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**FALL 201**2





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APMA'S PURPOSE

ciation of America.

APMA's primary purpose is to protect and ad vance its members' legislative and regulatory interests in Arizona and Washington, D.C. AP-MA's secondary purpose is to provide members with business and social functions. These in clude an annual conference, workshops, semi

nars and industry speakers. APMA holds two

golf tournaments - one benefitting the APMA

Scholarship Foundation and the other in con-

junction with the annual conference. In addi

tion, APMA holds monthly membership meetings as well as various association committee

meetings. APMA is a member of the Pacific Oil Conference and the Petroleum Marketers Asso

• Encourage members to be actively engaged

in association activities and legislative grass

Encourage members to maintain high busi-

 Advise and educate membership to enable them to run their businesses effectively and

ness ethics and a positive image for the in-

APMA'S OBJECTIVE

the exchange of ideas

profitably

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Lenora Nelson Bennett Oil



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**Executive Director** Amanda Gray

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**2** FALL 2012



Sally Voyles President

#### Message From The President

After spending short periods of time in foreign countries over the vears. I have learned what it means to live in the United States of America. The freedoms we enjoy today, given to us through generations of sacrifice and hard work, grace us with the ability to have free speech, to assemble and to live the lives our parents and grandparents dreamed for us....the kind of life we now work so hard to give our children and grandchildren. It is the traveling abroad that reminds me how lucky we are to be able to be part of an organization like the APMA. It reminds me that when we put our voices together we have the liberty to make them heard.

As American's we are in the midst of what may well be the most impactful election of our generation. As Arizonans, the representatives we choose, both federally and statewide

will have an impact on our industries, our businesses and the future of our children. The decisions we make on Tuesday November 6th, may well decide the course of our country for decades to come.

I hope that you join us in Sedona for Policy, Politics and Petroleum, our annual conference, October 21st -23rd. Join us in discussing the issues that affect our businesses, in exercising the freedom to assemble, to celebrate the liberties bestowed upon us by generations past and to discuss the future for generations to come. Join us to celebrate the great American Gift.... the right to vote, to be counted, to be heard!

See you in Sedona!

Sally Voyles President

#### ECONOMIC FORECAST

Provided by Wells Fargo Bank N.A.

Steven Zakely, CFA® Senior Equity Research Analyst





# Health Care Ruling and Market Implications

QUICK MARKET UPDATE

Today, the U.S. Supreme Court in a 5-4 decision ruled in favor of upholding the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)—the Obama

administration's health care legislation. The constitutionality of two key provisions of the Act—the individual mandate and Medicaid expansion—were essentially upheld in today's ruling, leaving the Act nearly intact. The justifications the justices presented to support their ruling demonstrate how complex the issues were

and how fine the line was between the Act being upheld or overturned. In this Quick Market Update, we review the highlights of today's ruling and discuss

the market implications for preserving the PPACA legislation.

With the entire law being upheld. we believe much of the impact has already been priced into the healthcare sector. Therefore, we do not envision much, if any, change to the sector's earnings based on the ruling. However, we continue to believe that certain areas of the healthcare sector likely will benefit from the law more broadly than others, although perhaps a little less than we originally thought given the fact that individuals are not being forced to buy health insurance and considering that states now have an option to participate in the expansion of Medicaid. The S&P Health Care Sector Index was down modestly lower today, but has climbed more than 10 percent since the law was enacted on March 23, 2010.

Continued on page 14...

# Introducing Amanda Trelstad Gray, APMA's New Executive Director

One of the questions in my initial interview for the APMA Executive Director position was along the lines of, "Why would a lawyer want this job?" In case you are wondering the same thing, I would like to introduce myself by sharing a few of the reasons.

After practicing law as a civil litigator for the City of Minneapolis, I want to use my legal skills to help shape better laws. By furthering the APMA's legislative agenda, I hope to do just that. I am a graduate of the University of St. Thomas Law, a small private school in downtown Minneapolis. Before that, I earned my undergraduate degree from Arizona State University in English. My legal background will enable me to represent the APMA's interests to the state and federal legislatures and to keep you informed about relevant changes to the legal landscape.

