



# Fort Report



## June 2016

### Honoring Memorial Day

Memorial Day was May 30th and we want to extend a sincere thank you to all those who have or are currently serving in the armed forces. We are all guilty of taking for granted the sacrifices many American Soldiers have made for our freedoms to live in the most amazing country in the world. Many of those who have served did so willingly, they volunteered knowing the risk involved, and knowing they were serving to benefit all of us who have reaped the benefits for many generations. Your efforts are commendable and admirable. Thank you for your service.

### June's Hot Topic - Safety Message

From Jason Eberle, Director of Safety

Roadcheck 2016 will take place on June 7-9th. Many states even start before the 7th with enforcement starting in the previous week. In 2015, approximately 70,000 inspections were performed in these 3 days. This year's focus is TIRE SAFETY.

The first step to a clean inspection is your attitude. How you present yourself to the DOT officer will help in determining the outcome of the inspection. You go in with a bad attitude, and you will be there for a while and end up with an undesirable inspection. Terms such as "Yes Sir" or "No Sir" or "Yes Ma'am" or "No Ma'am" go a long way. Another item to consider is your appearance of your tractor and trailer. If they are clean, you will set a good first impression for the officer. When the officer asks you for the paperwork, it should be in an orderly manner. If you are hauling Haz-Mat, ensure that the paperwork is in the door pocket. Make sure that the paperwork is visible and not in a closed type of a clipboard. In 2015, 777 violations for no seat belts were issued to drivers. Please ensure that you have your seat belts on. They will ask to see your logbook. Make sure that you have the "DOT reference card" that you can give them along with having blank logs in your tractor. These will items that the officers will ask for because it is part of the E-Log regulations. Ensure that you are putting the trailer numbers and bill of lading numbers under the load section of the hours of service.

Once the officer gets done with the paperwork inspection, they will turn their focus to the tractor and trailer for an inspection. Again, the focus this year will be on tires. On pre-trips, ensure that the tires are properly inflated and have the minimum tread depth.  $4/32$  of an inch in the bare minimum for steer tires, and  $2/32$  of an inch for drive and trailer tires. If any adjacent groove of a tire is less than the regulated depth, a tire could be put out of service.

Roadside officers will also be checking all brakes, lights, and windshields. Fort Transfer currently has a total of 74 vehicle maintenance violations. 53 violations are either from brakes (21), lights (14), tires (10), and windshields (8). Ensure that good pre and post trips are being performed. If you notice an item that needs to be corrected, get it corrected before you go out on the road. Get the clutter off of your dashboard. Having items on your dashboard does not give the officer a good sense of professionalism.

I know that Fort Transfer have some of the most professional and safe drivers in the industry. Let's make Road Check 2016 a success.

