



NTSB National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Highway Safety

Motor Carrier Operations

Frontline Transportation Co.

- Owned of truck tractor that rear-ended specialty bus
- For-hire carrier of general freight, intermodal containers
- 14 drivers, 14 truck tractors
- 20 leased semitrailers

Frontline Transportation Co.

- Postaccident (October 2003) compliance review rating “Unsatisfactory”
- \$11,496 in fines assessed
- Failure to pay fines
- Out-of-service order June 2004

Intermodal Operations



Source: Illinois State Police

Intermodal Operations



- China Ocean Shipping (COSCO) owned container
- Trac Leasing Company owned accident semitrailer
- Trac leased semi-trailer to COSCO

- COSCO contracted with Frontline Transportation Co.

Intermodal Operations

- Chassis trailer maintenance problem
- Owners not registered motor carriers
- No FMCSA oversight
- Inspection required only once per year
- Brake usage between inspections can result in out-of-adjustment

Intermodal Operations

- Accident semitrailer brakes defective
- Motor carrier is not vehicle owner
- FMCSA roadside inspections hold motor carrier responsible, not vehicle owner

SAFETEA-LU

- **Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy For Users** enacted August 2005
- Vehicle owner or provider responsible
 - Systematic inspection, maintenance, repair
 - System of record keeping
- Now FMCSA oversight

Leisure Pursuit Charters

- 1989 as interstate passenger carrier
- 6 buses, 13 drivers
- After September 11, 2001, business dropped
- Reduced insurance coverage from \$5 million to \$1.5 million

Operating Authority Revocation

- January 2002 FMCSA notification letter
- Interstate operating authority revoked
- 8 interstate trips in 2002
- Operating interstate without authority

Leisure Pursuit Charters

- Postaccident FMCSA compliance review “Conditional” rating
- Fines assessed at \$4,480
- Company paid fines, out of business

Interstate Operations

- Detection of passenger carriers operating without interstate authority
- Discovered by roadside inspection
- SAFETEA-LU prohibits roadside inspections
- Limited to “planned stop” locations

Interstate Operations

- FMCSA only sends revocation letter, no followup
- FMCSA lists carrier as out-of-service
- Carriers can continue operations without oversight



NTSB