

**Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee (MCSAC)
Task Statement**

Task #07-04

I. TASK TITLE

Employer Notification Service (ENS)

II. BACKGROUND

The Employer Notification Service (ENS) is a system that will notify employers of any events that affect the driving status of the CDL holder (including CDL withdrawals for any reason) and can be implemented through a variety of systems approaches. ENS systems may provide opportunities for employers to take action against drivers in advance to reduce high-risk driver behavior.

III. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Existing FMCSA regulatory requirements place the burden for obtaining driver history on motor carrier employers and rely on drivers to voluntarily notify their employers of convictions for any traffic violations that occur while they are driving either commercial or personal vehicles. Because of the problems associated with drivers not reporting violations to their employers, some States have instituted ENS programs, where the States proactively send updates to a driver's record to the employing motor carriers. In this way, carriers have better safety data to manage their drivers. Analysis of current State ENS programs is providing a basis for assessing how well these programs work. FMCSA safety research has shown that truck and bus drivers with past convictions and the companies that hire them are at a statistically significant higher risk for future commercial vehicle crashes.

IV. TASK

The Committee should:

- a) examine the feasibility of establishing a National ENS, to include institutional barriers and privacy concerns; and,
- b) examine potential incentives to States to promote its use, including authorization to provide grants to States to implement a National ENS.

V. ESTIMATED TIME TO COMPLETE TASK

The Committee should submit a report to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration outlining findings and recommendations at the December 2007 Committee meeting.

VI. FMCSA TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVE

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Attachment:

Driver Violation Notification Service Feasibility Study, July 2005