

- States that got their official start in January: Alaska (1959), Utah (1896), New Mexico (1912) and Kansas (1861)
- On Jan. 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation
- The first U.S. presidential election was held on Jan. 7, 1789
- Martin Luther King, Jr., American civil rights leader, was born on Jan. 15, 1929
- The Cullinan diamond, the world's largest, was found on Jan. 26, 1905; it weighed 3106.75 carats
- Thomas Edison was granted the first patent for his incandescent light on Jan. 27, 1880
- The U.S. Space Shuttle Challenger exploded in space, killing all seven crew members, on January 28, 1986
- Adolf Hitler was named chancellor of Germany on Jan. 30, 1933, ushering in one of the world's darkest times

Driving to Success

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FMCSA Cracks Down on Fine Objections

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) says if you pay the fine, you're admitting guilt.

Earlier this month, the agency amended its rules of practice regarding proceedings, clarifying that those who pay the full proposed civil penalty in an enforcement proceeding – either in response to a Notice of Claim (NOC) or later in the proceeding, are admitting guilt. Previously, respondents have tried to avoid an admission of liability for violations by en-

tering a written objection when paying the fine.

"Payment waives respondent's opportunity to further contest the claim, and will result in the Notice of Claim becoming the Final Agency Order," the FMCSA notice read.

The FMCSA also says it will better monitor companies that go out of business. It is establishing procedures for issuing out-of-service orders to motor carriers, intermodal equipment providers, brokers and freight forwarders it

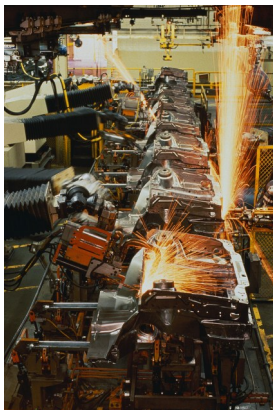


determines are simply "reincarnations of other entities with a history of failing to comply with statutory or regulatory requirements." Companies in this category would be entitled to an administrative review before being shut down.

The agency also will consolidate the records of reincarnated companies with their predecessor entities in its files and archives.

Research Firm: Truck Orders Climbed in 2011

While the final numbers won't be released until later this month, ACT Research Co., LLC, in Columbus, Indiana, said the number of Class 8 commercial vehicle orders for December likely will approach 30,100 units. That brings the total number of class 8 vehicles ordered and/or sold to more than 305,000 for the calendar year, compared to just over 181,000 for 2010, according to the research firm.



That's good news for the industry, as it continues showing strong growth in a flat economy. Part of the increase in orders was contributed to a tax break that expired on December 31. It allowed buyers to write off the cost of capital purchases in the calendar year in which the purchase was made.

Natural Gas Highway May Soon Be Reality



By the end of the year, America may have in place many stops along a “Natural Gas Highway,” according to Clean Energy Fuels Corp., of Seal Beach, Calif.,

which earlier this month unveiled the route plan for the first phase of 150 new liquid natural gas (LNG) fueling stations.

Clean Energy, which provides natural gas fuel for transportation in North America, has identified 98 locations and anticipates having 70 stations open by the end of this calendar year in 33 states.

Many of the fueling stations will be co-located at Pilot-Flying J Travel Centers already serving goods movement trucking through an exclusive agreement

(Continued on Page 4)

Nationwide Diesel Prices

We’ve rung in a new year, but as the ball dropped in New York’s Time Square, fuel prices did not likewise drop.

U.S. average diesel prices for the week of January 9 were \$3.828 per gallon (including all taxes). That was up just over four cents from the prior week, and almost 50 cents per gallon over the price per gallon one year ago.

Prices rose week-over-week, on average, in every U.S. region, as illustrated in the chart.

The chart to the left lists average prices in each region as well as week-to-week and year-to-year changes.



REGION	WEEK OF Jan 9	DIFFERENCE FROM LAST WEEK	DIFFERENCE FROM ONE YEAR AGO
East Coast	3.908	+0.064	+0.544
New England	4.029	+0.056	+0.579
Central Atlantic	3.996	+0.064	+0.518
Lower Atlantic	3.820	+0.066	+0.512
Midwest	3.717	+0.034	+0.415
Gulf Coast	3.750	+0.041	+0.466
Rocky Mountain	3.843	+0.007	+0.509
West Coast	4.026	+0.047	+0.581
West Coast less Calif.	3.927	+0.027	NA
California	4.111	+0.065	+0.595

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

ANGH (continued from Page 3)

with Pilot to build, own and operate natural gas fueling facilities at agreed-upon travel centers. Pilot-Flying J has more than 550 locations in 47 states.

The initial segments of



“America’s Natural Gas Highway,” or ANGH, include those linking San Diego-Los Angeles-Riverside-Las Vegas; the Texas

Triangle (Houston-San Antonio-Dallas/Ft. Worth); Los Angeles-Dallas; Houston-Chicago; Chicago-Atlanta; and a network of stations

along major highways in the mid-west region (IL, IN, OH, MO, KY, TN, KS, OK, AL) to serve the heavy trucking traffic in the area.

Scheduled for completion during 2012 and 2013, the 150 first-phase stations coincide with the expected arrival of new natural gas truck engines well suited for heavy-duty, over-the-road trucking. Engine manufacturers and original equipment truck manufacturers such as Cummins-Westport, Kenworth, Peterbilt, Navistar, Freightliner and Caterpillar are ex-

pected to have Class-8 trucks available in engine sizes allowing for varied road and driving requirements.

“We are moving quickly to build this important network in order to support the new trucks,” said Andrew J. Littlefair, Clean Energy’s President and CEO. “Already, Clean Energy has engaged over 100 shippers, private fleets and for-hire carriers that have shared their operations to qualify the economic opportunity of operating natural gas trucks, which has helped us, in turn, plan the first phase of the natural gas fueling highway.”

Littlefair noted that the ANGH stations are in addition to the station building planned for the company’s traditional markets in transit, refuse, airport/taxi/shuttle and local/regional trucking, which activity accounted for 63 station projects in 2011.

Currently priced up to \$1.50 per gallon lower than diesel or gasoline (depending upon local markets), the use of natural gas fuel reduces costs significantly for vehicle and fleet owners, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions approximately 23% in medium to heavy-duty vehicles.

Additionally, natural gas is a secure North American energy source with 98% of the natural gas consumed produced in the U.S. and Canada.

Natural Gas is about \$1.50 lower per gallon than diesel, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions approximately 23% in heavy-duty vehicles..