



## Drivers: Being More Professional

A truck driver is somebody with unique skills. They can back into spaces most drivers could not. They drive on roads that were designed for a horse and buggy. They can maneuver a warehouse on wheels through city traffic. Truck drivers are truly unique individuals with the unique ability to handle a large vehicle while dealing with a tremendous amount of stress. But that does not always make them a “*professional*” truck driver.

### *Tips on Being More Professional –*

\* **Arrive on time.** Being late for a delivery is not only a bad reflection on the driver, but also on the company. Communicate any circumstance that may cause you to be late to dispatch. Being on time also means not being too early. Appointments are scheduled for a reason.

\* **Watch your hygiene and wear clean clothes.** Drivers may be alone for many hours, not seeing another person, but that is no excuse for poor hygiene. Often times at night truck stops are full of trucks, but the showers and washing machines are empty. Your personal hygiene is one of the few things you can control on the road.

\* **Smile and introduce yourself.** Although it may not always be easy, try to put a smile on your face ... smiles are contagious. When we introduce ourselves and meet someone properly, we tend to treat one another better.

\* **Leave your ego at home.** All truck drivers have their ‘moments’ on the road. But don’t try to teach people a lesson by honking, tailgating or blocking the flow of traffic. A “*professional*” driver simply goes about their business and never drives with their emotions.

\* **Be a safe driver.** Doing what is safe, is what being professional is all about. Remember your basic safety rules and remain calm. As a “*professional*” driver, part of your job to protect the public by practicing safe driving skills.



In addition to the tips above, it is also important to get enough sleep, eat right and exercise and make your time at home quality time with family. If you do these things, you will be a much happier driver and will suffer far less stress, which will lead you down the road to being a true “*professional*” truck driver.

We need to make a concerted effort to improve on our on-time pickups and deliveries.

Please be “PROFESSIONAL” ... pickup and deliver your loads on time. Thank you!



I have read and understand the above information regarding “Drivers: Being More Professional”.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



*Mike Columbus*

... is the lucky winner of the gift card this month for turning in his signed newsletter.