



## **Preparing for CVSA Roadcheck Week**

While we may not always be able to get “ahead of the game,” we can get ahead of CVSA Roadcheck Week. This coming May 4th – 6th, the CVSA (Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance) will be leading an international roadcheck. The primary focus of the upcoming Roadcheck Week will be hours of service and lighting.

In 2020, the most frequent vehicle violation was inoperable required lamps. Out of all of the violations, defective lighting accounted for 12.2% of all vehicle violations and 4.4% of all out-of-service vehicle violations.<sup>1</sup> To ensure that your truck isn't the next one slapped with an out-of-service violation for lighting, take these simple steps ahead of time:

- Inspect the lights on the tractor and trailer daily, and especially the days leading up to and including the Roadcheck
- Not all lights on a truck are required but keep in mind that if a non-required light isn't working that may call attention to the deficiencies on your truck, so get all lights fixed, required or not
- Be sure to have spare fuses and spare bulbs; sometimes lights can go out after you have started your trip and there is nothing you could have done to prevent that but having spares may help experience less down time if a light does go out
- Not only must your lights be working but they are also expected to be wiped clean and free of any dirt or debris. The cleaner and better you present your truck the less attention you will get from the DOT officer.

As for hours of service, last year over a third of all out-of-service driver violations were due to hours of service. If you add the 14% of out-of-service violations due to false logs, then you will see that hours of service make up a substantial portion of all out-of-service violations. So there is no wonder why the CVSA is focusing on this all important area. Well, you don't have to fall victim to yet another hours of service violation. Be sure to employ these few easy steps and you pass the Roadcheck with flying colors.

- Make sure all drivers have a paper log-book with at least 7 days of available log sheets
- Have your ELD instruction manual in a convenient, easy to access place inside the truck
- Understand how to put the ELD into inspection mode and transfer logs requested by enforcement officials
- Remove ELD to hand to enforcement officials when requested
- Have all required permits and registration in the truck
- When sitting in the driver's seat have the seat belt on, even if the truck is not moving



## Resources

<https://www.cvsa.org/programs/international-roadcheck/>

<https://www.truckinginfo.com/155020/how-to-avoid-6-common-csa-violations>

<https://www.trucker.com/safety/article/21154290/tips-to-prepare-for-2021-international-roadcheck>

<https://www.ccjdigital.com/business/article/14935869/lights-make-up-a-large-chunk-of-csa-violations>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cvsa.org/news/2021-international-roadcheck/>