CVOR CERTIFICATES NOW EXPIRE:

Effective as of December 1, 2008, all CVOR Certificates will be assigned an expiry date.

New Applicants for a CVOR Certificate will be assigned an expiry date at the time they receive their certificate. There is now a \$250.00 cost to obtain a CVOR.

All existing CVOR holders (anyone that has a CVOR right now) will be assigned an expiry date over a two-year transition period. Operators will be sent a Notice of Expiry 60 days prior to your expiry date. You will have to pay a one time fee of \$100.00 to convert your current CVOR to an expiring CVOR during this two year transition period.

After the two-year transition period, renewal of your CVOR will be done annually (every year). Every carrier will pay \$50.00 to renew their CVOR Certificate.

All commercial vehicle operators (holders of CVORs) will be required to renew their registrations every year. Operators with a Safety Rating of "Excellent" or "Satisfactory" will be required to renew their certificates once every two years.

If you don't renew:

According to the Ministry website, a carrier that does not renew prior to the expiry date is "liable to a fine and possibly to imprisonment" if one or more of its commercial motor vehicles are found operating on an Ontario highway.

Officers have the right to detain the vehicle and seize the permits and number plates of the vehicle until the carrier is in compliance with the Act. Further, the carrier will have to pay a \$250.00 to re-instate a terminated CVOR Certificate after its expiry date.

For more information, visit the Ministry of Transportation website (www.mto.gov.on.ca) and look under Trucks and Buses. Look under the What's New Section for the article entitled "CVOR Certificates will be issued an expiry date."

If you haven't heard about this, don't worry you are not alone. These changes came about with little or no warning. The justification provided by the Ministry for these changes were that operators are not updating "important" information with the Ministry in a timely basis and this new program ensures that operators are providing all necessary information on a regular basis.

Personally, I think they could implement the expiration system without having to charge for it!