



ISSUE UPDATE

AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD TRANSPORTERS CONFERENCE



AFTC TO DISCUSS HOS EXEMPTION WITH CVSA

September 18, 2009

Representatives of AFTC will appear before the Executive Committee of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) during its Annual Conference on Sept. 19, 2009 in Baltimore, Md., to educate CVSA on the importance of flexible work hours in the agricultural industry.

The CVSA has stated publicly its intention to seek repeal of HOS exemptions during the next transportation reauthorization bill. In addition to agriculture, similar exemptions exist for the industry-specific needs of water well drillers, construction, oilfield workers and utilities, to name a few.

While AFTC and CVSA have different perspectives on this issue, the dialogue is an attempt to seek common ground on our common goal of ensuring safety on our highways. AFTC representatives will explain how agricultural production must deal with the vagaries of nature and schedules dictated by rain and frost. Data will be presented to CVSA regarding the significant variance in schedules from year to year. Much effort will focus on highlighting AFTC's efforts to promote safety in the agricultural trucking field through wide dissemination of the "Manager's Guide to Safe Trucking During Agricultural Planting and Harvest Season."