

## **May 2006 Safety Meeting**

### **Roadside Emergencies**

Having to stop your propane truck on the side of the road because of some type of emergency is probably not your idea of a good time—not mine either. However, emergencies do happen and as a professional truck driver you must take the appropriate action to stop your vehicle at a safe location and minimize the risk to vehicles passing you. This safety meeting will review some of the most important aspects of roadside emergencies.

#### Class Discussion:

Ask the attendees to list the hazards of having to stop a bobtail or cylinder truck on the highway due to a roadside emergency. Make sure at least the following hazards are discussed:

- Truck contains hazardous material
- Parking spot is probably vulnerable to an accident
- Cannot control passing traffic
- Cannot control ignition sources
- Difficult area to perform repairs
- Impossible to control the total environment around the truck

#### Actions to Take

When you are forced to park your vehicle alongside the roadway because of a breakdown or accident perform the following steps:

1. Activate your emergency flashers at the first sign of problems. Slow down.
2. Find a location well off the highway, if possible, to minimize the possibility of causing an accident.
3. Shut-off the engine.
4. Exit the vehicle (look out for traffic) and place wheel chocks behind and in front of a rear tire on the vehicle's passenger side.
5. Place the reflective warning triangles according to DOT requirements. You should carry 3 reflective triangles on your truck. Note, remember flame-producing flares are not allowed to be used.
6. Carefully inspect the vehicle for propane leaks, repairs leaks if necessary
7. In the event of an accident, assist injured people. Obtain information from other drivers, provide same to them. Do not discuss the accident with any person other than a law enforcement official.
8. Remain at the scene until released by a law enforcement official. From a safe distance, call your office from your cell phone to alert them of your problem. Keep away from traffic but remain with the vehicle until help arrives
9. Do not stop for an accident if you are not involved unless your help is critically needed.

### Class Discussion:

Ask attendees to discuss roadside emergencies and accidents they may have been involved with. Discuss lessons learned and precautions attendees would recommend to others who may encounter such an emergency.

### Summary

Roadside stops and emergencies are serious issues that deserve careful attention by the driver. When possible, pull off onto a side road and get as far as practical from the highway. Secure your truck and stay with it until help arrives. Constantly scan the area for signs of trouble and place yourself in a position to react to approaching hazards. And lastly, remember that a roadside stop, for whatever the reason, is not business-as-usual!

## May 2006 Test

### Roadside Emergencies

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Read and answer each of the following questions. When complete, grade the test and review incorrect answers so each employee is “armed” with the correct answers before they leave the training.

1. It's always a good idea to stop for an accident you pass on a highway.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
2. Flame-producing flares are not acceptable to be used with a propane truck.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
3. How many reflective triangles should a propane truck driver carry? :
  - a. 1
  - b. 2
  - c. 3
  - d. 4
  
4. Discussing the circumstances of your accident to by-standers is a good idea,
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
5. Activating your emergency flashers until you place your reflective triangles is a good idea
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
6. Roadside stops and emergencies are troublesome because,
  - a. Its difficult to control the area around your truck
  - b. Cannot control traffic in area
  - c. You are carrying hazardous material
  - d. All of the above
  
7. Generally its OK to leave the scene of an accident.
  - a. True
  - b. False

## May 2006 Test

### Answer Sheet

1. b.
2. a.
3. c.
4. b.
5. a.
6. d.
7. b.