



Diamond Transportation System, Inc.

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Fourth Quarter 2007

The Diamond Dust

Diamond wins ATA safety awards

Diamond Transportation System's commitment to safety recently was recognized by the American Trucking Association.

Diamond won a second place award in the heavy hauler/unlimited mileage division of the American Trucking Association's National Truck Safety Contest. Diamond also won a division improvement award.

Diamond's accomplishments were honored at the ATA Safety and Loss Prevention Management Council's national safety and human resources conference Sept. 21 in Pittsburgh, Pa.

In 2006, Diamond trucks traveled 7,136,066 miles

with an all-accident frequency ratio of 4.48 and a DOT-reportable accident frequency ratio of 0.28. That compares to 8,288,212 miles in 2005 with an all-accident frequency ratio of 4.83 and a DOT accident ratio of 0.97.

"I want to thank every one of our owner operators and drivers for their safe driving records and their dedication to safety," said Diane Dahse, Diamond's safety director.

"It is because of them that Diamond received these awards and our record continues to improve. With everyone's continued efforts to make safety a priority, we can keep this trend moving in the right direction. Thank you again and continue to drive safe."

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DRIVING SAFE

Here's how Diamond's safety record has progressed the last three years:

Year	Miles Driven	Accident Rate	DOT rate
2004	7,514,095	5.86	1.33
2005	8,288,212	4.83	0.97
2006	7,136,066	4.48	0.28

Owner Operators of the Month

As autumn turns to winter, Diamond Transportation System, Inc. recognizes and congratulates the Owner Operators of the Month for July, August and September.

Duayn Tatro was named Owner Operator of the Month for July. This is the third time that Duayn has achieved the award. Duayn, who drives a red



Duayn Tatro

Freightliner Century, has been with Diamond for two and half years.

In his spare time, he enjoys panning for gold at the Mexico/Arizona border. But with everything going on in that area, he hasn't had much luck lately. Duayn isn't married, but is looking for someone to share his life with.

Kale Anderson was named Owner Operator of the month for August. Kale has worked with Diamond since April and hit the road running. He has been extremely reliable and impressed us all with his professionalism and representation of Diamond.

He is a safe and hard worker and has earned this award because of those things. Kale enjoys radio controlled air planes, golfing and bowling.



Kale Anderson

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School Supplies Donated

Diamond Transportation System Inc. employees and drivers donated more than \$160 worth of school supplies to the Cops 'N Kids Reading Center in Racine, WI.

During the summer, Tari Herman of Diamond Brokerage organized several sales of candy bars, baked goods, ice cream sandwiches and other treats to raise money. The money was used to purchase a variety of school supplies, including 78 boxes of crayons, 40 pair of scissors and 264 spiral notebooks.

The supplies go to students who cannot afford to buy their own.

"This is such a blessing that our children can have a real first day of school with school supplies in hand," said Julia Burney-Witherspoon, the center's director. "We thank everyone at Diamond."



CUSTOMERS AND AGENTS

Shipper News: Diamond Adds Customers

Diamond has made several additions to our active customer base.

We have pooled trailers at Landoll Corporation in Marysville, KS where shipments of disc harrows and plows are now moving. In the machine tool and industrial sector we are working with Pittsburgh Logistics, which has contracted with General Motors to move plant machinery, dies, and related items. This is a very new situation and we look forward to developing this business. Many of these



Terex Dump Truck on unit 5010-0 is one of the many new customers Diamond is serving

Check Your Bills of Lading Carefully

Many times when you go to a shipper they have a pre-printed bill of lading, delivery order or dock receipt.

Sometimes those documents do not state exactly where you are picking up and delivering. They will show where it goes over seas or who purchased the equipment. In these situations, you need to make out your own bill of lading showing where the load picks up and where it delivers.

Furthermore, changes can be made after the bill of lading has been printed and you end up delivering it to another location. Please clearly note this on your bill of lading. It is very hard to match up your paperwork to the correct order number without this being done. It is also very important to put your order number on each piece of paperwork you send in.

If an error is made matching up your paperwork it can result in problems getting you paid in a timely manner. Also make sure you have the shipper sign your bill of lading and make sure you have the consignee sign that they received the equipment when delivered. If any damages or shortages are noted either at pick up or delivery you must call the safety department and make a phone report.

- Diane Dahse, Safety Director

loads will require protection so you must keep your tarps ready and in good repair. Also, CNH at Grand Island will add product lines which will open up demand for step decks in addition to RGNs.

Agent Streamlining: We recently announced several administrative changes (commission billing, direct deposit, and lead time for payment) for our agents. Agents are a strong part of any specialized carrier's sales networks. The service provided to their customers and the ease in which they work with the carrier on loading trucks, paperwork, and commissions, makes that carrier a better choice.

Most agents represent several carriers. We are pleased to make these changes and encourage our entire staff and our owner operators to do their best for this important group of sales professionals.

- Pat McLeod, Vice President, Sales

On the Road Again: Sights Seen on America's Highways

Recently I spent a couple of weeks traveling. I think those of us here in the office need to spend some time on the road to see what our owner operators see every day.

