



INSPECT • TRACK • KNOW

CSA COMPLIANCE CORNER



Focus on the BASICS – Cargo-Related

CSA stands for Compliance, Safety, and Accountability and is the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) centerpiece safety enforcement program. Under CSA's measurement system, seven areas of safety performance are evaluated. These areas include: unsafe driving, fatigue or hours of service compliance, driver fitness, controlled substances and alcohol, vehicle maintenance, cargo security, and crash history.

With CSA, FMCSA and state and local law enforcement have a more accurate and informative picture of the overall safety of a truck or bus company by looking at all the safety violations and grouping them into detailed categories. CSA is about intervening to encourage corrective actions before crashes ever happen.

So how does Zonar help with the BASICS? We have already reviewed Vehicle Maintenance and Unsafe Driving in Compliance Corner Volumes [3](#) and [5](#), next up is the Cargo-Related BASIC. The BASIC addresses:

- Failure to properly prevent shifting loads, spilled or dropped cargo, overloading, and unsafe handling of hazardous materials on a CMV. *Example violations:* Improper load securement, cargo retention, and hazardous material handling. (FMCSR Parts [392](#), [393](#), [397](#) and HM Violations)

How do you know your cargo is secure? Are drivers checking the cargo before they leave? Zonar's patented Electronic Vehicle Inspection Report (EVIR®) along with the CSA Load Check configuration is the key to ensuring your compliance and safety. With the CSA Load Check configuration on your EVIR devices, drivers electronically verify the inspection of the cargo and confirm that it is properly secured and within compliance. Adding the CSA Load Check configuration to your EVIR system will let you know if the load was checked, when it was checked, and if it was in compliance- all in real time!

Zonar is here to help, but what should you do if your safety score is already high? The following resources can assist with improving your Cargo-Related BASIC measure:

- FMCSA's Education & Technical Assistance Program's [A Motor Carrier's Guide to Improving Highway Safety](#), page 88 and 111-118 (HM).
- FMCSA's [Cargo Securement Rules](#).
- FMCSA's [How to Comply with Federal Hazardous Materials Regulations](#).

As a company you are being rated on your driver's performance . not only their driving, but also their diligence in ensuring cargo securement. Remember to address trends and patterns that you find, review your inspection and crash reports data, request corrections as needed, and educate yourself and your employees on the regulations and industry best practices.

If you have questions about CSA, you can email Fred, your Zonar Safety & Compliance expert at: compliance@zonarsystems.com

IT PAYS TO HAVE THE RIGHT FLEET MANAGEMENT PARTNER. »