

# K & J CONVOY

*A Newsletter for the Drivers of K & J Trucking, Inc.*



Check out Billy Killian's sweet truck (driven for fleet owner John Gacke)! If you want to send in pictures for our newsletter, send them to Carrie at [canderson@kandjtrucking.com](mailto:canderson@kandjtrucking.com).

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

JOE GERRY - 6 (16 YRS)  
LARRY LANGLAND - 6 (11 YRS)  
RANDY RAGATZ - 13 (5 YRS)  
DOC LOVE - 26 (2 YRS)

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

DYLE PARIEN - 2  
COREY EVANS - 4  
JOHN HALL - 10  
MATT JOHNSON - 12  
MIKE ANDACHTER - 12  
ANDY BOESE - 13  
DARRELL DAMM - 13  
JAMES KLIMPLE - 13  
BARRY JENSEN - 14  
ANDY JACOBS - 15  
ZACH SHELTON - 25  
TOM SOULEK - 27  
DARIN HACKETT - 28

## Road Construction

As you know, with summer comes the many not only road construction slowdowns, but official detours.

We've had some late deliveries due to detours, so please please scope out your google maps to look at potential closures on your routes.

We know of a few, including Hwy 15 going into Milbank, and I-40 down in Memphis. The one in Memphis isn't too bad for out of route, but congestion is tough, so plan for that and attempt to avoid peak times.



## Vacation Season is Here

Vacation season is upon us. Please let dispatch know about any vacations or trips you have planned so they can make sure we know what our capacity will be throughout the summer.

## Amarillo Tyson Update

Tyson in Amarillo no longer requires trailers to be released to you. So you may head in, inspect it, grab, and go, unless directed differently by Lisa.

## Truck Maintenance Requests

Please continue to go through Josh to request maintenance or fill out a truck maintenance request slip when you are in the shop. We are just people, so verbal requests can easily get forgotten. Please put it in writing either on a paper form or by using the electronic form on the driver website. If you need help getting onto the driver website, contact Carrie Anderson.

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## ISS Score, CSA Score, and SMS Score Explained

There are several scores that are used in calculating a Motor Carrier's ratings. I want to briefly go over them so you are informed and not overwhelmed.

The CSA (Compliance, Safety & Accountability) scores are what is calculated on each of the inspections. These inspections can be roadside, post accident, or focused like when they check just brake adjustment. These CSA scores are then fed into a formula to calculate a company's SMS (Safety Measurement System) score.

The inspections get funneled into the 7 various basics: Unsafe Driving, Crash Indicator, HOS, Vehicle Maintenance, Controlled Substances and Driver Fitness. These scores are used in assisting an officer in picking who should come into the scales for an inspection when our USDOT number is entered into the program.

The ISS program that assists the officers or helps them decide which vehicles to let by and which to pull in is divided into 3 areas.

- Anyone with an ISS value of 1-49 is a PASS
- 50-74 is OPTIONAL
- 75-100 is INSPECT

When I wore my other hat as Motor Carrier Officer the lowest ISS score that I had ever seen was 23. The lowest that K & J Trucking has ever had has been a 25. We have now crept up to a 31. That is not a good direction to be going. I will quickly go over the reasons that this has started to climb.

1. We are low enough on the ISS rating that we are given the green light on the PrePass to just keep going...YEAH!!!!
2. The only reason that we are getting pulled in for an inspection is because there is something wrong now.....BOOHOO!!!

On one hand it is great that we are so good that we get the green light, it saves time and time is money. The bad thing is the only inspections we are getting are the bad ones which come when there is a speeding, bypass, failure to use seat belt etc.

I know that this goes against the grain of every driver out there, but if you have time and you are confident in your pre and post-trip inspections and the soundness of your equipment, roll in to the scales or the portables and ***ask for an inspection.***

I have heard a few of you say that when you come into the portables up by Dell Rapids or over by Mitchell or out by Cactus Flats the officers just wave you by.... Stop and say, "Hey I know you guys are out here looking to keep the unsafe units off the road but could you find 15 minutes to at least give me a Level 3 inspection? I know that we run good equipment and I would like to keep our good standing in place."

**With wording the request as wanting to keep the good standard high by only asking for 15 minutes of the officers time we should be able to bring our score back down to a 25 or maybe better.**

Just to refresh your memory K & J will pay you for the clean inspections.

- Level 3 is \$50
- Level 2 is \$75
- Level 1 is \$100

I would not broadcast that during the inspection, but nicely thank the officer for their time in helping you keep our score low.

*Jennifer*