

## Driver Qualifications

## This webcast will cover ...

- · A regulatory overview
- How industry best practices are raising the bar on compliance
- A case study in implementation
- Question & Answer

Attention Attendees:

- +Thank you for attending!
- +You will be muted during the event.
- +Please use the Q&A feature to send in questions to us. We'll try to answer them during the Q&A period if they are not covered in the presentation.
- +The slides and recording will be posted within 7 days at: www.jjkeller.com/nptcinfo









## Meet Your Presenters



President & CEO
National Private Truck



Industry Consultant-Transportation



Senior Vice Presiden
National Private



Mike Mason Transportation Manage Nestle USA/Nestle





# Regulatory Overview









## **Driver Qualification Summary**

- Applicant must meet qualification requirements and not be disqualified
- Drivers must remain qualified once hired
- Applicant must complete driver application
- · Carrier must conduct background checks
- · Applicant must pass road test
- · Applicant must be medically qualifiied
- · Carrier must conduct annual reviews
- · Carrier must maintain a driver qualification file









# Basic Driver Qualification Requirements (§391.11)

- 21 years old
- Read and speak English
- Can safely operate assigned vehicle (by virtue of training and/or experience)
  - Has passed a road test in a representative vehicle
- Is physically qualified (passed DOT medical exam)
- · Has the correct license for the vehicle assigned
- Is not "disqualified"



Tom Bray
Industry Consultant - Transportation





## The Application

- The driver application begins the process and must include
  - · Applicant's name, address, date of birth and SSN
  - · License information and driving history/experience
  - · Complete three-year work history
    - DOT regulated employers from 7 additional years required if applicant drove a CDL-required vehicle at the employer
    - · Must ask was the previous employer DOT-regulate
  - Due process information
  - · See regulation §391.21for full details









## Investigations and Inquiries

Using the information on the application, the carrier must (within 30 days of hire):

- Get an MVR from all states the driver had a license in over the previous 3 years\*
- \* You may need the current one sooner!
- Complete a "safety performance history" check of the applicant
- · This is the required "previous employer" verification
- · Regulations are at §391.23



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## Road Test §391.31

- Use a competent examiner
- The duration of the test should be long enough to determine if the driver can drive
- Test should reflect normal operations
  - Pretrip, coupling, driving, turning, backing, etc.
- Test route should be documented
- Everyone should complete the same test
- · Can use equivalent rather than conducting



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## **DQ File Contents**

- Requirements in §391.51
   Entire time driver is employed plus three years
  - · Application for employment\*
  - · Road test and certificate\*
  - · Verified negative test results\*
  - · Initial MVRs from states/provinces
  - Past employment checks (SPH)
  - Kept for three years:
    - Medical examiner's certificate or MVR showing medical qualification for all exams over the last three years\*
    - · Proof examiner was on NRCME
    - Annual review with annual MVR and Certificate of Violations for the last three years
- · Can have more, but not less!









## **Ongoing Requirements**

- Annual review
  - · Certificate of violations
  - Annual MVR
  - Management note of review
- Making sure driver remains qualified (tracking tool)
  - · License expiration
  - Medical card expiration
  - · Annual review due
- The driver qualification file is what proves it!



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# **Beyond Compliance**



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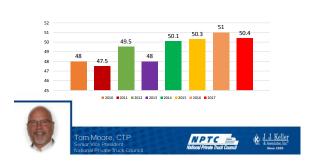
## Why the Regs Aren't Followed

- Poor communication
- Conflicting goals
- Processes that lead to poor follow-through
- · Hiring pressures



# Driver Shortage 15,000 18000 20000 48000 98000 1000 1000 100000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 1

## Aging Workforce



## How Fleets Are Raising the Bar

- · Upgrading the driver application
- · Enhancing interviewing skills
- · Digging deeper on MVRs
- Going beyond the minimum when it comes to background checks
- Education and training of the driver workforce
- Improving driver wellness programs
- Establish roles and responsibilities for managers



Tom Moore, CTP Senior Vice President





## **Hiring Qualifications**

- Minimum Age: 22.2 vs. 22.0
- Minimum Experience: 2.14 yrs. vs. 2.17 yrs.
- Average Age of New Hire: 41.2





Tom Moore, CTP
Senior Vice President
National Private Truck Council.





