



SPEED KILLS

America's news outlets continue to blanket the airways with presidential candidates' barbs and jabs as to who is best to lead our country. There is other news however that shippers should be aware of which can impact their cost of transportation.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) have proposed a requirement to equip heavy-duty vehicles with devices that limit their speeds on U.S. highways, thus limiting the maximum speed at which trucks could travel.

The Department of Transportation's proposal would establish safety standards requiring all newly manufactured U.S. trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating more than 26,000 pounds to come equipped with speed limiting devices. The proposal discusses the benefits of setting the maximum speed at 60, 65, and 68 miles per hour, but the agencies will consider other speeds based on public input.

Under the proposal, motor carriers operating commercial vehicles in interstate commerce would be responsible for maintaining the speed limiting devices at or below the designated speed for the service life of the vehicle. While the maximum set travel speed will be determined in the final rule, estimates included in the proposal demonstrate that limiting heavy vehicles will save lives. "This is basic physics," said Mark Rosekind of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. "Even small increases in speed have large effects on the



force of impact. Setting the speed limit on heavy vehicles makes sense for safety and the environment.”

The American Trucking Associations hailed the proposal from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to electronically limit the maximum speeds of new trucks as a potential step forward for safety. ATA President and CEO Chris Spear said “Speed is a major contributor to truck accidents and by reducing speeds, we believe we can contribute to a reduction in accidents and fatalities on our highways. As an industry, we cannot be afraid of technology, but we also must make sure that technology has proven benefits.” Spear said, “Carriers who already voluntarily use speed limiters have found significant safety, as well as fuel efficiency and equipment lifespan benefits with little to no negative impact on productivity”. The ATA indicated that they will be carefully reviewing and commenting further upon this proposal.

Requiring speed limiting devices could also save an estimated \$1.1 billion in fuel costs and millions of gallons of fuel annually. The public is encouraged to submit their comments on the proposed rule at www.regulations.gov.

In addition to providing clients with timely and accurate freight bill processing, Data2Logistics wants our clients to be alerted to actionable information in our client’s global logistics databases and as well as the transportation marketplace. Let us work with you to integrate your transportation analytics to reduce costs and improve controls. Contact Harold B. Friedman, Senior Vice President, Global Corporate Development at +1 609 577 3756 or harold.friedman@data2logistics.com.