Many parts of the APMA organization speak to me, but one in particular is the Scholarship Foundation. I was the recipient of academic scholarships in both college and law school. In my view, students who work hard and achieve academic success merit assistance, particularly given rising tuition costs. I can hardly wait for the

15th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament next spring.

On a more personal note, my husband, Steve, and I both lived in Phoenix when we were growing up. After we got married in Minnesota last fall, we agreed that we wanted to be near our families when we started our family. We decided to come home in May of 2012, trading Minnesota winters for Arizona summers. As it turns out, we moved just in the nick of time because we are expecting our first child in January 2013.

As APMA's new Executive Director, I am thrilled to learn more about the petroleum industry and to work with you all in your various areas of expertise. Please feel free to be in touch; I am eager to meet you if we have not yet and excited to get to know you better if we have. In particular, I would love to know about interesting events at your company to feature in upcoming editions of the AZ Motor Fuel Monitor. Hope to see you at the Annual Conference on October 21-23.

Best Regards,

Amanda T. Gray



Amanda T. Gray
Executive Director

Work and Education History

#### Minneapolis City Attorney's Office – Civil Division

Assistant City Attorney, March 2010 – May 2012 Legal Clerk, September 2007 – March 2010

#### University of St. Thomas School of Law

Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, 2009

#### Arizona State University

Bachelor of Arts, English Literature, summa cum laude, 2006

#### Bar Membership

Georgia – 2009, Minnesota – 2010, Arizona – expected 2012

#### Gas in Diesel Engines

What happens if you inadvertently fill your diesel car with gasoline? Whether you're new to diesel ownership, or might have both diesel and gasoline powered vehicles in your own personal fleet, it can be oh-so-easy to accidentally miss-fuel your diesel tank with gasoline. Filling your fuel tank is such an ordinary and mundane task. that just a moment's inattention can cause you to grab the wrong nozzle and pump away. Bad enough if you realize the mistake right away and can get the car towed to a shop to have the tank drained (an awfully expensive nuisance), but what if you don't even realize the mistake and end up driving away with a tank full of gasoline? Chances are you won't get very far (maybe just a mile or so until the diesel in the fuel line gives way to the fresh batch of gasoline on the way from the tank) and the engine starts to run "funny."

Of course, it all depends on how much diesel remained in the tank before the gasoline was added, and how new and sophisticated the diesel engine is. In a 2007 or newer clean diesel engine, any amount of gasoline will probably damage the sensitive emissions control components (DPF, Oxy-Cat and SCR) and system. In older engines with much less sophisticated and "touchy" emissions systems, a lightly diluted (say 90 percent diesel/10 percent gasoline) mix would probably

pass through with little

or no detriment. It might simply cause reduced engine power, perhaps a bit more noise, and possibly a sharp warning from the emissions sensors that detect something other than pure diesel exhaust. It is high concentrations of gasoline that spell real trouble. Whether a modern clean CRD diesel or an old indirect injection unit; burning straight gasoline or highly diluted diesel fuel will almost certainly result in catastrophic damage to the mighty diesel engine.

Michael DuCharme, Division Manager, O&P Operations Phoenix



#### The Burden of Regulation



Dan Gilligan PMAA President

As the nation begins to focus on the November 2012 elections there has been much written and said about the impact of business regulation on the economy. Many academics and statisticians are often quick to dismiss concerns about regulation. In my discussions with petroleum marketers across the country I know for a fact that federal, state and local regulation is an enormous burden for all businesses big and small. A few weeks ago the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) released some statistics that surprised economists but it did not surprise me. The NFIB report revealed that

business owners now view regulation equal to concerns about the economy and taxation. In earlier studies by NFIB, concerns about the economy and taxation were significantly more of a concern than regulation. But now concerns about regulation equal the other two.

