



July 3, 2009

Commercial vehicle inspections help make our roads safer

Surprise inspections in June result in 1202 charges

Edmonton... More than 4101 commercial vehicles, including 150 buses, were checked for safety during the month of June. The surprise inspections conducted by Alberta Transportation and law enforcement agencies throughout the province resulted in 1202 charges.

These inspections also included 466 out-of-service charges, which remove dangerous vehicles from our roads and help prevent collisions and breakdowns. No motor carrier or person can operate a vehicle designated as out-of-service until it has been repaired.

Transport officers conducted 18-point visual inspections on safety essentials such as load securement, driver credentials, brakes, tires, log books, exhaust systems, coupling devices, fuel systems, turn signals, steering, lamps and wheels. The inspections took about 20 minutes each.

Highlights of the June commercial vehicle enforcement activities:

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| Gaming and liquor act violations | 1 |
| Dimension (over width /height / length) | 12 |
| Moving violations (stop sign, speed) | 28 |
| Seatbelts | 49 |
| Number of out-of-service charges | 466 |
| Other violations (no insurance, suspended, CVIP, permit, other documents) | 646 |
| Overload offences detected | 356 |
| Dangerous goods offences | 176 |

Alberta also uses thermal -imaging technology as a pre-screening device to detect defective brakes, tires and other mechanical components. Alberta is the first province in Canada to use this highly efficient process for this purpose.

Through monitoring and enforcing safety standards, the Alberta government aims to keep the province's highways safe for all road users, as well as protect the integrity of our infrastructure.

June is commercial vehicle safety month in the Alberta Traffic Safety Plan Calendar. The Traffic Safety Plan outlines initiatives to help prevent motor vehicle collisions and injuries, build safer roads, coordinate enforcement activities and better educate all Albertans about traffic safety.

- 30 -

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