



Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



Towing Safety Message

Driving Tips

Towing involves the interaction of a number of components; the driver, tow vehicle, and trailer. Each of these contributes to the towing experience and safety of the combination. The driver is responsible for selecting the proper tow vehicle and trailer for the load, properly hitching the trailer, properly loading and securing cargo, and properly operating the tow vehicle including operating the combination at the appropriate speed, steering, and braking.

Loading

A properly loaded trailer is much easier to control. The most common reason for losing control of a trailer is improper loading. Review your trailer owner's manual before loading cargo. Every trailer is designed differently and understanding how the trailer was engineered to carry the load is vital for safe trailering.

Cargo

Improperly secured cargo can cause cargo to shift, resulting in trailer sway or additional stress on the trailer and tow vehicle as well as the possibility of losing cargo on the roadway, creating a danger for other drivers. The information below will also touch on compliance with federal safety regulation applicable to commercial operations.

Trailer Maintenance

Regular trailer maintenance is critical to ensuring the longevity of your trailer, as well as making sure you are able to tow to your destination safely. Before towing, make sure your trailer and its many components are in safe working order. Worn or broken trailer parts can cause loss of control and injury may result.