

Helping You Drive Vermont's Economy



February 28, 2022

Greetings <<First Name>>,

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What's the Status of the Used Car Sale Safety Inspection Proposal?

As reported earlier, the AG and CAP Offices have researched the Maine Used Car Sale Safety Inspection Requirement and asked VADA to work with them on potentially implementing a similar system for Vermont. We anticipate meeting

with them during the Summer and Fall and will be soliciting your input during the process.

Transportation Plans & Declining Gas Tax Revenues

The House Transportation Committee is putting together a bill that incentivizes electric vehicles while figuring out how to pay for road and bridge repairs with <u>declining gas tax revenue</u>. VFDA met with senior staff at the Agency of Transportation (AOT) to discuss ways traditional motor fuel businesses can access grants for EV charging stations. The AOT wants to build fast charging stations within 50 miles of each other and within 5 miles of exits on Interstates 91 and 89. The Agency of Natural Resources is also preparing regulations that would ban the sale of new cars with combustion engine after 2035.

Source: Matt Cota, VT Fuel Dealers Association

CISA Warns of Risk of Cyber Attacks Increasing with Europe Turmoil

The Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), a division of the Department of Homeland Security, has released a <u>Shields Up advisory</u> to all United States organizations, regardless of size, to warn of imminent cyberattacks stemming from the Ukrainian-Russian conflict. Although the advisory does not point to specific types of attacks that may come, it did assert that the "Russian government understands that disabling or destroying critical infrastructure – including power and communications – can augment pressure on a country's government... and accelerate their acceding to Russian objectives".

The CISA advisory calls on the following acts to reduce the likelihood of a damaging cyber intrusion: to participate:

- Validate that all remote access to an organization's system, and privileged access to the system, requires multi-factor authentication (MFA or 2FA).
- Ensure that software is up-to-date, patches have been applied where necessary, and that known vulnerabilities have been addressed.
- Confirm that all ports and protocols not essential to business have been disabled.

- Cloud computing products have been hardened.
- Sign up for free government resources that provide vulnerability scanning and alerts, such as CISA's free cyber hygiene services.

Additionally, organizations should ensure that they are prepared to respond if an intrusion occurs and to maximize their resilience to a destructive cyber incident through good cyber hygiene, prioritizing cybersecurity initiatives, and proper monitoring.

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OSHA Injury and Illness Electronic Reporting Deadline Looms

Dealerships required to electronically file 2020 employee workplace injury and illness records with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration must do so by **March 2**. Dealerships required to post and electronically file Form 300A (or state equivalent) include:



- Commercial-truck dealerships with 20 to
 249 employees working at a single
 "establishment," defined as "a single location where business is conducted or where services or industrial operations are performed;" and
- Light-duty and commercial-truck dealerships with 250 or more employees at a single establishment.

Electronic filing must be done using <u>OSHA's Injury Tracking Application</u> and a <u>FAQs on the ITA submission process</u> is available on OSHA's website. A North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) number is required for filing: commercial-truck dealerships are NAICS 42311; light-duty dealerships are NAICS 44111.

Light-duty dealerships with *fewer than* 250 employees at a single establishment must annually record workplace injuries and illnesses but are *not* required to file electronically with OSHA. Lastly, all dealerships must report any worker fatality within eight hours and any amputation, loss of an eye, or hospitalization of a

worker within 24 hours. Lastly, all dealerships must report any worker fatality within 8 hours and any amputation, loss of an eye, or hospitalization of a worker within 24 hours. For more information on OSHA's injury and illness recordkeeping and reporting mandates, visit OSHA's website or contact NADA Regulatory Affairs at regulatoryaffairs@nada.org.

NADA Members: Please complete the 2021 NADA Data Survey by March 24th

NADA needs your help to gather data for the 2021 NADA Data report. Dealers will receive a link from economics@nada.org to participate in NADA's three-question survey that takes no more than five minutes. Your participation will inform NADA Data, an annual report examining 2021 dealership sales, financial trends, and more. Your responses will be used anonymously. The deadline to complete the survey is Thursday, March 24. If you did not receive an email or have any questions, please contact economics@nada.org.

Extended: Efficiency Vermont's Biggest Lighting Discounts of 2021

Efficiency Vermont announced their biggest lighting discounts of the year last October.

There is still time to cash in! Offers are available for both interior and outdoor products.

Learn more:

https://www.efficiencyvermont.com/bizlighting



Webinar: The Employee Retention Credit - The Biggest and Most Misunderstood Tax Incentive

There have been new legislative changes that allow more businesses to take advantage of the Employee Retention Credit (ERC). The ERC can be used to reduce or completely eliminate your payroll tax liability and can also generate a



cash refund. We want to make sure eligible businesses take advantage of this

credit.

We've teamed up with <u>alliantgroup</u>, the nation's leader in credits and incentives, to help our clients maximize their benefits and we'll be hosting a short webinar on how you qualify. More details are below, and I hope you can join us.

Details and Registration

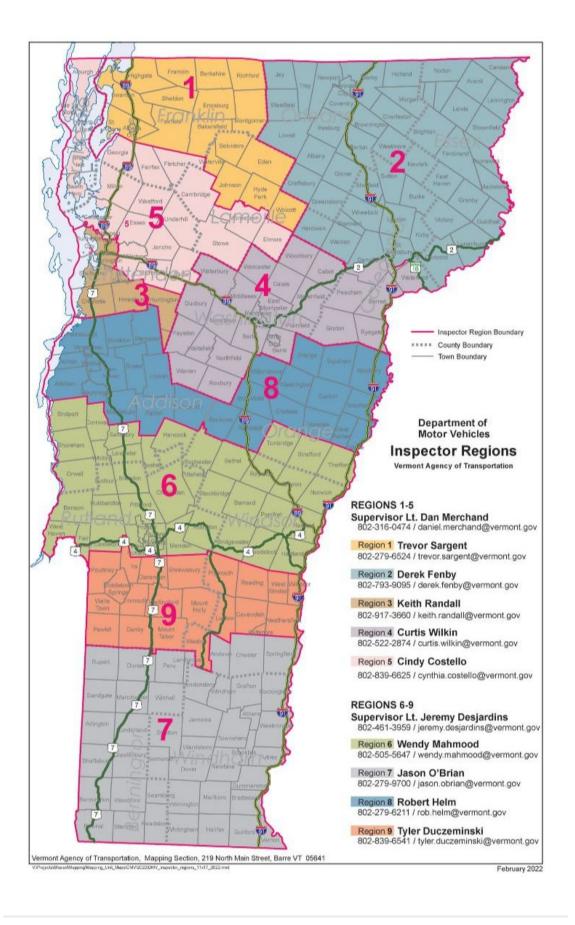
The Employee Retention Credit:
The Biggest and Most Misunderstood Tax Incentive
Wednesday, March 9 at 10:00 AM EST

Albin, Randall & Bennett has teamed up with alliantgroup to host an exclusive event to share information regarding the single largest tax break available to American businesses. This incentive was recently changed by Congress so that more businesses can take advantage of it but the public is still misinformed about how they can claim it. alliantgroup Director Brian Aumueller & Eric Hylton, Former IRS Commissioner of the Small Business/Self Employed Division, will walk you through the misconceptions and how you can use the credit to completely eliminate your payroll tax and potentially generate a cash refund.

With Presentations from ARB Principals Holly D. Ferguson, CPA and David V. Jean, CPA, CCIFP, CExP

Details and Registration

DMV Updated Inspector/Investigations Unit Regional Maps





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