We appreciate what each of you are doing out there on the highways, there are a lot of issues that you deal with that sometimes we, sitting in our offices, forget about.

The first thing I noticed when going through Nebraska is the lack of heavy traffic and this is probably one of the few states that provides the opportunity to be on the "open road". One safety issue I noticed was the number of drivers not paying attention to staying in their lane as they would weave back and forth.

When passing a few of these we noticed that the drivers were either on their cell phones (not hands-free ones) or eating. One was reading what appeared to be a newspaper. What a dangerous issue when traveling at 70 to 75 mph.

Later in the trip we passed a truck and trailer jack-knifed and appeared that no other vehicles were involved. What a waste to see the damages and possible injuries to the driver let alone the cost of the repairs and cleanup for the accident. We also saw a lot of courtesy on the open road with drivers being very cautious about speeds and passing.

TOP-FIVE AGENTS JULY-SEPT.

1. Rick Newton
2. Laurel Barbera
3. Larry Meeks
4. Frank Lantrip
5. Tom Cucciare

Diamond congratulates all of our agents! Our agents are considered a large part of our sales force and customer base. Remember commission invoices are due on Tuesday for Thursday payment.

There are always a few irresponsible drivers that make it look bad for the industry, but overall, there were more cars than trucks doing 80 mph or more.

We noticed that safety appeared to be more of a concern with truck drivers than with other motorists. I think we all see that in our every day travels even in the city.

Often while traveling you see things that you just don't see in everyday life. We went through the mountains in Colorado, spent time at the Balloon Fiesta in Albuquerque and I can picture more clearly what you see going down the road with all the sites this country has to offer.

We traveled across part of Texas, saw the largest cross in the northern hemisphere just outside of Amarillo, and spent time talking with a number of bikers stopped there on a Sunday morning. We stopped in Oklahoma City and visited the site of the bombing of the Federal Building in 1995 and the devastation it left for those families and friends.

I know that each of you on the road have probably seen many of these things in your travels and it is unbelievable what is out there for all of us to see in this country of ours. Each time I travel, I come back with a stronger appreciation of what each and every one of you do in your daily travels across this great country.

- Paul Martinson, President

SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE

DRIVE SAFE: Speed, The Way to Get You No Where Fast

Diamond takes all driving records seriously. Speeding is one violation that can be so easily prevented yet weighs so heavily on your MVR record. Excessive speeding violations may result in termination, harm your image or even prevent a company from hiring you in the first place.

While accident and injury prevention are a few good reasons not to speed, there are also legal penalties you must pay if you drive too fast. A speeding driver that causes a fatal accident can be charged with negligent homicide or even second-degree

murder if the speed is considered reckless. Speeding is a factor in nearly 1/3 of all motor vehicle fatalities. Besides the obvious reasons not to speed, it also costs you more money in brakes and tires which have been proven to wear out faster than those on a truck driven at conservative speeds.



Fuel costs are also affected by speeding, costing you 0.1 miles per gallon for every 1 mph you drive over 55. So if

you travel 70 mph you're losing over 1.5 miles on every gallon of fuel that you use, just one more reason to adhere to the posted speed limits in this time of high fuel costs.

If you are under an oversized load and traveling with permits you must look at those permits and abide by the speed limit stated on those permits. The little bit of time you save by going over the speed limit certainly does not justify taking the chance that you might damage your good driving record, lose your job or possibly cause someone to lose their life.

-Diane M. Dahse, Safety Director

ROADCHECK 2007

This year's Roadcheck 2007, held June 5-7 saw an increase in the number of inspections performed as well as the number of drivers placed out of service.

This year's driver out-of-service rate was the highest since 1999. The majority of the drivers were placed out of service for hours-of-service violations, while falsification of records of duty status was the second highest reason.

Brakes led the list of vehicle out-of-service defects, accounting for 54 percent of vehicle defects. Please remember to do your pre and post-trip inspections on both your vehicle and yourself to help eliminate any violations.

Make sure you have updated your log entries and they are compliant. Take a few extra minutes to make sure you, your equipment and your load are ready every time to start to move your truck.

Service hour update

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Sept. 28 decided to keep the current hours-of-service (HOS) regulations in place until December 27, 2007, to give the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) more time to consider possible changes in the rules in light of the court's earlier July 24, 2007, decision.

As you recall, in that opinion, the court voided the 11 hours of driving time and the 34-hour restart provisions of the HOS regulations on procedural grounds. Once again, for the time being, the current HOS rules remain in effect, pending further action by FMCSA.



Pilot drops TripPak drop boxes

Beginning Dec. 31, 2007, TripPak EXPRESS® drop boxes will no longer be available at Pilot Travel Centers. TripPak and Pilot officials tried to negotiate a new contract for the truck stops to continue having the drop boxes, but the two sides could not come to an agreement. TripPak provides drop boxes near many of the exits previously served by Pilot. The majority of these are within 10 miles of those exits. TripPak is seeking an alternative network to relocate their displaced TripPak boxes and are launching a nationwide campaign to alert drivers of the change and give them an opportunity to win weekly contests.