For petroleum marketers with significant operations in convenience stores I know pending regulations about health insurance are an enormous worry to those marketers. If the new healthcare law is not blocked by the Supreme Court or repealed by Congress the consequences to many small businesses will be devastating. Maybe by the time this magazine reaches your desk the Supreme Court will have dealt the new law a fatal blow.

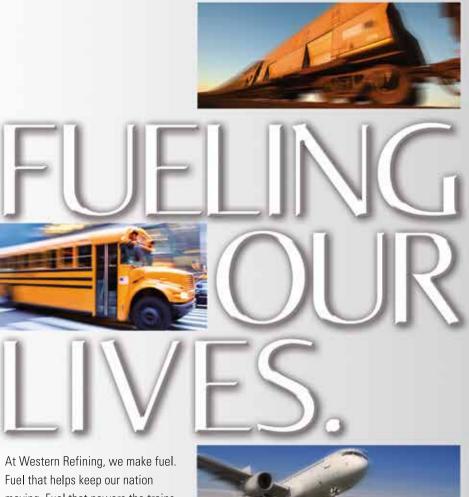
Petroleum marketers are also very concerned about new EPA regulations for underground storage tank owners. PMAA estimated the new regulations would cost the average gas station \$900 per year to comply. PMAA did our own analysis and concluded the cost was closer to \$6000 per year. PMAA members are really questioning how all this additional new cost can be justified. The federal underground storage tank regu-

lations have been very effective in protecting the environment so why is it necessary that such significant revision be pursued. One reason is the regulatory culture of the federal government. The government employs many talented ambitious people at the executive level. In many cases executives are evaluated not only on how well the manage a regulatory program but how aggressively they are pursuing improvements to those regulations. Because of its environmental mission, EPA executives are expected to pursue greater environmental protection. Unfortunately, the big environmental gains achieved early in a program cannot be replicated therefore tiny environmental gains are pursued at an extraordinary cost to the regulated businesses.

PMAA sees this dynamic play out in many of the regulations affecting the petroleum industry. The EPA is pursuing new gasoline standards, ozone standards, greenhouse gas rules, and climate initiatives all with very small environmental benefits and enormous costs. PMAA will continue doing everything possible to oppose excessive regulation and we urge petroleum marketers to remind their elected officials that excessive regulation does stifle economic growth.



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## Locking out, tagging are keys to preventing hazardous energy injuries

Energy sources – including electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic, chemical, thermal or other sources – in machines and equipment can be deadly. It is why locking out and tagging the machines and equipment is necessary to keep employees safe.

Workers servicing or maintaining machines or equipment where the energy source is enabled could be shocked, burned, crushed, cut, amputated or killed.

#### For example:

- A closed steam valve that automatically turns on while workers are repairing it, can burn the employees severely
- A jammed conveyor system that an individual working to unjam it is freed of the obstruction and results in crushing him
- Internal wiring on a piece of factory equipment electrically shorts shocking the employee who is repairing the equipment

At greatest risk from hazardous energy are the estimated 3 million electricians, machine operators and laborers, who service equipment routinely. Failure to control hazardous energy accounts for nearly 10 percent of all the serious accidents in many industries, according to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

OSHA also reports that workers who suffer injuries from hazard-

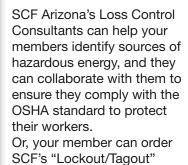
ous energy average 24 days off work to recuperate. But by complying to the standard – Title 29 CFR Part 1910.147 – OSHA estimates 120 fewer people will be killed and more than 50,000 workers will escape hazardous energy-related injuries each year. So what should employers do to reduce the risk? Foremost is to ensure proper lockout/tagout practices and procedures are observed. Here are OSHA's recommendations:

- Develop, implement and enforce an energy control program and procedures
- Use lockout devices for equipment that can be locked out when they are begin repaired or maintained

