



## Will SSRS Be Extended For 2007?

When we printed this newsletter, the answer was unclear. The U.S. Congress has until December 15 to decide. MoDOT will post the final decision to [www.modot.org/mcs](http://www.modot.org/mcs) and send letters to affected carriers as soon as we receive word.

If SSRS is not extended, MoDOT cannot renew SSRS for 2007.

Whether the SSRS is renewed or not, Uniform Carrier Registration is on the way. Here are some new things you need to know:

### ***What should companies that carry both interstate and intrastate freight or passengers do about getting intrastate decals?***

Mixed carriers are not required to renew their intrastate until either the SSRS program is renewed for 2007 or the UCR program begins. Intrastate decals are not required until the matter is settled.

### ***Who is making decisions on the Uniform Carrier Registration program?***

A board of state, private and for-hire carrier representatives chosen by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration is working to create the rules and procedures of the UCR.

### ***What will the UCR program cost?***

The UCR board is proposing a six-tier fee table. The proposed fee for the lowest tier (owners of 0-1 vehicle) is \$75.00. Those in the highest proposed fee tier (more than 1,001 vehicles) would pay \$37,500 in total.

The UCR Board fees committee is preparing documents for the FMCSA. The FMCSA then has 90 days to publish it, codify the language, adopt or make changes to what the board presented and send it back to the board.

### ***Who will participate in the UCR?***

As with the SSRS program, for-hire, interstate carriers must comply with the UCR. However, the new program will also apply to interstate exempt carriers, leasing companies, freight forwarders, private carriers and brokers.

### ***Can I see what this board is doing?***

Sure. Visit the UCR update Web site: [www.naruc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=499](http://www.naruc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=499) to see the public record. You'll find a list of board members, their meeting minutes, a question and answer sheet and the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2005 language.

### ***Is there any estimate on when the UCR program can begin?***

The board feels the program can begin to be implemented late spring/early summer of 2007.

Of course, meeting this goal depends on the speed with which the agreement is reviewed and adopted. Rulemaking can take some time. Participating states must also adopt the agreement as law before they can put it in effect.

Missouri legislators will consider a bill to adopt the UCR in early 2007. An emergency clause on

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# Jan's Letter

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## Will They or Won't They?

When we printed this newsletter, that was the question. Will the U.S. Congress vote to extend the SSRS program or will they let it go? As soon as we know the answer, we'll get the word to affected carriers by letter, this newsletter and we'll post the news to our Web site.

## Coming to Jefferson City? Be Prepared!

MCS is geared up and ready to handle all those whose IRP expires at the end of December. For some reason, many like to wait until the last minute and come to Jefferson City to complete the process. Did you know you can pre-file online or mail in your application and still come in to pay if you prefer? We like to see you, but we don't want you to have to sit for hours.

If you do come to our office to handle the whole process, please be sure to have ALL of the following when you get here:

- A list of all ACTUAL MILES for July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006, divided into miles run in each state/province.
- A copy of the 2006-07 FEDERAL HEAVY VEHICLE USE TAX RECEIPT (FORM 2290) for ALL owned and leased vehicles licensed at 55,000 lbs. or more.

## Apply for OD/OW Blanket Permits Online

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Do you plan to apply for a blanket permit for 2007? If so, we have good news that can save you time and money.

Applications for blanket permits can now be submitted online. In most cases, you'll receive a permit within minutes by e-mail or fax.

Visit our Web site - [www.modot.org/mcs](http://www.modot.org/mcs) to begin your request. Find Electronic Filings on the left side and click on Overdimension/Overweight Permits. The OD/OW page provides instructions and a link to the ordering system. Use the customer ID and password Motor Carrier Services mailed to you earlier this year to login. If you need help with customer ID and password questions or any other permitting issue, please call us at 1-800-877-8499 or 1-866-831-6277.

- A copy of your PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RECEIPT OR WAIVER for ALL owned or leased vehicles – with the vehicles listed on the receipt or bring along your 2005 assessment form.
- TITLES AND/OR LEASES of new equipment if you've had changes of ownership.
- And if you've not updated your USDOT number with the FMCSA in the last 2 years, be ready to fill out the MCS-150 form again. The MCS-150 is on our Web site - [www.modot.org/mcs](http://www.modot.org/mcs) - under Forms and Manuals.

If you arrive without required documents, your application will not be processed until the documents arrive.

