

Refueling, Seat Belts & Lane Restrictions for CDL Drivers

Safely refueling small equipment and vehicles

- Never transfer fuel near open flame.
- Ground yourself before refueling by touching metal with your bare hand and away from the fuel source. This should dissipate any static electricity build up on your body.
- Always be sure the engine of any vehicle or equipment is off before refueling and that small equipment is cooled down before refueling.
- Never refuel small equipment from the truck bed. Spilled fuel can ignite causing the truck to go up in flames along with the equipment. Refuel equipment from the ground at a safe distance from other equipment or objects.
- Keep the spout or nozzle in contact with the fuel can. As fuel is poured it can generate static electricity that could ignite vapors.

Seat Belt Use

A citation was issued for failing to wear a seat belt while operating a CMV. The seatbelt was worn improperly behind the shoulder.

Michigan law requires vehicle occupants to buckle up. It is also PK Contracting policy that all occupants of any vehicle being used on company business wear seatbelts.

Lane Restrictions for Commercial Drivers

A PK driver recently received a ticket for travelling in the far left lane of a three lane freeway while driving a PK truck.

Michigan Compiled Laws, Chapter 257. Motor Vehicles 257.634.

The driver of a truck with a gross vehicle weight of more than 10,000 pounds, a truck tractor, or a combination of a vehicle and trailer or semitrailer must use the two right lanes on freeways with three or more lanes, except to turn left or where a special hazard exists.

Questions about Tool Talk Topics or other safety items? Contact Kurt Shea at 269-207-2055 or by email at kurt@pkcontracting.com