- sure the lockout devices are durable, standardized and substantial, or the tags are clear
- Be sure all lockout/tagout devices identify the individual who has applied it
- Establish a policy that permits only the employee who applied a lockout/tagout device to remove it
- Inspect energy control procedures annually
- Provide effective training to all employees working in around equipment or machinery that could release hazardous energy, and be sure your lockout/tagout procedures are covered

#### **Employee training should cover:**

- The employer's energy control program
- Elements of the energy control program that are relevant to the employee's duties or assignment
- Various requirements of the OSHA standards related to lockout/tagout



safety insert card by visiting the website, scfaz.com.



- Develop, implement and enforce an effective tagout program if machines or equipment are not capable of being locked out
- If lockout devices are not available, use tags to alert employees when equipment or machinery is being repaired or maintained
- Ensure that new or overhauled equipment is capable of being locked out
- Only use the lockout/tagout devices that are authorized for the specific equipment or machinery and make

SCF Arizona is the state's largest workers' compensation insurer, providing coverage to nearly 25,000 policyholders and their employees statewide. SCF has operated in Arizona for more than 87 years and holds in excess of \$3.4 billion in assets. Based in Phoenix SCF, has a statewide presence. For more information about SCF Arizona, visit scfaz. com. Follow @SCFArizona on Twitter and like us on Facebook.

#### APMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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#### Sunday, October 21st

3:00pm APMA Board Meeting - Manzanita Board Room

Registration - Agave Ball Room (Terrace) 2:00 - 4:00pm

Welcome Bags to the first 100 Registrants

Welcome Cocktail Reception / Hors d'oeuvres – Village Terrace 4:00 – 6:00pm

#### Monday, October 22nd

8:00 am **Registration**- Agave Ball Room (Terrace)

Breakfast - Agave Ball Room 8:30 am

9:00-9:30 am **Brian Wiegert** – Vice President, PMMIC Insurance

"Compliance & Procedures – What to catch before you're caught!"

Ruthann Laswick - Blue Water Benefits Consulting LLC "Health Care update" 9:45-10:15am

10:30-11:15am Rick Conlow - WCW Partners "We develop the capability in you."

Good Boss, Bad Boss - Which One Are You? How Good Can You Be? Achieving

Peak Personal Performance

11:30am Lunch

12:00 - 1:00pm Ken Bennett - Arizona Secretary of State

Dan Gilligan - President PMAA 1:15 - 2:15pm

"Election 2012, What Is At Stake for Petroleum Marketers"

5:30-7:00pm Cocktail Reception & Silent Auction - Village Terrace

6:30-7:00pm **PYROKLECTIC (fire dancers)** – Village Terrace

7:00-9:00pm Dinner

Key Note Speakers:

Jeffrey S. Beyersdorfer - Western Refining Senior Vice President, Treasurer Director of Investor Relations Catherine Reheis-Boyd – Western States Petroleum Association

#### Tuesday, October 23

8:30-9:45am Golf Registration - Seven Canyons, Exclusive Private Golf Course

Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Doughnuts, Yogurt

10:00am Tee Off / Golf Tournament

Shotgun start

Pink Jeep Tour in Sedona for non-golfers 11:00am

**Ancient Ruins Tour** 

Lunch, Golf Awards - Seven Canyons - Patio 2:15 pm

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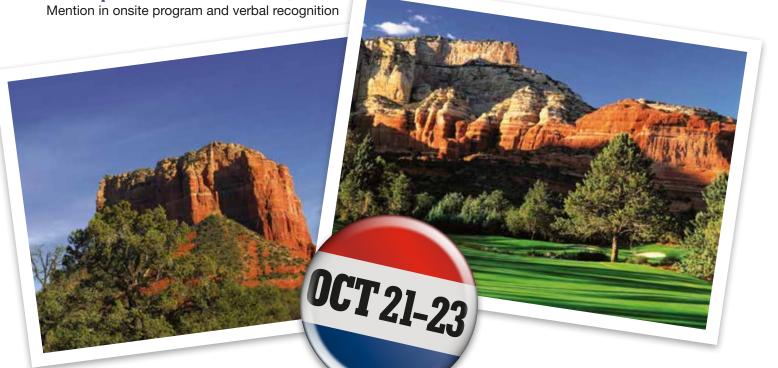
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Program/posters. (2 available)