We'll be open our regular hours – 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. And keep in mind that December 29 is the last day to file and pay before December registrations expire.



Motor Carrier Services Director

## Will SSRS Be Extended?

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From page 1

the bill would allow the program to start upon Gov. Matt Blunt's signature.

Carrier participation in UCR is federally required. If the bill does not pass, Missouri-based carriers will have to travel to another state to register for UCR. Because another state would collect the fee, Missouri motorists lose out on the safety benefits UCR funding would provide. Missouri would still be required by law to enforce UCR safety requirements, but would not receive UCR funds to pay for the enforcement. Money now used for other highway benefits would be used for enforcement.

### How will carriers register for UCR?

The UCR board hopes to develop a Web-based registration system. It's possible that the first year might be paper-based.

# Where Are You? December Renewals Come Down to the Wire

Long lines. Endless waits. "Comfortable" MoDOT chairs. Which door do I use?

If you renewed your registration by visiting our Jefferson City office during late December 2005, you remember.

While staggered registration reduced the number of carriers who renew in December, more than half of Missouri's commercial haulers must file by the month's end.

If your IRP is due at the end of this year, remember that the last business day of the month is Dec. 29. You can send your application in by mail now and come in our office just to pay if you choose. Consider filing online so you can avoid the late crush. Agents are ready and waiting to assist you.

## Map Gives Road Conditions 24/7

When bad weather is forecast, it's important to know there's a place you can go any time to find the condition of major roads.

MoDOT's Web site, [www.modot.org](http://www.modot.org), offers a map that shows whether the state's major highways are dry, wet, partly covered, covered or closed. The map is updated every 30 minutes during winter storms. Motorists can zoom in for details on routes in and around Kansas City and St. Louis. A text version that gives information by route and county is also available.

Thousands of people consult the map every time there is a winter storm. While the map isn't intended to give the weather or forecast future conditions, it can help travelers make their own decision as to whether it is safe to drive or if it's best to stay put.

Not able to access the Internet? MoDOT offers a toll-free telephone number – 1-888-ASK-MoDOT - motorists can call during business hours to learn more about road conditions. The Missouri State Highway Patrol offers a 24-hour winter road conditions report on another toll-free line, 1-800-222-6400.

## 2007 IFTA Decal Q & A

Recently IFTA passed a ballot that requires all IFTA decals to be serialized effective January 1, 2007. Here's what you need to know.

### ***Will my decals be vehicle specific?***

No. Serial numbers are assigned to the IFTA license – not individual vehicles.

### ***Does the serial number of both decals on a qualified vehicle have to match?***

Yes. Be sure that when you apply decals to the truck the serial numbers match.

### ***If I lose one decal do I have to replace both decals?***

Yes. Both decals must display the same serial number.

### ***If I break a lease and the IFTA license is not registered to me, do I have to remove the decals on my vehicle?***

Yes. If the company you are leased to provides your IFTA license and decals, you will have to remove them and ob-

tain a new license and decals from the new company you lease to or apply for your own fuel license and decals.

### ***Does Missouri charge for IFTA decals?***

No. IFTA decals are free of charge, but the number of decals issued must reconcile with the number of qualified vehicles and are subject to audit.

### ***Can I display my 2007 decals before January 1, 2007?***

Yes, but do not remove your 2006 IFTA decals until January 1, 2007.



# MoDOT Crews Gear Up for Winter Weather

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That first chill in the air and leaves changing to vibrant colors are the first signs of cold weather. While you dig up your scarf, mittens and hat and dust off your winter coat and boots, Missouri Department of Transportation crews are busy dusting off their winter gear too -- 1,800 snow-removal vehicles -- in anticipation of the winter's ice and snow.

"This winter we will continue using the same basic tools to fight snow and ice: a priority system of routes to determine which roadways are cleared first, dedicated employees that work in shifts around the clock and a stockpile of snow and ice removal equipment and other materials," said State Maintenance Engineer Jim Carney.

#### **Snow and ice-removal efforts follow a set order:**

- Priority 1: Highest traffic-volume roadways are cleared first, including interstates and other major routes. These roads receive continuous treatment throughout a storm.

- Priority 2: Heaviest-traveled sections of state numbered and lettered routes.
- Priority 3: Lower-volume, lettered or numbered routes. (MoDOT pays special attention to routes traveled by school buses and commuters.)
- Priority 4: During regular work hours, workers clean up accumulation on shoulders, bridge edges and interchanges.