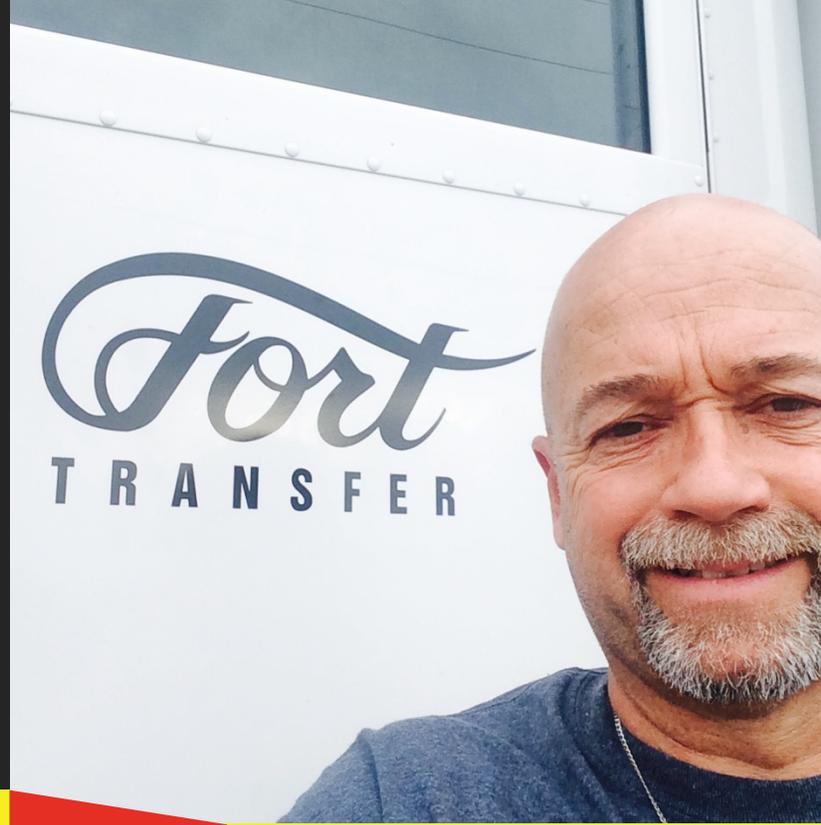
## Driver of the Month-Mike Sibille

**Residence:** LaFayette, LA  
**Family:** Wife - Pennie  
**Drives:** IC Truck #1665

Our featured driver of the month started at Fort Transfer 2 years ago. This driver will haul any load we have, even the flatbed. He always sends in his macro's and paperwork on time and has been nicknamed by the operations team as, "Johnny on the Spot". His customer service and people skills have helped to support and grow many relationships with our existing and new customers. He always is looking for more opportunities for Fort and will give his unfiltered opinion when asked.

He spends his free time with his wife, kids, and grandkids. When he is not on the road, you will find him on a beach in FL soaking up the sun. He said his favorite thing about Fort is the people this includes the drivers he works with, the office people, his Terminal Manager, and even the safety guy.

Please help us in congratulating our April 2016 Driver of the Month, Mike Sibille.



### Fort Family Birthdays

DYLAN BOUDREAUX - 6/2	DENNIS LIKINS - 6/10	MICHELLE SCHWARTZ - 6/21
TERRY PURTELL - 6/4	PHILLIP HARTFIELD - 6/10	APRIL NICKENS - 6/22
DARRYL COOK - 6/5	GREGG SAWICKIS - 6/14	JOE LACOUR - 6/22
TRAVIS COOPER - 6/6	TYLER SCHOEDEL - 6/15	CARLTON MAX - 6/23
ROBERT BAILEY - 6/6	MIKE ANDERSON - 6/16	EDD SCAFIDEL - 6/25
CHRIS TURBERVILLE - 6/6	GREG ROBERT - 6/18	JAMIE SCHAFFER - 6/29
SAM CUTLER - 6/7	WILL TURNBO - 6/19	CHERYL TRACEY - 6/30
SHAWN DUPREE - 6/8	TOM GUZIER - 6/20	SUMMER PERRY - 6/30

### Fort Family Anniversaries

1 YEAR-	PAUL MCLIN	BRYAN MCCABE
	CARLTON MAX	SUMMER PERRY
2 YEARS-	GREG MITCHELL	APRIL NICKENS
3 YEARS-	DAVID ADAMS	
6 YEARS-	BILLY GRAY	
8 YEARS-	MICHAEL HOLLOWELL	
12 YEARS-	SHERRY GAUTREAU	

## Health Tips & Wellness

In a recent Transport Topics, there was an article that stated truck driving is the unhealthiest profession in America. 69% of drivers are obese which is more than double the rest of the population obesity rate of 31%. That means drivers lifespans are 10-15 years less than the rest of America. Contrary to your possible belief, there is something you can do about it: An old Chinese Proverb says "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago, the second best time is now!" Small steps, small changes and build upon them. You can do it!

## Support Staff Updates

We are excited to announce the hiring of our new VP of Sales and Marketing Steve Perryman. He joins us with extensive sales leadership experience and spent most of his career with FedEx. He started on 5/16 and spent his first week on the road visiting the St Gabriel and Nederland terminals. Steve will be working out of his home in the Dallas area. Please welcome Steve on board!

## New Members of the Fort Family

We would like to welcome the following drivers and support team members who started in May.

- Michael Gilchrist, company driver - 5/2/16
- Kizzie Anderson, I/C - 5/3/16
- Tom Nicolaus, I/C - 5/3/16
- Ernest Perkins, I/C - 5/9/16
- Kevin Arnold, I/C - 5/9/16
- Joshua Hurst, company driver - 5/9/16
- Sharon Edwards, I/C - 5/11/16
- Lance Durst, company driver - 5/16/16
- Jack Favors, company driver - 5/16/16
- Quinn Johnson, I/C - 5/16/16
- James Jackson, I/C - 5/16/16
- Brandon Gary, I/C - 5/16/16
- Steve Perryman, VP of Sales and Marketing - 5/16/16
- Dylan Boudreaux, St. Gabriel shop - 5/20/16
- Adam Davis, St. Gabriel shop - 5/27/16
- Logan Webster, Morton shop - 5/23/16 (Welcome back)

