



Training notes from the woods & the classroom

October 2007

The DOT Audit

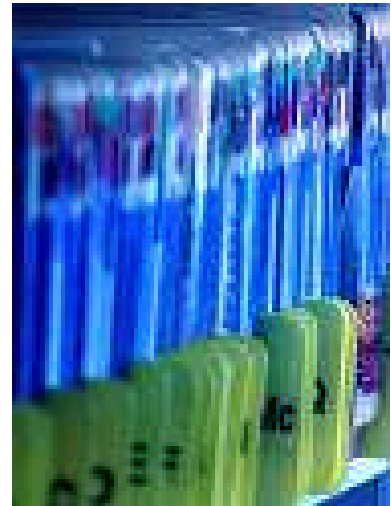
You open the mail and there it is, a letter from a Transportation Program Specialist at the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Office of Freight and Commercial Operations informing you that your businesses has been scheduled for an audit of your records. Are you prepared? Ask yourself the following questions:

Do you have driver qualification files and are they complete?

Do you have a driver qualification file for yourself?

Are you a part of a random drug and alcohol testing program?

Are you vehicle inspection and maintenance files up-to-date?



This year, three Skilled Driver Workshops provided truck drivers and owners with a thorough review of the applicable Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations and the DOT audit process. Specific topics include: inspection selection; driver qualifications; drug and alcohol use, testing and programs; hours of service; inspection, service and maintenance; hazardous materials and more. Everyone received a copy of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations and a variety of required forms and worksheets. Case study scenarios were used to help participants understand the law.

Test your knowledge and understanding of the law

Scenario A:

A car crashes into the side of a log truck at an intersection. As a result of the crash, the truck driver is treated away from the scene and the car is towed. Law enforcement issues a ticket to the driver of the car.

Is the truck driver required to complete a drug and alcohol test?

Scenario B:

A truck driver loads pulpwood in Two Harbors and travels to Carlton to drop it at the Carlton rail siding where it will be loaded on a railcar and transported to LP's siding mill in Hayward, Wisconsin.

Does the truck driver need time records or a log book?

Scenario C:

A logger loads equipment at his shop in Northome and moves into a site near Cromwell (a distance of more than 100 miles). He unloads the equipment and operates on the site for 5 days. The first evening he stays at a local hotel.

Does the truck driver need time records or a log book?

Scenario D:

A logger has a bulk fuel tank (more than 119 water gallons) in the back of his pickup. The tank is half full and he uses the truck to travel from Isabella to a dealership in Superior, WI to pick up some parts.

What laws apply?



Case Study Answers

Scenario A: Is the truck driver required to complete a drug and alcohol test? **No.**

Scenario B: Does the truck driver need time records or a log book? **Yes.** Does this involve interstate or intrastate transportation? **Interstate.** How old does the driver need to be? **21.**

Scenario C: Does the truck driver need time records or a log book? **Yes, a logbook.** Does an exemption apply? If so, what exemption applies? **No – did not return to reporting location and transporting equipment.**

Scenario D: What laws apply? **All regulations would apply and the bulk fuel tank (more than 119 water gallons) would require placarding. Needs a CDL, D & A testing, \$1,000,000 insurance, accident reporting, DQ files, logbooks, annual inspection, daily inspection, maintenance files, HM driver training, HM registration to transport HM in Minnesota, HM registration from PHMSA (Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration), shipping papers, placarding, and security plan.**

Workshop Materials

Copies of the forms, worksheets and additional case studies are available on our website at:

<http://www.mlep.org/trainingmaterials.htm>

Future Workshops

Additional workshops on this topic are being considered. If you are interested in attending a workshop on this topic, contact MLEP today.

Instructor

Pam DeGrote

Transportation Program Specialist

Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact Information

Dave Chura, Executive Director

Minnesota Logger Education Program

301 W 1st Street; Suite 510

Duluth, MN 55802

218-722-5442 · dchura@mlep.org · www.mlep.org