



Autumn News Letter 2011

The Drivers CPC is now in its 3rd year so those who have not started yet have 21 hours (3 Days) training to catch up on. We appreciate in these difficult economic times finding the cost of training difficult but be assured costs will go up the nearer we get to 2014 and the demand for places increases. We have set our price at a level that we feel is equitable, we are also prepared to discuss payment terms with Drivers to help if we can so don't be afraid to ask.

AN UPDATE ON THE DRIVER CERTIFICATE OF PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE (CPC)

It has been two years since the Driver Certificate of Professional Competence was introduced and the uptake has been slow with a 30% shortfall to date. It is the Drivers responsibility to obtain the CPC and both individuals and Companies are finding it hard to reconcile the cost of training against earnings and overstretched budgets.

Current reports indicate that there will be a shortfall of hgv drivers with the requisite 35 hours by the deadline in September 2014. The nearer we get to that date the availability of places will reduce and prices will rise as late starters try to make up time, choices will be reduced and finding good quality training at affordable prices will be difficult. Not having the DQ Card after the 14 September 2014 could result in fines of up to £5000, with employers putting their "O" Licence at risk for employing drivers without a card.

There are a number of misconceptions about the Driver CPC:-

1. **It is not required for drivers of vehicles under 7.5tonnes** – Not true; it applies to all drivers with a C1 entitlement so includes all vehicles over 3.5 tonnes.
2. **Drivers working under restricted operator's licence are exempt** – this is only true where the drivers carry materials or equipment on a vehicle to be used by them in the course of their work. An example of this would be a driver taking scaffold poles to a site where he then erects the scaffolding. If however the driver delivers the scaffolding to a site for someone else to erect he would not be exempt. This also covers Drivers delivering "own goods" from manufacturers.
3. **Drivers with Grandfather Rights don't need the CPC** – Not true- the drivers CPC is a requirement for all drivers holding categories C1, C1E, C or CE regardless of how the licence was obtained.

As a Member of the RTITB Consortium, Driver Skills Training provides accredited, quality Master Driver CPC Training throughout the East Midlands.

We pride ourselves in making training relevant to the requirements of our Customers. We attend the sites of a number of Companies providing training that has been modified to meet individual needs or concerns. We have experience in all types of transport both national & international. We would be pleased to meet with anyone wishing to view our products or to discuss developing a customised program.

Contact us at 01773 510357 or 07918697902.
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WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A MORE PROSPEROUS 2012