

	SEMI WINTER TROUBLE	Date:
	TOOLBOX / TAILGATE TALK	Presenter:

SEMI-TRUCK PROBLEMS THAT OCCUR IN WINTERTIME

With the cold and blustery weather that the winter season brings, worn tires, the wrong fuel, and poor maintenance can create mechanical problems for commercial vehicles which could in many cases have been prevented. Here are a few issues that semi-trucks encounter during their winter delivery season.

- **Problematic Tires:** Tires are one of the causes of wintertime semi-truck breakdowns, and this is due to the drop in temperature. As temperatures decrease, this causes the air molecules to slow down, which then results in compressed air. This change in air pressure typically causes tires to deflate, leaving your truck with improperly inflated tires and a greater risk of tire blow-outs, and can also cause premature tire wear.
- **Faulty Electrical Connections:** While road salt, magnesium and calcium chlorides are an effective preventative measure in keeping cars from slipping on icy roadways, these chemicals can corrode your truck's electrical connections. Common issues stemming from these corrosions include faulty headlights and taillights, wire harnesses, and the power cable between the tractor and the trailer. Not to mention issues with your reefer and many other important parts of the trucks which need a stable electric connection to function properly.
- **Windshield Visibility:** There's nothing worse than driving in rain, snow or ice when your windshield wipers or windshield defrost aren't functioning as they should. This piece of your truck is arguably one of the most important safety aspects that affects your driving. If your truck's windshield clearing mechanisms aren't working properly, this could put both yourself and surrounding drivers in danger.
- **Dangerous Roads:** Worn tires become an issue when the roads are covered with snow or ice, this situation can cause a host of dangerous possibilities. Every year, countless semi-trucks get stuck entering on-ramps or end up in ditches when getting onto exit ramps. While these are two common scenarios that occur, there are plenty of others including slipping on black ice, experiencing high winds that blow the trailer around and the increased threat of other cars being affected by the snowy and icy roads.

While all of these dangers can produce unfortunate consequences, there are a few ways in which you can do your part to prevent these events from happening and causing bad results. Whether they will end up keeping you and your truck safe or the drivers around you safe, these are good practices to remember when driving in wintry weather conditions.

Don't skip the Pre-Trip, Complete repairs and maintenance on schedule, Make repairs when needed, Use manufacturer replacement parts, Avoid driving time during bad weather if possible, If you can't see properly – pull over. Are repairs on the roadside by a contractor possible? Use your flares/triangles.

PRINT NAME IN FULL	SIGNATURE
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
11.	
12.	
13.	
14.	
15.	
16.	
17.	
18.	
19.	
20.	
21.	