

# NEWS RELEASE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 15, 2020

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## **U.S. DOT Revises Hours of Service Rule, Building Off NAPA's Exemption**

*The latest changes to Hours of Service (HoS) regulations largely mimic the relief FMCSA granted specifically to the asphalt paving industry through the National Asphalt Pavement Association's (NAPA) Exemption in 2018.*

Greenbelt, Md. – On May 14, the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) announced major changes to Hours of Service (HoS) regulations, largely mimicking the relief FMCSA granted specifically to the asphalt paving industry through [NAPA's Exemption](#) in 2018. "These new common-sense rules give truckers more options when planning their days. They will help drivers reach their destination safely, without feeling like they've got to race against the clock to comply with federal mandates," said U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao in a [video released by the DOT](#).

NAPA, working in coalition with others over the last two years, helped provide key evidence to ensure the NAPA Exemption was permanently codified across the entire trucking industry and contained additional relief measures. Although the final rule doesn't become effective for another four months, the asphalt industry can continue to operate as they have under the existing NAPA Exemption. In addition to the relief afforded under the NAPA Exemption, the new [rule](#) extends the distance trucks can travel, under the short-haul exception, to a 150-air-mile radius from their original dispatch.

NAPA welcomed the changes announced in FMCSA's new rule. "Although NAPA worked hard to get its initial Exemption for our industry, allowing additional on-duty time, we also recognized that agency should provide similar relief for other supply-chain trucking needs," said NAPA President and CEO Dr. Audrey Copeland. "Similar to what we did in 2018, we actively engaged with our stakeholders, throughout the entire rulemaking process, to ensure these benefits and others were realized in FMCSA's final ruling. It's gratifying that NAPA's temporary industry-exemption issued two years ago was the basis for the final rule."

NAPA Chairman Jay Winford, President of Prairie Contractors Inc. in Opelousas, La., applauded the final rule. "Although NAPA members have essentially been operating under these regulations since January 2018, when FMCSA granted the asphalt pavement industry an exemption from the

more onerous Hours-of-Service requirements, today's ruling makes permanent NAPA's original Exemption and provides some extra relief, while ensuring safety across the trucking industry."

NAPA will continue to analyze the rule and update its membership as appropriate.

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### **About the National Asphalt Pavement Association**

*The National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) is the only trade association that exclusively represents the interests of the asphalt producer/contractor on the national level with Congress, government agencies, and other national trade and business organizations. NAPA supports an active research program designed to improve the quality of asphalt pavements and paving techniques used in the construction of roads, streets, highways, parking lots, airports, and environmental and recreational facilities. The association provides technical, educational, and marketing materials and information to its members; supplies product information to users and specifiers of paving materials; and conducts training courses. The association, which counts more than 1,100 companies as members, was founded in 1955.*