Although MoDOT works hard to clear roads fast and make them safe for motorists, it is also the motorist's job to drive cautiously, pay extra attention to signs and drive defensively. If you are driving in the snow and slush, please give snowplows and salt spreaders plenty of clearance so they can clear the highways as quickly as possible.

## If You Had a Say in Saving A Life, Wouldn't You Speak Up?

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A recent survey by the Missouri Department of Transportation showed a 75.2 percent safety belt use rate last year -- two percent less than in 2005. The national average is 82 percent. Those facts have prompted concerned Missourians to urge state legislators to pass a stronger safety belt law in 2007.

Missouri's safety belt law allows only secondary enforcement, meaning motorists can only be stopped if the driver is pulled over for another offense. With a law allowing primary enforcement, meaning law officers can stop unbuckled motorists, 90 Missourians could be saved from death and more than 1,000 could avoid disabling injuries each year, according to federal statistics.

Supporters predict Missourians would save about \$231 million a year in costs associated with traffic crashes and the state's Medicaid responsibility would drop by \$103 million over the next 10 years with a stronger safety belt law.

The Primary Safety Belt Partners, a task force formed under the Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety, includes members such as the Missouri Motor Carriers Association, AAA-Auto Club of Mo., FMCSA, MoDOT, and dozens of other

organizations, including several motor carrier firms. More organizations are joining the effort every day.

Will you stand up to save lives? If you, your company or other organization would like to learn more, please contact the **Primary Safety Belt Partners** at (573) 636-8167, or send an e-mail to [mosafety@mchsi.com](mailto:mosafety@mchsi.com).

Visit [www.saveMOLives.com](http://www.saveMOLives.com) to learn more about how Missourians are working to help everyone Arrive Alive!

### **What is at Stake**

- In the past three years, 68 percent of those killed in Missouri traffic crashes were not protected by a safety belt or child safety seat.
- Motorists who are belted are injured in only one of seven crashes. Unbelted drivers? One in three.
- Unbelted drivers in 2005 traffic crashes had a one in 39 chance of being killed. Those who buckled up dramatically reduced the chance of being killed to one in 1,108.

# Winter 2007 Training Schedules

## General Safety Outreach

8:30 – 4:00

Date	City	Place
January 9	Chesterfield	MoDOT Traffic Mgmt Center, 14301 S. Outer 40 Road
January 16	Jefferson City	MoDOT Motor Carrier Services, 1320 Creek Trail Drive
January 17	St. Joseph	Pony Express National Museum, 914 Penn
January 18	Willow Springs	MoDOT South Central District Office, 3956 East Main St.
January 18	Macon	MoDOT North Central District Office, 902 North Missouri Street (Hwy 63)
January 19	Joplin	MoDOT Southwest District Office, 3901 E 32nd St.
January 22	Lee's Summit	MoDOT Kansas City Area District Office, 600 NE Colbern Rd.
January 23	Sikeston	MoDOT Southeast District Office, 2675 North Main St.
January 26	Springfield	Lamplighter Inn & Suites, 2820 North Glenstone Ave.

## Hazardous Materials Session

8:30 – 4:00

Date	City	Place
January 11	Chesterfield	MoDOT Traffic Mgmt Center, 14301 S. Outer 40 Road
January 17	Jefferson City	MoDOT Motor Carrier Services, 1320 Creek Trail Drive
January 23	Springfield	MoDOT Springfield Area District Office, 3025 East Kearney St.
January 23	Lee's Summit	MoDOT Kansas City Area District Office, 600 NE Colbern Rd.

## Agriculture/Farmer Safety Outreach

8:30 – 3:00

Date	City	Place
January 16	St. Joseph	Pony Express National Museum, 914 Penn
January 17	Willow Springs	MoDOT South Central District Office, 3956 East Main St.
January 18	Jefferson City	MoDOT Motor Carrier Services, 1320 Creek Trail Drive
January 22	Chesterfield	MoDOT Traffic Mgmt Center, 14301 S. Outer 40 Road
January 24	Sikeston	MoDOT Southeast District Office, 2675 North Main St.
January 24	Lee's Summit	MoDOT Kansas City Area District Office, 600 NE Colbern Rd
January 24	Springfield	MoDOT Springfield Area District Office, 3025 East Kearney Street
January 25	Macon	MoDOT North Central District Office, 902 North Missouri Street (Hwy 63)
January 26	Joplin	MoDOT Southwest District Office, 3901 E 32nd St

## I-44 Rest Areas at Joplin to Close Jan. 8

Both the eastbound and westbound I-44 Joplin Rest Areas will close completely in early January. The eastbound facility will reopen as a brand new Welcome Center in late 2007 with additional truck-sized parking.