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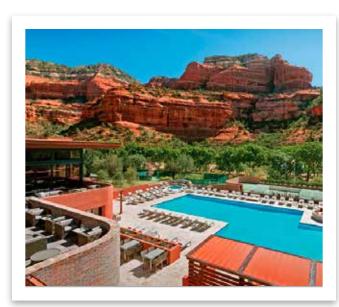
Room rates do not include tax and a one time porterage fee of \$12 per person

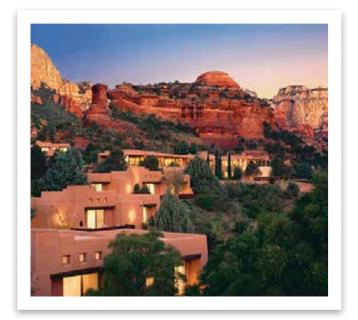
If you wish to extend your stay, some rooms are available 2 days before and after the conference.

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Please make your reservation by October 17th to guarantee availability and avoid rate increase. Rate is not available online.





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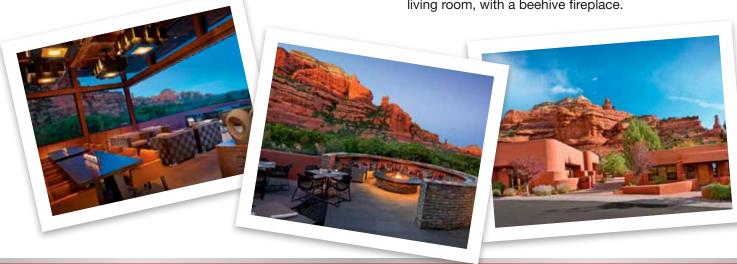
Provides 600 square feet of living area with a fireplace, queen pull down bed, full bath, kitchenette with dining area for four and a gas grill to accommodate outdoor dining on the deck.

#### CASITA IR. SUITE

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#### CASITA SUITE

This combines a king or 2 queen bedded Casita Guest Room with 600 square foot Casita Studio. Features a living room, with a beehive fireplace.



#### MARKET UPDATE

Continued from page 4

#### Details of the Supreme Court Ruling

Following their review of the individual mandate, the justices ruled that Congress does not have the power to force consumers to buy

health insurance. The ruling specifically stated that "the individual mandate was not a valid exercise of Congress's power under the Commerce Clause and the Necessary and Proper Clause." However, they did agree that the individual mandate could be upheld based on Congress' taxing authority granted under the U.S. Constitution. Specifically, the Supreme Court viewed the "shared responsibility payment" of the Act, for constitutional purposes, may be viewed as a tax. And that "the payment is not so high that there is really no choice but to buy health insurance; the payment is not limited to willful violations, as penalties for unlawful acts often are; and the payment is collected solely by the IRS through the normal means of taxation." Essentially the court is saying that Congress cannot force in-

dividuals to buy health insurance, but Investment Implications it does have the authority to tax individuals who chose not to purchase it. This justification may appear to some market watchers as splitting hairs.

There was a similar splitting of hairs in the Court's decision to uphold the expansion of Medicaid within the Act. Under PPACA. the Secretary of Health and Human Services was granted the authority to penalize states that chose not to participate in the Medicaid expansion by withholding their existing Medicaid funding. It was this provision that the justices determined violated the Constitution and ran counter to the nation's system of federalism. They determined that this violation could be remedied by precluding the

In our view, many companies that focus on reducing costs in the healthcare system likely will benefit in the longer-term. However, we believe the potential impact for industries within the healthcare sector is mixed:

Secretary from withdrawing existing

Medicaid funds for failure to com-

ply with the requirements set out

in the expansion. In short, through

PPACA the Secretary could choose

to withhold new funds for any state

that chose not to participate in the

expansion, but could not withdraw

existing Medicaid funds from those

The Health Care Sector has risen

nearly 14 percent since the PPACA

that chose not to participate.

was signed into law.