THE DISPATCH PERSPECTIVE

Trailer upkeep is a growing concern here at Diamond, at our shops and among our owner operators. Because of this concern, some changes have been made, some more are to come and a bit more is being asked of our owner operators.

One issue that's been addressed is the condition of trailers serviced at our Bettendorf shop. There were some issues with the condition of trailers even after they were serviced in Bettendorf. Diamond's response: we hired a new mechanic, Steve Palmer, who is not only turning trailers at a much quicker pace than our former mechanic, but we are seeing far fewer problems with the trailers coming out of there. There is also a form to fill out when you drop a trailer in Bettendorf that helps Steve find problems more quickly and make sure the problems are fixed.

We are having some issues with dropped trailers in Grand Island, NE. This can be a bigger problem because all of those are pre-loaded combines with the wheels off and cannot be transferred. You don't want to hook up to trailer and find out that the lights, PSI or brakes are not working.

We have been servicing our equipment at Bauer Built in Grand Island, but we need your help any time you drop a trailer. We can't be everywhere so it is up to you to inform us about any troubles with the trailers. When you are having electrical, mechanical or any other issues with a trailer, talk to your fleet manager or Tim before you drop the trailer. We will arrange to have it looked at before it gets loaded.

We also have a maintenance program with the Travel Centers of America, so if you have any problems give us a call and we will set you up with an appointment.

Also, as a reminder, remember to clear your trailer before dropping it. The last thing you want is to pick up a trailer full of nails, dunnage and garbage. Please pull any nails, throw away any garbage and remove any unusable dunnage from our trailers before leaving it at any pool. Your attention to this is vital and the next driver will thank you. *-Jon Coca, Vice President, Operations*

THE BACK PAGE

Think About Putting Something Aside

During orientation there are many things that you read and sign, go through with myself or our recruiter Mark Feldmann.

Now we have added something new that I wanted to share with all of you. You now have the option of starting a *maintenance account*. This is a per-mile program and designed to help defray the costs of truck maintenance and labor. The minimum is to set aside 10 cents per loaded mile. The amount is calculated each week, then placed into an interest-bearing account.

It is available for any kind of maintenance that you need on your truck, whether you do the work yourself or have it done at a shop. We send the

money directly to the shop after securing a bill for the work, or directly to you once we get a receipt for any materials you purchased. This has been successful for the drivers that have started it. It's money that you don't even miss because it is taken out of your settlement before it gets to you.

Remember, you can also sign up for a regular savings account, which allows you to put in the same amount of money each week, starting with a \$25 minimum. This money is available to you at any time, for any reason. Think about it. For information, contact recruiting at 1-800-927-5702.

- *Alyse Mireles, Director of Recruiting*



5021 21st Street
Racine, WI 53401

Comments and Questions
Phone: 262-554-5400

Fax: 262-598-2821

Email: rjcoca@diamondtrans.net

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Employee News & Anniversaries

Monthly Awards, continued

When we asked him to comment on Diamond he said he loves being part of the Diamond family and likes the atmosphere here.



Tom Norris

Tom Norris achieved the award in September. Tom has been with Diamond since May 2006. He lives in Indiana when he isn't out on the road. While there he likes to restore old trucks and classic cars. In fact, he restored a car that was featured in Super Chevy Magazine. Tom has three grown kids, but no grandkids yet.



Diamond donated the use of a tractor/trailer to move a CNH excavator this summer. The machine was used to work on a Habitat for Humanity house in Racine, WI.

Owner Operator Anniversaries

- Irvin Woodruff—40 yrs. Nov.
- Arlan Turk—25 yrs. Nov.
- Arvin Weber—15 yrs. Dec.
- Ronald Perry—6 yrs. Oct.
- Pete Cheeley—6 yrs. Nov.
- Russell Sparks—6 yrs. Nov.
- Earl Swallow—4 yrs. Oct.
- Scott Krueger—3 yrs. Nov.
- Doyle Clifton—3 yrs. Nov.
- Robert Best--3 yrs. Nov.
- Steve Benson--2 yrs. Dec.
- Dale Garry—1 yr. Oct.
- Bruce Cobine—1 yr. Oct.
- Oliver Smith—1 yr. Dec.

When November 2nd rolls around, Arlan Turk will become Diamond Transportation's fourth owner operator with 25 or more years experience.

Irvin Woodruff had his 40th anniversary with Diamond in November, Richard Ruger hit his 35th anniversary in September and Rex Foreman had his 26th anniversary in April.

These four professionals have over 125 years of combined service at an exceptional level with Diamond. We thank you all for your loyalty.

Employee Anniversaries

- Randy Brown—17 yrs. Oct.
- Terry Peaslee—14 yrs. Oct.
- Richard Jenkins—54 yrs. Nov.
- Harvey Jenkins—43 yrs. Nov.
- Chris Linders—17 yrs. Nov.
- Jeanie Kuehl-41 yrs. Dec.

New Owner Operators

- Brandon Childress
- Steven Champine
- Guy Fultz
- Larry Hargrave
- JC Henderson
- Warren Kuhne
- Kenny Long
- Thomas McCourt
- Samuel Ortiz
- Dwight Snyder
- Brian Tuller