

Please see below information regarding FAST:

New Security Requirements for Commercial Drivers (Licensed in Canada) Hauling Dangerous Goods July 28, 2006

On July 25, 2006, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced its intention to issue regulations requiring drivers licensed in Canada who haul dangerous goods into the United States to have a valid FAST card as of August 10, 2006.

The governments of both Canada and the United States recognize that drivers who are not already FAST-approved will need some time to complete the FAST application process. Therefore, it is expected that U.S. authorities will exercise as much flexibility as possible under U.S. law to enforce the rollout of these regulations.

Here is some additional information, plus a few CBP websites for more information:

July 20, Transportation Security Administration — TSA announces new background check requirement for Hazmat drivers licensed in Canada or Mexico. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has announced that beginning August 10, 2006 drivers licensed in Canada or Mexico to commercially transport hazardous materials will be required to undergo a background check under the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Free and Secure Trade (FAST) program before transporting placarded amounts of hazardous materials (Hazmat) in the United States. The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) requires that, beginning August 10, 2006, commercial drivers licensed in Canada or Mexico may not transport Hazmat, including explosives, within the U.S. unless they have undergone a background check similar to that required for U.S. operators with a Hazmat endorsement. The FAST program is a cooperative effort among the CBP and the governments of Canada and Mexico to coordinate processes for the clearance of commercial shipments at the border. Northern and southern border FAST driver cards are valid at any CBP land border crossing where the technology currently exists.

Information on the application process may be found on the CBP Website:

http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/import/communications_to_trade/advance_info/

For more information see the Hazmat Threat Assessment Program Website:

http://www.tsa.gov/what_we_do/layers/hazmat/editorial_multi_image_with_table_0219.shtm
or call (877) 429-7746.

Source: <http://www.tsa.gov/press>

Further information about these requirements is available on the CBSA web site, at

http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/import/fast/commercial_danger-e.html

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