



Observational Quote

If I were to produce kitchen appliances, I'd have to do more safety testing and go through more compliance procedures to create a toaster than to create Facebook..

-Christopher Wylie

Insights

10 Reasons why your business is in trouble due to unexpected events and what you can do to prevent it.

In today's rapidly changing world, "change" is no longer the exception, but rather the norm. The business environment has become extraordinarily complex, steeped in uncertainties, and clouded by ambiguities. This is often described as a VUCA situation...



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Humor



"Think of how stupid the average person is, and then realize half of them are stupider than that."

"Most people work just hard enough not to get fired and get paid just enough not to quit."

-George Carlin

Featured Product

GVW, DOT, 53' Decals

This month, our QuipTips email focuses on the reality of compliance matters as a way of life. Our feature product of the month concerns Truck & Trailer compliance. Having all the correct permit numbers, unit identification numbers and even company identifying decals on your trucks and trailers is important.



No matter your industry or the physical location of your business you have certain compliance obligations. Some to local government and its agencies, some to state and yet another collection of duties to Federal Laws, Regulations, and Requirements. According to one statistic, since its inception in 1789 the United States Congress has enacted approximately 30,000 statutes. That actually doesn't sound like that many, does it? Until you consider that each such statute can require more laws to clarify its intention, still more determining penalties for violation, and yet more to qualify when, where, and to whom the statute applies. And that also doesn't factor in the time and expense needed to amend or eliminate laws which have been determined as of no further relevance. None of that addresses the still further sets of compliance and reporting required to meet the demands of state or local authorities. According to both the Cato Institute and The National Bureau of Economic Research, business spends approximately 1.3 to 3.3 percent of its total labor costs on compliance matters. Keep in mind that this isn't the cost of the compliance, it's merely the cost in labor paid out to monitor, comply and report.

We all – or at least mostly all – agree that the rule of law is important, and that laws themselves are necessary. We all want to eat food that is produced according to standards, drive alongside

motorists who agree to abide by rules of the road, swim or boat in lakes and rivers which are uncontaminated by various pollutants, and breathe air unadulterated by a toxic and smog producing series of emissions. Yet business is difficult, competition can be fierce, and the temptation to "save a little" here and there can be enormous. We read about companies both large and small who want to do right, but whose financial survival – so they believe – is in jeopardy if they can't comply with some new standard or keep current with an old one.

So, we find ourselves in the midst of a real catch 22. We all want the results which come from a compliance with reasonable laws, and we all want our business competitors to play by the same rules as are expected of us, yet compliance is sometimes an expensive and burdensome process for those who manage or own businesses of any size. Charles Murray's quote at the beginning of this email strikes at the heart of our relationship with compliance. Compliance and its enforcement really depend on people of honor and good will who possess a commitment to the rule of law and to the best interests of others and who therefore seek to comply voluntarily with just laws. As former congressman Tom Graves stated, "Let's make it simple: Government control means uniformity, regulation, fees, inspection and yes, compliance". What he sums up is this: We should either expect to live with the costs of compliance, or as an alternative, we can live with the even larger costs of a ruleless land. Yes, we'd all prefer neither cost, but the former is actually a compliance with our own long-term good in mind while the latter is really a disregard for our common good.

Burdensome as all that is, and it can be pretty burdensome, living in a world where not everyone would seek to abide by any rules means that certain laws, rules and provisions must be made to ensure a standard, and once those have been created, they are only of use if they're enforced. So, as businesspeople, participating in industries which shape the earth, provide the machinery which does so, till the ground and feed millions, build our houses and our roads, or transport the goods and materials needed to keep our economy humming, we have great influence in and impact on the world. We should expect that such a large level of influence will come with a fair level of regulation demanding compliance.

We, therefore, have to be active in and aware of the laws which will impact us. We have to fairmindedly and through legitimate channels influence what is written and then willingly abide by the rules which have been generated. We can LEAD in this area of business, we can begrudgingly follow along, or we can hope to slip by un-noticed. That brings us to the point of our feature insight for the month.

See our special of the month below, OR contact us today for a consult, to talk over ideas, or to get a quote on some new company decals for your fleet of equipment and trucks.

This Month's Special Offer

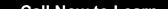
Reference Code: DOTGVW53-202404

Get **20% OFF** an order of any 3 DOT, GVW, or 53' decal products on the Truck & Equipment Decals.com Store.

Use the link below to start shopping and receive this month's special! Truck & Vehicle Decals – Truck and Equipment Decals

Offer available through May 3rd, 2024!

Only for Email Subscribers. Please specify the Reference Code when ordering to receive your discounted price.



Upcoming Events

Expo Richmond (Forestry Industry Show) Apr 12 - Apr 13, Richmond, VA

Build Expo (Building & Contracting Show) Apr 24 - Apr 25, Dallas, TX

Waste Expo May 7-9, Las Vegas, NV

Marcum New York Construction Summit May 8, Woodbury, NY

Florida Asphalt Convention Jun 13 - Jun 16, Hollywood, FL

National Association of Women in Construction Conference Aug 14 - Apr 17, Chattanooga, TN

Equip Exposition Oct 16-18, Louisville, KY

Dirt World Summit Nov 4-6, San Antonio, TX



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