

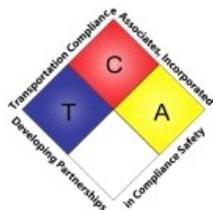
Transportation Compliance Associates Inc.

Developing Partnerships In Compliance Safety

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In this Edition:

Corporate Announcement

PHMSA Opportunity

Reviewing Regulations

and more!



Founder's Spotlight

TCA's team has more than 300 years of hands-on industry experience. Our professionals have distinguished reputations in the industry and are dedicated to serving our clients. This makes us unique and allows us to customize our services. Our work would not be possible without the vision and experience of our founders. **This month, meet Karen Alston, TCA's President and co-founder.**

Q: What is your role at TCA?

A: My role is overseeing TCA's daily operations, which currently include customized data management projects, hazardous materials classification systems for our e-retail and industry clients, electronic based training programs offered online or in Learning Management Systems, and the ever present administrative duties. Owning a small business requires you wear many hats throughout the day.

News & Views

August 2013

Dear Friends -

I am pleased to share this newsletter with you. This month, there are a few special announcements we have to share with you. In efforts to better serve our clients, we recently embarked on a collaboration with an environmental consulting and engineering firm. We think our collaboration will be beneficial to our clients - offering more solutions for their challenges. Read on in the newsletter for more information on this exciting announcement. It was also recently brought to our attention that the PHMSA began a pilot program to test how effective electronic hazard communication can be for companies just like yours. In addition to this, we recently received some requests in our office for assistance with trade compliance. Complying with international regulations has become a focus for many businesses - large, small, and mid-sized. In this edition, you will find some key benefits of trade compliance.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our news and insight with you. We hope you find each article interesting and beneficial. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, comments, or concerns. We are happy to serve you.

Your Partner in Compliance Safety,
Karen Alston
President
Transportation Compliance Associates, Inc.

Corporate Collaboration: Working Together for You

[Transportation Compliance Associates, Inc.](#) is pleased to announce a collaborative teaming arrangement with the environmental consulting and engineering firm, [SE Technologies, LLC](#). TCA plans to work with SE Technologies to provide a broad range of environmental and compliance services to those in the oil and gas, energy, manufacturing, and rail industries.

Both companies have experienced recent success in working with clients facing environmental and compliance challenges. The collaboration allows TCA and SE Technologies to expand their services and offer additional solutions for their clients. By collaborating with SE Technologies, TCA can offer expansive environmental support for members of the natural gas, industrial, and manufacturing communities. "I am excited about working with SE Technologies, especially with their leadership role and their outstanding reputation in environmental consulting," said Jack Alston, who leads TCA's Business Development.

"By combining the expertise and TCA and SE Technologies' suite of services, together we can address environmental, engineering, and hazardous materials transportation needs to take projects from concept to completion," said Jerry DeRosa of SE Technologies.

"At TCA, we always welcome diverse backgrounds," explained Mike Alston, TCA's Vice President of Operations. "With the need for

Q: What is your educational background?

A: I have a two year technical degree in Robotics and majored in Computer Science at Robert Morris University.

Q: What is your background in the industry?

A: I worked twenty-three years for Ashland Inc., and its predecessor Aristech Chemical Corporation. The majority of those years were spent in production planning. My responsibilities included scheduling plant production, ordering raw materials to meet production and sales demands, and establishing and monitoring inventory levels. Additional responsibilities included overseeing the transport by truck, rail and barge of raw materials and finished product in order to support our terminal operations that supplied other Ashland Inc. facilities.

Q: Elaborate on the projects you help TCA undertake:

A: I managed the Internet Retailer project for its initial two and a half years. During that time our IT Department developed a data management system that allowed our team of Classifiers to process more than 60 million products in our current of four retail projects alone. Since that time I stay involved in the project development for TCA's customized solutions to our clients' needs.

Q: Why did you decide to form TCA?

A: Over the years, we developed our skills and careers – which led to a passion for what we do. Mike and I knew that there was a need for our talent, and when the opportunity arose, we seized that. To bring our experiences to our own business and make a difference is something I am very proud to say we accomplished. We aim to do that every day as we continue to grow.

The Clock is Ticking...

4 Months Left to Learn GHS



Looking for a simple & effective way to train your

regulatory and environmental expertise, especially in the oil and gas industry booming in our own back yard, two companies working together is not only a great opportunity but also indicative of the diverse needs that others have for our experience."

SE Technologies is a privately held company, supporting clients in the tri-state area and nationally. Their sister companies include: CSD Engineers, TEK Construction Services, Sargent Electric, and Loftus Engineers.

Seize the Moment: HazCom Pilot Program



The PHMSA recently announced the beginning of a pilot program in conjunction with the "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act" (MAP). The purpose of the pilot program is to test the effectiveness of using paperless Hazard Communication Systems.

They are currently accepting volunteers interested in participating in the pilot program to test electronic systems for hazard communication.

Since 2007, the PHMSA has shown interest in a paperless system, with the hopes that it will help foster a good relationship between transportation and regulatory agencies. The PHMSA wants to continue to promote safe and efficient practices that are also cost effective.

If you are interested in learning more about the program, you may contact the PHMSA [here](#). Interested parties must submit their comments or inquiries by September 17, 2013.

FRA Revisits Regs

Earlier this summer a Montreal, Main, and Atlantic Railway train with 72 tank cars carrying crude oil derailed in eastern Quebec – causing devastation, death, and destruction to the town of Lac-Mégantic.

According to reports, the train's breaks disengaged after a mandatory rest stop. Upon the break disengagement, the train continued on the track for over an hour before hitting the tourist town.

The Canadian Transportation Safety Board is investigating the accident. Other transportation officials are re-evaluating their trains and safety protocols. U.S. Federal Railroad Administration is scheduled to inspect the rail tracks in the state of Maine beginning next week. However, the FRA does not have jurisdiction outside the United States. As large volumes of crude oil are transported internationally, it is especially important to reevaluate the [safety](#) of the tanks carrying the fuel.

Reports indicate the transportation officials have warned about the DOT-111 cars (the type of involved in the Quebec derailment) indicating that they are prone to punctures or leaks in accidents. These cars make up 69 percent of the tanker fleet in the United States and one of the main modes of transporting ethanol, diesel, and crude oil.

Comply, Don't Rely: The Dos and Don'ts of Trade Compliance



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who ship their products across international borders or receive products from other countries. Being aware of trade compliance means a few things like abiding by rules and regulations, but it also means opportunities for saving money and time. Often, companies rely on their freight forwarders to handle their compliance needs. This can become quite costly as freight forwarders are not the responsible party for the shipment. Find out what happened here in [this](#) compliance settlement.

Did You Know? Following a Trade Compliance Program can help you do the following:

- Take advantage of NAFTA and other free trade agreements (maximizing your profits)
- Negotiate better freight rates
- Receive access to any regulatory changes – giving you time to implement them into your business plan
- Prevent your shipments from being stopped at ports and borders

These topics are complex. They have a great ability to help shore up operations while complying with the law. If you have questions about trade compliance or want to know how you can prevent your shipments from getting stopped in international territories, check out our [Dos and Don'ts of Trade Compliance](#).