

RTDS
Cincinnati, Ohio

THE DISPATCH
October 2020



Happy Halloween

Drivers of the Month:

October 2019 – Tracey M.

November 2019 – James B.

December 2019 – David W.

January 2020 – Brad S.

February 2020 – Arron S.

March 2020 – Rickey L.

April 2020 – Art W.

May 2020 – Randy K.

June 2020 – Brad F.

July 2020 – Bill S.

August 2020 – Jerry W.



Congratulations to each Driver of the Month.

Thank you for going above and beyond your normal duties, we appreciate you! Each of you will receive a shirt in recognition. We will contact you once they are in.

As you may or may not know, we will not be holding our annual Driver Safety Meeting this year. Please read carefully the following letter from our President addressing it.

To All of our ITDS Drivers:

It is with heavy heart that we have to cancel our annual driver's safety meeting. As you all know, this is one of my favorite days of the year. We enjoy the fellowship we have with our drivers and also are happy to provide an opportunity for our drivers to meet each other.

However, these are unprecedented times. The Holiday Inn would not provide a buffet breakfast and we did not want to risk having one or two drivers at the meeting who might be a carrier of the coronavirus and have it spread through our entire fleet.

I will take this opportunity to provide you with information on our growth at ITDS and what we can look forward to in the coming year.

Looking back, in 2010 ITDS was operating 29 tractors with 31 drivers and 49 trailers. Just 4 years ago in 2016 ITDS was operating 58 tractors with 65 drivers and 146 trailers. Jump forward to 2020 ITDS is operating 123 tractors with 138 drivers and 317 trailers. ITDS has become a major transportation force in the tri-state area.

The credit to our growth goes to the employees of ITDS. Our experienced dispatch and operations team that works closely to meet the needs of our customers. Those needs could not be met without having experienced, quality drivers who are the face of our company.

Statements from our customers:

CH Robinson "ITDS does an amazing job for us"

TMC Transportation "Our customers love you guys"

Cert. Crop Adv. "We want to compliment your driver; he is one of the best drivers we have had in here"

We hear these comments from customers at least once a week. This is what helps ITDS to retain our current and add new customers every year.

For this I thank all of you.

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The future plans for ITDS in 2021:

We plan on having our Safety Challenge again in 2021 to give away a new car. We will advertise that in our future newsletters. We do not know the outcome of this year's "Challenge" but I am sure everyone is aware we have two major accidents that totaled two tractors and one refrigerated trailer. The drivers involved in those accidents are no longer with the company.

We are already making plans to add on new accounts. We will be adding new customers in the Dayton, OH area, the Columbus, OH area and the Cincinnati area. When we look at adding these new accounts our first thought is, "Would a driver like to work at this job". If the answer is no, we turn the business down and move on to something our drivers would like to do.

ITDS had 3 accidents this year that we think we would have avoided responsibility if we had a video camera in the tractor. My plan is to put cameras facing forward in our tractors in 2021. Placed correctly we will be able to see forward and down the side of your vehicle by using the spot mirrors. We will use this video to defend our driver and our company when an accident occurs.

I hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year as the holidays are rapidly approaching. Please be safe when you are behind the wheel as your family and company want you to arrive home safely every day.

Even though we were not able to have our safety meeting this year, you know I like to pass out money at our annual meeting. For this year, I'm going to give every ITDS driver a gift card to Kroger for \$75. We will begin distributing them in November so you have them for Thanksgiving.

Wishing you a happy, healthy and safe 2021.

-Brad Howell, ITDS President

Reminders from the office

Lunch breaks: if you are paid hourly, a 30-minute lunch break is deducted if you work 6 hours or more. This is required. Even if your timecard states “no break,” 30 minutes will be deducted based on company policy. We want you to take your break, for your safety and well-being, you need to take it. If you are being pressured by a customer to not take your break, contact the office.

Note: this has nothing to do with HOS and on-duty or off-duty rest breaks. Again, this is a company policy that applies to EVERY hourly employee.

