

Tips To Manage Your Business Transportation Costs

(NAPSA)—In today's unstable economy, many businesses are looking for ways to save on expenses. But instead of going to extremes like firing staff or skipping out on your next family vacation, there are other things to consider.

For example, look for smaller things you can do that, when added together, can equal big savings.

Leading commercial auto insurer Progressive offers these tips for saving on fuel and transportation costs:

Keep up with vehicle maintenance: Regular vehicle maintenance can protect your business vehicles from falling victim to smaller issues that can turn into larger costs down the road. Make sure to take advantage of standard tune-ups, oil changes and other preventative measures that could be annoying or time consuming in the short term but can pay off in the long run.

Don't haul unnecessary weight: Carrying excess weight can burn fuel, so make sure you only have what you absolutely need with you on the road—in your truck as well as behind it. Also, use lighter trailers whenever possible and limit idling.

Don't let downtime slow you down. Make sure your insurer lets you stay as productive as possible when you have a claim. With 24/7 claims reporting and quick turnaround on repairs, Progressive can help get you back to work in days instead of weeks.

Keep an eye on the speedometer: While each vehicle reaches its optimal fuel economy at a different speed, according to Energy & Environmental Analysis, Inc., gas efficiency usually decreases rapidly at speeds above 60 mph. As a rule of thumb, remember that when driving, each 5 mph



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you drive over 60 mph is equivalent to paying an additional \$0.30 per gallon for gas.

Plus, observing the speed limit is safer for you and everyone else on the road.

Find ways to save on the products you use most: Progressive's Business Resource Center at www.progressivecommercial.com/BRC offers reduced rates on small business products like finance software, cell phones, satellite radio and more. Users can also browse a variety of articles with topics ranging from financial management to business technology, as well as tips on how to choose the right commercial auto insurance.

Shop around for auto insurance: Shopping for commercial auto insurance is another way businesses can save. Your local independent agent can help build you a commercial auto policy to fit your needs with a variety of coverages and services, like Rental Reimbursement and Roadside Assistance.

For more information about commercial auto insurance or to find an agent nearby, visit www.progressivecommercial.com.