U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Motor Carrier
Safety Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

SEP 12 2008

Refer to: MC-ESB

Ms. Sherry Wolf
President of the Board of Directors
Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators
2323 St. Laurent Boulevard
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1G 4J8

Dear Ms. Wolf:

On April 29, 1994, the Governments of the United States of America and Canada, through the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Ministry of Transportation, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) relating to the reciprocal recognition of motor carrier safety ratings. The ratings at issue are derived from safety and compliance reviews conducted in the United States by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), and State commercial vehicle safety agencies, and from facility audits conducted in Canada by Provincial and Territorial implementing agencies. The FMCSA is the successor agency to the Federal Highway Administration, which was the United States implementing agency at the time the MOU was executed. The FMCSA is committed to moving forward in accordance with the terms of the MOU in order to achieve reciprocal recognition of these safety ratings. Representatives of FMCSA and the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators (CCMTA), representing the Canadian Provincial and Territorial implementing agencies, have met over the past several months in order to achieve that goal.

In accordance with Article 4, Paragraph B of the MOU, officials from FMCSA and CCMTA have consulted over the past several months on whether reciprocal recognition can be achieved. A copy of the MOU is enclosed. The FMCSA evaluated Canada's facility audit procedures as specified in the Canadian National Safety Code Standard 15 and determined that Canada's facility audits are sufficiently compatible with FMCSA's safety and compliance reviews for FMCSA to recognize Canadian motor carrier safety ratings.

It is my understanding, however, that Canada does not require controlled substances and alcohol testing of Canadian commercial motor vehicle operators. Because controlled substances and alcohol testing and compliance are an integral part of FMCSA's safety and compliance reviews, in order for FMCSA to reciprocally recognize Canadian safety ratings, FMCSA must reserve the right to confirm, through other means, the existence of adequate controlled substances and alcohol testing and compliance management controls by Canadian motor carriers and drivers operating in the United States.

Subject to the above condition and to resolution of certain operational issues identified by FMCSA and CCMTA, including data exchange between our two jurisdictions, and further, subject to CCMTA providing reciprocal consideration of Canada recognizing United States motor carrier safety ratings, FMCSA is prepared to agree to recognize Canadian motor carrier safety ratings derived from CCMTA's facility audit process and to give such safety ratings the same effect and consideration as safety ratings derived from FMCSA's safety and compliance reviews.

Thank you for your consideration of the above. I await your further correspondence on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

John H. Hill

Enclosure