ELDs: We have had some mileage reporting discrepancies. It seems that the relay boxes (white boxes in your dash) are getting moved to another truck before notifying the office. These are the steps that must be completed in this order:

1. Post-trip and log out of the system
2. Notify office THEN unplug the box
3. Once the office gives you the okay, plug the relay box into the new truck.
4. Log in and pre-trip the new vehicle.

If you are swapping after hours, complete step 1 and hold onto the relay box and cord until the office is able to switch it in the system. Do NOT plug into the new truck until you have the okay. Complete steps 3 and 4.

If you are in a sub truck that does not have an ELD, you MUST be sure to turn in your mileage trip sheets. We have to account for mileage traveled per state.



- 10/3 Anthony N – Multicorr
- 10/3 Jerry W – Duro Bag
- 10/7 Lucien C – Duro Bag
- 10/8 Austin B – Kamps OH
- 10/11 Jill S – BGR Lou
- 10/12 Kyle F – Cisco Seeds
- 10/13 Brad H - President
- 10/14 Pam F - Akers Pkg
- 10/18 Arlondo L – Multicorr
- 10/18 Dallas M – Akers Pkg
- 10/20 John C – MMI Doors
- 10/28 Larry B - BPL

digital image, accessed Oct. 7, 2020, <myniceprofile.com>



- 10/1/18 Diana W - Safety
- 10/7/14 Sherwood J – C. Steel
- 10/11/11 Mark G – Perfetti
- 10/21/15 Kenny S – Dispatch
- 10/28/19 Freddie R – Kamps OH
- 10/29/18 Troy S – Kamps KY
- 10/29/06 Rick S – Hammer
- 10/30/17 Les M – Duro Bag



digital image, accessed Oct. 7, 2020 <youtube.com>

Drivers celebrating an anniversary can send in a LUNCH receipt for reimbursement!

School Bus Safety

School days bring congestion: buses are picking up passengers, kids on bikes are rushing to get to school, and hurried parents are trying to drop their kids off before work. **It's never more important for drivers to slow down and pay attention than when kids are present – especially before and after school! Here a few tips to have in mind:**

Sharing the Road with Young Pedestrians

- Don't block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn. Forcing pedestrians to go around you could put them in the path of moving traffic
- Take extra care to look out for children in school zones, near playgrounds and parks, and in all residential areas
- Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians
- Always use extreme caution to avoid striking pedestrians wherever they may be, no matter who has the right of way

Sharing the Road with School Buses

- If you're driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car
- Never pass a bus from behind, or from either direction if you're on an undivided road, if it is stopped to load or unload children
- Traffic must stop if the lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them space to safely enter and exit the bus
- Be alert; children often are unpredictable, and they tend to ignore hazards and take risks

SEPTEMBER

**Driver of the Month:
Julie B – Bellisio**

**Safety Quiz Winner:
John L – BPL**

Winners should contact Lori by email at lbrady@itdsdedicated.com or by phone at 513-354-1722 to claim your **\$100** gift card!!!



SAFETY

September Roadside Inspections:

- 9/1 John C – MMI Doors – **CLEAN!**
- 9/11 Randy K – Multicorr – **flat tire**
- 9/15 Netra D – MMI Doors – **speed; lane restriction**
- 9/17 Kelvin B – Kamps OH – **CLEAN!**
- 9/28 John C – MMI Doors – **CLEAN!**
- 9/28 Sean H – BPL – **CLEAN!**

Thank you John(x2), Kelvin, and Sean for clean inspections! They also each received \$50!!!

Our score for Unsafe Driving is beginning to creep back up. We are below the threshold, which is good, but there is always room for improvement. As a group, we need to **SLOW DOWN**. Speeding violations are “big” points. There is no freight worth risking your safety for.

Our score for Maintenance is below the threshold, so keep up the clean roadside inspections! We are depending on all of you to be safe!!!!