



TSNAmerica
TRUCKING INFO HUB
HERE TO KEEP YOU TRUCKIN'

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Welcome

And just like that, summer is almost here! Sunshine, summer vacations, and frozen snow cones – who doesn't love a cherry snow cone?! With these long, beautiful summer days, it's hard to be inside and focus on w-o-r-k! We are thankful for you – thankful that you are dedicated to providing us with supplies we wouldn't have without you! We know you are extremely busy, but it is our hope that you can take a few minutes, grab a big glass of sweet ice tea and enjoy this issue of Trucking Info Hub.

Here at TSNAmerica, we are gearing up for the 2015-2016 Form 2290 Filing Season. For those of you who want to avoid the rush, Pre-file! 2290 Pre-Filing is now open. New 2290 pricing effective July 1, 2015. Contact us to take advantage of the current pricing by filing by June 30th. Form 2290 is an annual tax required for any vehicle 55,000 GVW or greater that operates on public highways. The tax period runs from July 1st through June 30th of the following year, and the tax is due no later than August 31st.

Don't waste your time sitting in an IRS office for hours! Phone filing your 2290 is our specialty. We submit your 2290 directly to the IRS for processing. We ensure your HVUT Form 2290 is done accurately by using an IRS authorized e-file provider, and we will have your Stamped Schedule 1 back for you quickly, usually within the same business day!

UPCOMING DEADLINES

June 30, 2015

- ▶ HazMat Certificate Renewal
- ▶ Massachusetts IRP Renewal
- ▶ West Virginia IRP Renewal

July 1, 2015

- ▶ 15-16 Form 2290 Filing Season Opens

July 31, 2015

- ▶ 2nd Quarter IFTA
- ▶ 2nd Quarter KYU
- ▶ 2nd Quarter NM Weight Distance
- ▶ 2nd Quarter NY HUT

August 31, 2015

- ▶ 2nd Oregon Weight-Mile
- ▶ 15-16 Form 2290 Filing Deadline





Food For Thought:

By Jeffrey P. Fultz / Willingham, Fultz & Cougill Attorneys at Law

According to a recent article in Forbes Magazine, there has been a trend towards the manufacturing of autonomous, or self-driving cars.^[1] Now that several companies have advanced that part of the automotive industry, there notion of automated commercial tractors/trucks seems to be heading our way. Forecasters indicate several reasons for the push for automated trucks:

- 1) the number of truck drivers is declining;
- 2) the automated trucks have the potential of reducing total costs of ownership;
- 3) the simplicity of implementing the automated technology into commercial vehicles; and
- 4) the possibility of making mega trucks with a gross weight of 60 tons!

Another driving force behind this idea is that the number of trucks on the road represents 5% of the total vehicle population, but commercial trucks consume 20% of the transportation fuel. The fuel efficiency in the commercial vehicles would be greatly enhanced, which is an important factor in the overall trucking business for private and public owners. Fuel efficiency, and added safety features planned for the new age trucks would also provide an advantage over the current safety components in commercial vehicles. While these new commercial vehicles may be more expensive on the front end, changes in the design, fuel efficiency and safety would cut down on the overall expense of the maintenance and lifecycle of owning one of these vehicles.

There are four different levels of automated driving defined by the NHTSA:

- 1) Level 1 is when the driver is fully in control of all driving inputs (most trucks are Level 1 today);
- 2) Level 2 is an autonomous truck with ADAS functionality (in use for about 5 years);
- 3) Level 3 trucks still require a driver, but can be switched into an auto-pilot type mode in safe circumstances; and
- 4) Level 4 is capable of driving itself in all situations, without a driver! These higher level commercial tractors could be in operation by 2025.

^[1] Forbes Article by Sarwant Singh, with contribution from Sandeep Kar, of Frost & Sullivan, dated May 19, 2015.

Your turn: What do you think about Automated Trucking? Is the time right for automated trucking in the US? Call us at **803.386.0320** or email us your thoughts at **support@tsnamerica.com!**



Some of our favorite songs here at TSNAmerica are Alabama's "Roll on 18 Wheeler," Garth Brooks' "Papa Loved Mama," and Kathy Mattea's "Eighteen Wheels and A Dozen Roses." Let us know what your favorite trucker movies and music are? WRITE to us at **support@tsnamerica.com.**

Shout out Corner

A special thank you to our clients for their referrals:

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