

Trucker credits good maintenance and Mobil Delvac for his million-miles and 26 years on the road

After being laid off from his job as an auto worker, Duane Best, of Detroit, Michigan, decided he wanted to become a trucker and see the country. That decision was made in 1984 and Duane has been out on the road ever since.

Twenty-six years and one-million miles later, Duane has learned what it takes to be successful in the trucking business. We recently caught up with Duane as he shared his tricks of the trade.

Q: How long have you been driving and what kind of truck do you drive?

Duane: I've been driving for 26 years and drive a 2000 Freightliner XL Classic. I started out as a company driver and became an owner-operator in 2001. My current truck was bought used and had about 120,000 miles on it at the time of the purchase.

Q: What routes do you run and what do you haul?



"If you're not currently using Mobil Delvac, you need to make a switch,"

– Duane Best, long-time trucker

Duane: I've driven all over 48 states – mostly in Georgia. I haul refrigerated freight – meats mostly, and produce. Occasionally, I haul dry freight like dog food.

Q: What advice would you share with new drivers interested in starting a career in the trucking industry?

Duane: Safety is the key out there on the road. Pay attention and stay awake. Drive ahead of yourself. Drive accordingly in adverse conditions, especially during the winter when the roads are slick. Drive to your ability and don't let anyone rush you.

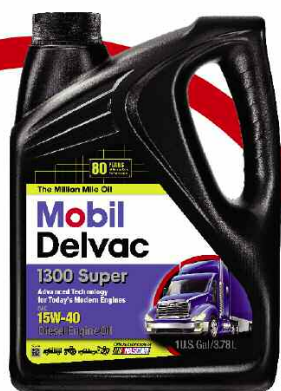
I've followed this advice and have not had an accident in 26 years of driving.

Q: What maintenance advice would you give drivers who are looking to make it past the one million mile mark?

Duane: Keep up with your maintenance. The longer the vehicle lasts, the more money you'll make, which is why it's so important to properly maintain your truck and use a good oil. If you're not currently using Mobil Delvac, you need to make a switch. Just look at what it's done for me and my truck.

Q: Do you have any hobbies off the road?

Duane: My hobby actually involves the road, as well. My wife Michele and I own four Harleys and try to attend at least three bike rallies per year. I guess its kind of funny that in my free time when I'm not on the road, I'm actually on the road!



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