- Generic Drug makers will probably fair well under the ruling since their business models typically focus on saving consumers money with reasonably-priced drug alternatives.
- Medical Device's and Healthcare Technology may benefit from increased coverage but likely will not be a primary beneficiary from the legislation itself. The medical device

■ The Biotech industry will not come out of this completely unscathed, as Pharma won a 12-year window on biosimilars - officially approved versions of biopharmaceutical products made by a different sponsor once an innovator's patent expires. Nevertheless, maintaining exposure to the group offers an effective way for investors to diversify healthcare hold-

market faces an excise tax to help

fund the reform package beginning

in 2013. We believe that a premium

will be placed on those device and

technology companies which dem-

onstrate a capacity to take market

be the key strategic factors.

**S&P Health Care Sector Performance** 

share. Execution and innovation will

■ Drug-Makers and Insurers could be the primary beneficiaries from the legislation. Drug-Makers simply stand to gain volume as more people purchase insurance. Unfortunately, drug companies will have to provide money to cover half of the donut-hole gap in Medicare Part D drug cover-

ings in the long-term.

age. Furthermore, drug companies must contribute \$84 billion over 10 vears to help fund the health care legislation. Importantly, drug companies started "paying-out" taxes in 2011, but will not receive the benefit from increased volume until around 2014.

■ In terms of Managed Care, companies that have a strong Medicaid business should benefit from the impact that expanded coverage will have on their top line (15 million of the 32 million people who will become covered will be new Medicaid participants, expanding coverage to all Americans with income up to 133 percent of federal poverty level). Unfortunately, the Medicaid expansion will not become effective until 2014.

■ While large Pharma, Labs, and Medicaid HMO's as well as Hospitals and possibly Medical Technology are the most likely beneficiaries in the long term, we believe benefits will be partially offset by budget cuts which may remain intact despite today's rulina.

The law could be a focus for the new Congress next year, which may mean delaying implementation beyond 2014 to help reduce the deficit. Positive employment figures would provide a tailwind that could create upside to current market expectations and drive equity markets higher. Nonetheless, now that the Supreme Court has upheld PPACA, investors likely will turn their attention to the upcoming presidential election, which presents its own set of uncertainties and could potentially limit

potential upside in the healthcare sector in the near-term. Today's Supreme Court ruling is just

the first of many issues that we expect to gain clarity on in the coming months. New information on monetary policy, fiscal policy, elections, economic growth and the Eurozone debt crisis likely will impact market volatility levels in the near-term, but, at the same time, could present attractive buying opportunities for longer-term investors. Today's ruling has no impact on our overall economic and market outlook, and we continue to recommend that investors remain fully invested in a globally diversified portfolio including exposure to the four major asset groups (equities, fixed income, real assets and complementary strategies). 🜣





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#### **CUSTOMER TESTIMONIALS**

Downs Energy - Mike Downs, President Downs Energy stated "Their [KAG's] size, safety record and that their core business is the delivery of fuels made them an excellent partner, while we focused on the marketing side". Further he stated "it was almost seamless, with the same drivers, same trucks and same dispatcher. There was no interruption, and it was the same team who would continue to successfully serve our customers".

Coast Oil Co - Mark Mitchell, Owner of Coast Oil Company emphasizes "We're not in the fuel delivery business. We're in the marketing and sales business and we're good at it, so it made sense to focus on what we do best and join together with someone who is the best at what they do. This will help us remain even more competitive in what is probably the most volatile fuel area in the United States".

#### Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Comprehensive Safety Analysis



Jeana Hysell, MS, CDS Motor Carrier Safety Consultant & Transportation Professional Safety Compliance Professionals LLC Comprehensive Safety Analysis (CSA) is a major Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Agency's compliance and enforcement programs. Its goal is to achieve a greater reduction in large truck and bus crashes, injuries, and fatalities, while maximizing the resources of FMCSA and its State partners.

There are four major elements to CSA 2010 – measurement, intervention, safety evaluation, and information technology - COMPASS. The attached graphic illustrates how these would interact under CSA 2010. Measurement System – The measurement system would group the safety performance data of motor carriers and drivers into seven categories, called BASICs – Behavioral Analysis Safety Improvement Categories. The seven BASICs are: (1) Unsafe Driving, (2) Fatigued Driving, (3) Driver Fitness, (4) Controlled Substances/Alcohol, (5) Vehicle Maintenance, (6) Improper Loading/Cargo, and (7) Crash Indicator. The data would be scored and weighted based on its relationship to crash causation. Based on a carrier's score within each BASIC, the measurement system would trigger when the Agency should begin to intervene with a motor carrier, and when its performance has reached the proposed "unfit" threshold.



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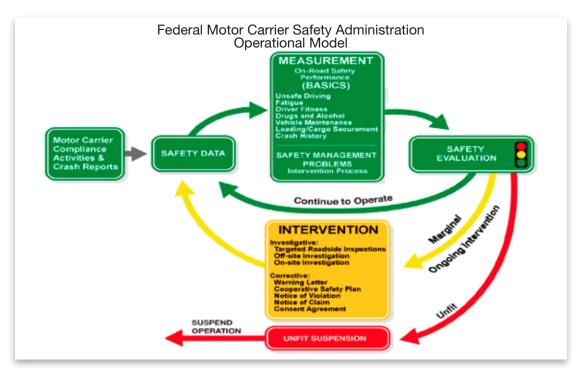
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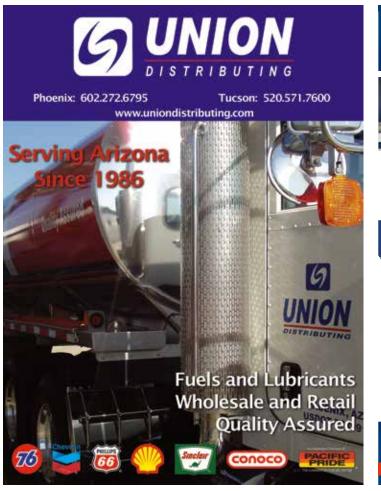


#### **CSA BASICs:**

■ Unsafe Driving — Operation of commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) by drivers in a dangerous or careless manner. Example violations: Speeding, reckless driving, improper lane change, and inattention. (FMCSR Parts 392 and 397)

■ Fatigued Driving (Hours-of-Service) — Operation of CMVs by drivers who are ill, fatigued, or in non-compliance with the Hours-of-Service (HOS) regulations. This BA-SIC includes violations of regulations pertaining to logbooks as they

relate to HOS requirements and the management of CMV driver fatigue. Example violations: Exceeding HOS, maintaining an incomplete or inaccurate logbook, and operating a CMV while ill or fatigued. (FMCSR Parts 392 and 395) **Continued on page 19** 







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■ Driver Fitness — Operation of CMVs by drivers who are unfit to operate a CMV due to lack of training, experience, or medical qualifications. Example violations: Failure to have a valid and appropriate commercial driver's license (CDL) and being medically unqualified to operate a CMV. (FMCSR Parts 383 and 391)

#### ■ Controlled Substances/Alcohol

- Operation of CMVs by drivers who are impaired due to alcohol, illegal drugs, and misuse of prescription or over-the-counter medications.
   Example violations: Use or possession of controlled substances/alcohol. (FMCSR Parts 382 and 392)
- Vehicle Maintenance Failure to properly maintain a CMV. Example violations: Brakes, lights, and other mechanical defects, and failure to make required repairs. (FMCSR Parts 393 and 396)
- Cargo-Related 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. (FMC-SR Parts 392, 393, 397 and HM Violations)

■ Crash Indicator — Histories or patterns of high crash involvement, including frequency and severity. It is based on information from State-

reported crashes.

