCSA Enforcement and Compliance Division, along with 5 states - Colorado, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan and South Dakota - began a pilot project in April 2002 to assess the field staff operational implications associated with updating SafeStat scores on a monthly basis. Particular emphasis will be placed on analyzing the viability of providing monthly "work-lists" to the division offices.

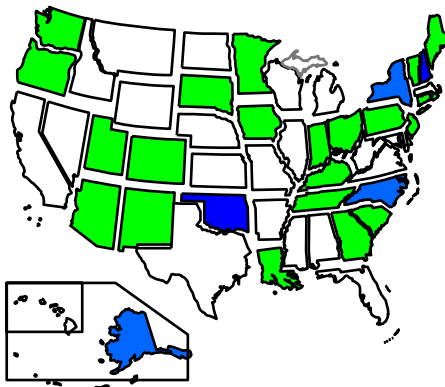
For more information, please contact Bryan Price at Bryan.Price@fhwa.dot.gov.



State Corner South Carolina Training a Success!

South Carolina experienced great success with its recent PRISM outreach efforts. A series of four workshops were held around the state to educate the motor carrier public about the PRISM program. Over nine hundred industry representatives were in attendance. Participants learned what PRISM is and how the implementation of the program in South Carolina will affect them. The workshops were a joint effort of the South Carolina Department of Public Safety, South Carolina Trucking Association, and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration South Carolina Division.

South Carolina became a participant in the PRISM program in 2000 and is currently working to deploy its implementation plan. PRISM legislation was introduced during the current ongoing legislative session, which ends in June, and has met with favorable reviews thus far.



PRISM State
PRISM - Letter of Intent State

Other States' News

Alaska has submitted a letter of intent.

Arizona has received a grant and is working on revising their implementation schedule.

Arkansas has expressed interest in the PRISM program and the FMCSA PRISM Team has scheduled an introductory briefing with the State in May.

Colorado, a pilot state, is fully implemented.

Connecticut is issuing USDOT numbers and has worked with the FMCSA on testing intrastate SafeStat capabilities.

Georgia implemented in December 2000. This year, the State is scheduled to begin their transfer of vehicles for the target file.

Indiana expects to be fully implemented this year.

Iowa, the flagship of PRISM, has been fully implemented for several years.

Kentucky has been implementing PRISM this year and has worked with the FMCSA on testing intrastate SafeStat capabilities. The State expects to be fully implemented later this year.

Louisiana just received approval of their implementation plan. Implementation is scheduled for later this year.

Maine has implemented many of the requirements and recently suspended their first registrations in conjunction with FMCSA out-of-service orders. Full implementation is scheduled for 2002.

Minnesota is planning to submit a letter of intent, review the requirements and create a new proposal to restart PRISM.

New Mexico has had guideline training but has not yet submitted its request for a grant.

New Jersey has submitted an implementation plan to FMCSA for approval.

New York is in the process of finalizing its request for a grant

Ohio recently submitted their Implementation Plan to FMCSA and was approved for a grant.

Oklahoma has signed a letter of intent to implement PRISM and has requested training.

Oregon, a pilot state, has fully implemented

Pennsylvania implemented the collection of MCS-150 information several years ago. Plans to submit information to the target file are nearing implementation.

Rhode Island recently suspended their first registration in conjunction with an FMCSA out-of-service order.

South Carolina plans to implement with this year's renewal period – 2002.

South Dakota has received a grant and is working to complete implementation this year. The State also recently passed legislation giving them the authority to suspend registration in conjunction with FMCSA out-of-service orders. Their new authority goes into effect during July 2002.

Tennessee has been collecting MCS-150 information. Staff received MCMIS training in early April and is looking forward to issuing the USDOT Number on the spot for carriers.

Utah recently received approval of their implementation plan.

Vermont has requested implementation guideline training. Training will be scheduled shortly.

Washington received training in the implementation guidelines this year and has just received approval for a grant.

Words from the PRISM Team Leader

Mary Pat Woodman

Welcome to the 2nd edition of the PRISM Newsletter!! I am very excited to see this quarterly publication up and running once again. Many thanks go out to Linley Oberman for all her efforts in reinvigorating the life of the newsletter.

As you'll see from this publication, there are a lot of activities going on in PRISM. We are working feverishly to schedule briefings and training sessions for new States and our calendars are filling up quickly. We are currently scheduling trips

to Arkansas and Nebraska to brief officials on the program and will be conducting the two-day implementation planning session for the States of New Hampshire, Vermont, and Oklahoma in the near future. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the States of Louisiana, Ohio, Utah, and Washington on the recent approval of their Implementation Plans. We look forward to working with these States as they move into the implementation stage.

One of my personal goals for the next year is to expand the marketing and outreach efforts of the program. In addition to this newsletter, we have also developed PRISM brochure templates, which will be made available to the States. We believe these templates will be helpful to all of us in our efforts to educate and promote the program to the industry, State legislatures, and general public. Efforts are also being made to expand the FMCSA website to include all of these materials as well other documents central to the PRISM process. Please let us know if you have any suggestions on how to make our marketing strategy better!

Special thanks to Ruth Skluzacek and Tim Adams who have kindly agreed to Chair the new PRISM Implementation Committee!!! Talk about a lot of work! We are expecting great things from the Committee and hope it will open up new avenues to help each State have a strong PRISM program.

The next edition of the Newsletter will be out in early August. Please let us know if you have any interesting news to share or have suggestions for topics to be included in the next publication. We don't want this to be a one-man show and would appreciate your

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feedback on what you think of the newsletter. Let us hear from you!