

FMCSA To Open Next Phase of Comprehensive Safety Analysis 2010

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) will soon take the next step in its rollout of Comprehensive Safety Analysis (CSA) 2010 by offering carriers a glimpse at where they stand in the pending Safety Measurement System.

Starting August 16, carriers will be able to see how they are performing in each of the seven Behavior Analysis and Safety Improvement Categories (BASICS).

The FMCSA also plans to stick to its schedule on CSA 2010, promising:

- Warning letters will be sent to carriers that do not make the grade
- Roadside inspectors will start using the new data system to identify carriers for inspection
- CSA 2010 will be implemented state-by-state throughout 2011 as each state gets up to speed
- The FMCSA's new method of determining safety fitness will be revealed for publication next year

What Else Is Changing?

Since there has been a lot of concern about the FMCSA's approach to measuring exposure in two of the BASICS - Unsafe Driving and Crash Indicator - the agency is

changing from a calculation based on the number of power units to a calculation based on a combination of power units and vehicle miles traveled.

The FMCSA said that these two categories will no longer just use power units to establish the carrier group. The Crash Indicator category will use the number of crashes, and the Unsafe Driving category will use the number of inspections with a violation.

The power-unit count also will be dropped from the Controlled Substances/Alcohol category. The exposure measurement there will be the number of relevant inspections.

In addition, severity weightings for some roadside inspection violations will be updated, and the FMCSA will change its approach to carriers with a history of size and weight violations. Rather than counting these violations in the Cargo-Related category, the agency will send alerts to roadside inspectors when carriers have a history of these violations.

For more information on CSA 2010, visit csa2010.fmcsa.dot.gov.