



FMCSA Issues HOS Waiver for Anhydrous Ammonia

March 18, 2010

Today, March 18, 2010, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) issued a limited 90-day waiver from the federal Hours of Service regulations for the transportation of anhydrous ammonia to a local farm retailer for the 2010 spring planting season. AFTC has been working very hard on this issue as it is very important to members transporting anhydrous ammonia for farm use during the busy planting season.

A tremendous amount of gratitude is due to U.S. Reps. Sam Graves (R-MO) and Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO) for leading efforts on this issue as well as several other members of Congress for their support, including: Sen. Kit Bond (R-MO), Reps. Leonard Boswell (D-IA), Howard Coble (R-NC), Jerry Costello (D-IL), Brad Ellsworth (D-IN), Baron Hill (D-IN), Tim Johnson (R-IL), Steve King (R-IA), Aaron Schock (R-IL), and John Shimkus (R-IL).

AFTC also appreciates the work of other agricultural organizations who cooperated to achieve success on this issue. They include: Agricultural Retailers Association, National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, and The Fertilizer Institute. The full support and resources of AFTC's parent organization, the American Trucking Associations, was also helpful and appreciated as well as the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

All carriers involved in this segment of business should read carefully the full announcement and take note of conditions for the waiver. The waiver only applies to:

- 1) delivery of anhydrous ammonia;
- 2) within a 100 air-mile radius;
- 3) motor carriers with a "satisfactory" safety rating or "unrated."

Any accident which occurs while operating under this waiver must be reported and must include several details as listed in the notice.

The notice can be found at:

<http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rules-regulations/administration/fmcsr/fmcsrruletext.aspx?chunkkey=09016334800232ac>