When reopened, the eastbound side will have 42 truck-sized parking slots. Right now, 28 trucks can park at a time. The rest area on the westbound side, two miles from Oklahoma will be demolished and remain closed.

Plans call for more work at Missouri rest areas in the coming years. Look for upcoming announcements



## Clip and Save

### Important Phone Numbers

<b>1-866-831-6277</b>	MoDOT Motor Carrier Services
<b>1-888 ASK MODOT (888-275-6636)</b>	MoDOT Customer Service
<b>1-800-525-5555 or *55</b>	Missouri State Highway Patrol
<b>1-800-222-6400</b>	MSHP 24-hour road conditions recording

# Safety Belt Myths for Commercial Drivers

No one knows the road like a professional driver. But do you know the facts about safety belt use? Take a look at these common myths. Are you risking your safety on something that isn't true?

*Safety belts are uncomfortable and restrict movement.*

A 2005 study of commercial drivers by the Transportation Research Board reported most drivers find seat belts easy to use. Uncomfortable drivers can adjust the lap and shoulder segments of the belt or add a belt extender.

*Wearing a safety belt is a personal decision that doesn't affect anyone else.*

Using your safety belt can help you stay in control of your truck in a crash by holding you in the best position to control the wheel. Also, any object (including your body) that is not secure in a vehicle becomes a projectile moving with great speed and force. Your head and body can collide with your passengers' heads and bodies. You can kill a passenger by striking their head with yours.

*Belts keep you from escaping from a burning vehicle.*

Safety belts secure your body and can keep you from being knocked unconscious, improving your chances of escape. Fire occurs in less than 5 percent of fatal large truck crashes.

*It takes too much time to fasten your safety belt 20 times a day.*

Buckling up takes about 3 seconds. At 20 times a day, that's one minute.



## Renewal Checklist (clip & save)

When renewing your credentials, please be sure to have the following:

**Actual Mileage (7/1/05 thru 6/30/06)**

A list of all actual miles for the reporting period

**Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax**

Heavy Vehicle Use Tax receipt (IRS- Form 2290) for all owned and leased vehicles licensed for 55,000 lbs. or more.

**Personal Property Tax Receipt or Waiver**

For the previous year on all owned and leased vehicles.

**USDOT Number**

**Titles and/or Leases** - if there are ownership changes.

*It's better to be thrown clear of a crash.*

Motorists are four times as likely to die when they are thrown from a vehicle. Do you think that people land on their feet when they're ejected? They don't. Bodies smack into pavement, fly into tree trunks and are crushed by overturning vehicles. Use a seat-belt and stay inside your vehicle's safety cage.

*A large truck will protect you well enough.*

*Safety belts are unnecessary.*

The laws of physics are not suspended for large trucks. If you are not secured with a safety belt, your body can toss through the cab and out through the glass, just like it can in a four-wheeler. What if another large truck strikes you? Where's the advantage?

*Safety belts aren't necessary for low speed driving.*

If you experience a frontal crash at 30 m.p.h. while unbelted, your body will move at 30 m.p.h. toward the windshield and pavement. This is the same velocity as a person falling from the top of a three-story building.

*A lap belt is sufficient.*

A lap and shoulder belt combination is much better. It can hold you in a better position to maintain control of your vehicle in a crash. The combined belt also reduces the chance of serious injury or death.



In September, newly-installed cable barrier on I-44 stopped an out-of-control tractor trailer from crashing into the opposite lane. This section of cable held though the three-day tensioning process was not yet complete.

## New Name and Login Page for MoDOT Carrier Express

Motor Carrier Services' online system has been in place about one year. Isn't it time that it have a proper name? We think so.

The **MoDOT Carrier Express** name debuted on its login page in November. But the name isn't the only thing that's new. The login screen changed from a sparse, utilitarian page to a communication center. Carriers can now find the latest news from MCS on the right hand side of the screen. When we have system upgrade or emergency information to share, it will appear under the login area.

