

October 2006 Safety Meeting Pre-Season Truck Inspections

There's a chill in the air and fall season is upon us. Propane equipment, especially trucks are going to be called upon to work overtime in the coming months. Most propane marketers don't have the luxury of having a truck go off-line due to a service-related problem. Safety is also an issue if a truck breaks down on the road. For these reasons and others, this a good time to examine your truck for problems that could lead to a breakdown or even an accident!

Listed below are some inspection items that drivers and managers should focus upon. Many of the items should be inspected on your daily inspection checklist but please encourage your staff to take a fresh look at each. TIP: Consider getting a "fresh set of eyes" to help you review your equipment such as a nearby manager or another bobtail driver that doesn't drive your truck.

- Lights and reflectors
- Brakes
- Steering
- Horn
- Mirrors
- Windshield, wipers, washers, defroster
- Tires and rims
- Doors
- Fluids
- Emergency equipment
- Cleanliness

Cargo tank check items:

- Propane discharge system to ensure it is sound and leak-free
- Daily test of off-truck remote shutdown
- Check for presence of fusible link controlling internal valves
- Check for presence of emergency discharge control procedures
- Check condition of flexible transfer hose

Paperwork and other items:

- Truck paperwork
- Placards and labels
- Cargo tank data plate(s)
- Cleanliness

Class Exercise

Have the participants inspect each of your trucks using the items above as your check items. Discuss problems encountered and corrective actions.

Summary

Drivers have a responsibility to ensure that their truck is in a safe, operable condition at all times. Before the season becomes too hectic, take some quality time and thoroughly inspect your vehicle for problems. If any are found, make arrangements to get them corrected as soon as possible. The bottom line, operate only vehicles that are safe for operation.

October 2006 Test

Pre-Season Truck Inspections

Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions: Read and answer each of the following questions. When complete, grade the test and review incorrect answers so each employee is “armed” with the correct answers before they leave the training.

1. Trucks that break down on-highway can create a substantial safety hazard.
 - a. True
 - b. False

2. Drivers probably have the most responsibility to ensure their truck is safe for operation.
 - a. True
 - b. False

3. Bobtail emergency remote controls need only be tested once a month.
 - a. True
 - b. False

4. Daily vehicle inspections must be maintained for a period of _____ days
 - a. 30
 - b. 60
 - c. 90
 - d. 120

5. Truck paperwork should also be checked by the driver on a periodic basis.
 - a. True
 - b. False

October 2006 Test

Answer Sheet

1. a
2. a
3. b
4. c
5. a