## **Education and Training**

- FMCSA provides excellent resource <a href="http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rules-regulations/administration/fmcsr/fmcsrruletext.aspx">http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rules-regulations/administration/fmcsr/fmcsrruletext.aspx</a>
   ?req=391.43
- Beyond the regs, drivers need to know that you care about their welfare
- · Drivers need to take responsibility
- Consider incorporating as part of the hiring & screening process



Tom Moore, CTP Senior Vice President





## **The Fleet Perspective**









## Nestlé's Fleets

- 1,869 Vehicles (Ambient/Frozen)
- 2,161 Drivers (Ambient/Frozen)
- 2,065 Vehicles (Beverage)
- 2,416 Drivers (Beverage)

**Objective:**Discuss the policies and procedures a carrier may want to consider to make sure that it is not hiring an unqualified driver or its next









## The Hiring Process









## **Have Strong Policies & Procedures**

Hiring best practice is to ensure that applicants pledge to follow the rules in your company policies.

- > Right out the gate: Win the hearts, minds and souls of your drivers. Communicate the what, when, how and the why.
- > Develop a policy stating that drivers are responsible for adhering to all safe-driving related Federal, State, and local laws ordinances.
- > Develop a policy requiring drivers to report all roadside inspections and
- crash involvements immediately.

  Develop policies and procedures that ensure drivers practice and apply safe, defensive driving techniques and skills.



like Mason





## **Have Strong Policies & Procedures**

Hiring best practice is to ensure that applicants pledge to follow the rules in your company policies.

- > Develop a policy that prohibits passengers from being onboard without
- Develop a procedure ensure that vehicles defects are reported, repaired, and certified before the vehicle is operated.
- > Develop a written and progressive disciplinary policy focused on taking corrective action to ensure drivers comply with regulations and company policies. Leading & Lagging Behaviors



like Mason





## **Outline Roles & Responsibilities**

Hiring best practice is to ensure that applicants know their roles and their managers roles:

- Manager's role includes being responsible for making certain that employees receive safe driving training in accordance to your company policy and with State or Federal regulations.
- > Make sure that you clearly define, and document roles and responsibilities of drivers, managers, and supervisors with respect to the carrier's policies.
- Establish roles and responsibilities for managers and experienced drivers to provide oversight and instructions to newer drivers.



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## Automate DQF'S

Hiring best practice is to ensure that DOT administrators know the Driver Qualification File. Best Practices is to automate DQF's.

- Ensure MVRs from states are <u>reviewed for unsafe driving violations</u> of all prospective drivers for a min of the last three years.
- Get permission for background to run PSP report or have drivers run their own prior to interview process to correct any outages.
- MVR & PSP do not match
- PSP may show a pattern or behavioral practice that may need to be explained.









## Automate DQF'S

Hiring best practice is to ensure that DOT administrators know the Driver Qualification File. Best Practices is to automate DQF's.

- > Querying applicants, checking with previous employers and references.
- > Review and evaluate gaps in employment .
- Application captures all information required by FMCSA, pertaining to moving violations, prior convictions and denied employment based on unsafe driving.



Mike Mason Transportation Manager Nestle USA/Nestle Transportation Company





## Company Procedures for Training & Communication

## Hiring best practice is to training for drivers:

- Communicate expectations for adhering to safe driving regulations and company policy and procedures to all staff, and provide new hire and refresher training.
- Hands-on demonstrations of safe driving with a focus on defensive driving skill
- Reinforce training by developing job aids, and/or establishing communication.
- Ensure that managers and supervisors communicate with drivers show visible leadership.
- Engage your drivers



Mike Mason Transportation Manager





## **BE UPFRONT ABOUT MONITORING & TRACKING**

## Hiring best practice is to monitoring and tracking:

- <u>Leading Indicators Predictive Risk</u> Driver score carding to indicate probability and then automated training.
- Maintain roadside inspection reports, moving violations, crash reports.
- Review/retain each driver's MVR at least annually.
- Get the details of any crash accident details patterns and trends, police reports.
- Implement a system for <u>keeping accurate records</u> of employee via software tracking system for training.









## Be Up Front About Taking Meaningful Action

## Hiring best practice around taking meaningful action:

- > <u>Design/share and implement incentives/recognition programs</u> that rewards and encourages safe driving.
- Track data through driver score carding system focusing in on unsafe driving behaviors such as speeding, harsh braking etc..
- Give immediate feedback that require meaningful action that can be used by enhancing their knowledge and skills.
- Implement disciplinary and recognize good behaviors in policies with corresponding to the risk posed with violations associated with highconsequence accidents.



Mike Mason
Transportation Manager
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## **Summary**

Follow the FMCSA Safety Management Cycle to develop best industry practices to ensure that you are bringing on Qualified Drivers!









## Question & Answer Session







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## More Questions?



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## Thank you for participating!

Please join us for tomorrow's webcast:

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March 22, 2018

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