"We know that most people bookmark the login page and only visit our regular Web site to check messages from time-to-time. We needed another way to get urgent information in front of more people," said Barb Hague, MCS special projects coordinator. "We also hope that our customers find the new screen more welcoming."

Check out the new look. Visit <https://mcs.modot.mo.gov/portal/wps/myportal/%20%20> While you're there, drop us a line by clicking our e-mail address. We hope you enjoy the new arrangement.

## BUSTed! MoDOT Inspectors Keep Tourists Safe

Because of its natural beauty, reputation for fun and friendly citizens – if we do say so ourselves - Missouri is a favored destination for many travelers. This time of year, thousands of passengers choose to travel here using tour and shuttle buses. That makes fall the perfect time to focus on bus safety.

Motor Carrier Services inspectors contact bus drivers at tourist destinations. While their passengers enjoy other activities, the vehicle and the driver's record undergo a thorough exam. If a mechanical problem is found, drivers are given a list of repair facilities in the area. If repairs cannot be made quickly or a driver is placed out of service, they receive a list of companies that can deliver passengers to the next location.

In most cases, the process is invisible to bus riders. Because passenger carriers in Missouri take such good care, tourists get to enjoy the sights free of concern. In fact, of the 421 inspections MoDOT conducted between October 3 and November 9, only 19 vehicles were placed out of service.

If you are planning a trip involving a bus, limousine or motorcoach, consider visiting the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Web site to help in making a selection: [www.ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Passenger/find\\_carrier.asp](http://www.ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Passenger/find_carrier.asp)

# Datelines

## December 1

4th quarter IRP renewal payment is due to avoid late pay penalty and to be able to obtain temporary vehicle registration in 2007.

## December 20

MoDOT MCS closed from noon to 1 p.m. for holiday lunch.

## December 25

Christmas Day – All MoDOT offices closed.

## December 31

2006 OD/OW Blanket permits expire.

## January 1

New Year's Day – All MoDOT offices closed.  
Carriers with 4th quarter IRP renewals must display updated plates and carry new cab cards.

## January 2

Deadline for carriers with 1st quarter IRP renewals. Application must be on file to avoid late filing penalty.

## January 15

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday - MCS open, most other MoDOT offices closed.

## January 31

IFTA 4th quarter returns due.

## February 12

Lincoln's Birthday - MCS open, most other MoDOT offices closed.

## February 19

Washington's Birthday - MCS open, most other MoDOT offices closed.

## March 1

Carriers with an IFTA license must carry updated license and display decals.  
IRP 1st quarter renewal payment due to avoid late pay penalty to be able to obtain temporary vehicle registration in 2007.

## News on Wheels

Missouri Department of Transportation  
Motor Carrier Services  
P.O. Box 893  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
573.751.7100  
Toll Free: 866.831.6277  
Fax: 573.751.0916  
[www.modot.org/mcs](http://www.modot.org/mcs)

Additional copies available upon request.  
If you have any questions or comments, please send them to the address at left.

**Motor Carrier Services Director**  
Jan Skouby

Produced and published by  
Motor Carrier Services  
and Community Relations

*Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.*





# News on **Wheels**

Missouri Department of Transportation  
Motor Carrier Services  
P.O. Box 893  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

**PRSTD STD**  
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## Motor Carrier Services

**Mailing Address**

PO Box 893  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0893

**Physical Address**

1320 Creek Trail Drive  
Jefferson City, MO 65109

**Phone**

573.751.7100 or  
toll free 866.831.6277

**Fax**

573.751.0916

<b>International Registration Plan</b>	Regulations, IRP applications, reciprocity, trip permits, temporary authorizations, license plates, cab cards
<b>International Fuel Tax Agreement</b>	Regulations, Missouri IFTA applications, temporary fuel permits
<b>Overdimension and Overweight</b>	Regulations, permits, blanket permits
<b>Single State Registration, Interstate Exempt, Intrastate Authority, Housemovers License, Hazardous Waste and Waste Tires</b>	Applications, SSRS receipts, stamps, stickers, licenses, proof of insurance
<b>Safety and HM Regulations/Enforcement</b>	Information, regulations, training, compliance reviews, educational contacts, complaint investigations

Web site: [www.modot.org/mcs](http://www.modot.org/mcs)