A carrier's measurement for each BASIC depends on the following:

- The number of adverse safety events (violations related to that BA-SIC or crashes)
- The severity of violations or crashes
- When the adverse safety events occurred (more recent events are weighted more heavily).

After a measurement is determined, the carrier is then placed in a peer group (e.g., other carriers with similar numbers of inspections). Percentiles from 0 to 100 are then determined by comparing the BASIC measurements of the carrier to the measurements of other carriers in the peer group. A percentile 100 indicates the worst performance.

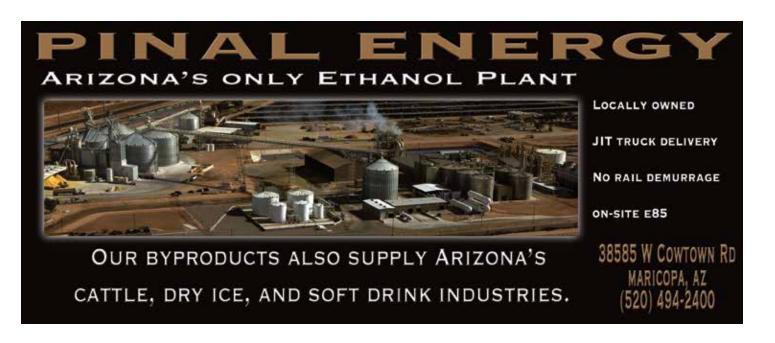
Intervention – Once the measurement system signals the need to intervene, CSA 2010 would draw upon a broad array of progressive interventions that are designed to advise the motor carrier or driver that their safety performance has come to the government's attention. These steps are meant to improve unsafe behavior early. These include:

- Warning Letter
- Cooperative Safety Plan

- Targeted Roadside Inspection
- Notice of Violation
- Off-Site Investigation
- On-Site Investigation Comprehensive
- On-Site Investigation Focused
- Notice of Claim/Settlement Agreement

Safety Evaluation – Safety fitness determination would be based on performance data processed through the measurement system, and would not necessarily be tied to the current FMCSA compliance review. Depending on the motor carrier's BASIC scores, the safety fitness determination could be "continue to operate," "marginal" (with ongoing intervention), or proposed "unfit." Each motor carrier or driver for which there is sufficient data would receive a safety fitness determination that would be updated every 30 days.

aligned with COMPASS, an FMCSA-wide initiative that is leveraging new technology to transform the way that FMCSA does business. By optimizing FMCSA business processes and improving the Agency's IT functionality, COMPASS will help FMCSA and State enforcement personnel make better decisions, identify high-risk carriers and drivers more effectively, and apply a wider range of interventions to correct high-risk behavior early. ❖



#### Commercial property/ casualty prices continue to rise: Survey

Brian Cook Northpointe Insurance

Commercial property/casualty insurance prices continued their upward trend, increasing an average of 4.3% in the second quarter, according to Council of Insurance Agents & Brokers quarterly Commercial P/C Market Index Survey released Tuesday.

Midsize accounts experienced the largest increase at 4.9%, while small accounts increased by 4.3% and large accounts by 3.7%, according to the survey.

"There's no doubt it was a tougher market for buyers the last three months than the quarter before," said Council President and CEO Ken A. Crerar in a statement announcing the results. "Rates continued to climb as insurers tightened reins on underwriting. More business was being pushed into the surplus lines market as carriers pulled back on capacity, particularly for catastrophe exposures."



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A new committee for our publication is being formed. We are seeking members. Email susie@pioneerdistributing.com.

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