



Knuckle Buster



Newsletter of the Wisconsin Association of Emergency Vehicle Technicians
www.waevt.com

October 2014

Great Fall Seminar

Our 2014 Fall Seminar was held September 18th at the FVTC Fire Training Center. We had two Wisconsin State Patrol (WSP) Commercial Vehicle Inspectors provide a presentation on Commercial Vehicles, Daily Inspections, Annual Inspections and what they look for at roadside inspections. We also submitted questions from our members that they answered. Look in this newsletter for the questions that were submitted and the answers from the State Patrol.

2015 Spring Seminar

The 2015 Spring Seminar will be held May 20-21, 2015 at the new Fox Valley Public Safety Training Center in Appleton, WI. The classes that have been confirmed are Hale Pumps and Meritor Brakes. We are trying to get a hydraulics class also.

Elections at Spring Seminar

We will be holding elections for three Board positions at the 2015 Spring Seminar. The positions are President, currently held by Jon Coutts, and Recording Secretary currently held by Rick Taylor.

Congratulations to Master Technicians

Several members recently received Master Technician Certification from the EVTCC.

Scott Bell – North Shore Fire Department – Master Fire Apparatus Technician

Congratulations on this achievement. For more information EVT Certification, got to www.evtcc.org. We offer onsite testing at both our Spring and Fall Seminars.

State Patrol Presentation

Below are the question we submitted to the Wisconsin State Patrol and the answers they provided. If anyone would like a copy of the Power Point from the State Patrol, contact Jon Coutts.

Is a CDL required to drive a fire apparatus owned by a technical college?

Yes. Despite the fact that the school is a governmentally owned facility, it is NOT exempted under Chapter 343.

If students need a learner's permit is a Federal Medical Card required?

No medical required. They are exempt under 49 CFR 390.3(f) (2).

If firefighters aren't required to have a CDL to drive a fire apparatus from their department during an emergency, do they need one to drive a fire apparatus from another department they don't belong to?

No CDL required. They are exempted under 49 CFR 383.3 (d) (2).

Is a CDL required to operate an apparatus during a parade?

If the apparatus is used INTER-state then yes. If the apparatus is used INTRA-state then they are exempted under state law "routine performance of other duties of the fire organization."

Is a CDL required to operate a fire apparatus during training or other non-emergent driving?

No, drivers are exempted under state statute 343.055 (1) (b)

If a CDL is required for the above questions can these be written into the driver's job duties so a CDL is not needed?

N/A. They are exempt in all cases INTRA-state. In the case of the INTER-state parade, no modification of job duties will clarify the requirements for a CDL.

Is a CDL required to cross state lines for a MABAS call, or is this covered in the MABAS rules.

No CDL is required, they are exempt under Federal Regulations 383.3 (d) (2).

Are fire departments exempt from State/Federal DOT regulations?

Government owned fire departments are exempt under state law and 390.3 (f) (2).

Privately owned fire companies are subject to all FMCSR's.

Are DOT inspections and pre-trip inspections required on fire apparatus?

Government owned vehicles are exempt.

Privately owned fire companies are required to have annual inspections and to complete/document POST trip inspections.

Trans 309 covers ambulances. Is there a chapter that covers fire apparatus and lighting colors?

No, there is no specific section to govern fire apparatus.

Are fire apparatus subject to DOT regulations for axle and tire load?

Yes, they are not exempt from any weight restrictions or tire load limits.

What is the minimum tread depth for drive and steer axles on fire apparatus? How is it measured?

Government owned vehicles are regulated at 2/32" tread depth on all tires.

Privately owned trucks are regulated at 4/32" on a steer tire, 2/32" on all others.

Tread depth is measured in two adjacent major tread grooves. Major tread grooves are identified as any groove containing a tread wear indicator.

EVTA Bulletin Board

Do you have a problem that is causing you trouble and can't figure out? Go to the EVTA Forums and become a member of the site. There is no charge and there are technicians and factory personnel from around the country asking and answering questions on all topics. There are several WAEVT members on the board as well. If you haven't visited the website, it is a very valuable source of information and sharing. You do need to register to post to the site, but there is no cost. Visit the site at www.evta.info/forums.

E-Mail Addresses

Thank you to all those that provided your e-mail addresses. We would like to utilize e-mail for sending information and newsletters to help keep costs down. If you receive the newsletter by US Mail and have an e-mail address please send it to Jon Coutts at jdcoutts@sbcglobal.net.

Training Opportunities

Spring Seminar May 20-21, 2015 FVTC Public Safety Training Center, Appleton, WI

Hale Pump Schools <http://www.haleproducts.com/Main/Content,30,10.aspx>

Pierce Factory Training <http://www.piercemfg.com/company/training.cfm>

EVT Certification Commission <http://www.evtcc.org/>

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