Managing haul truck reliability actually requires looking beyond the trucks themselves. Site and haul road conditions, loading practices and more all have an impact on truck fleet availability and service costs. Here are nine management tips to help maximize reliability across your truck fleet.

1. **ADHERE TO THE CATERPILLAR 10/10/20 PAYLOAD POLICY**
   - No more than 10% of payloads should exceed 110% of the target payload. No single payload should ever exceed 120% of the target payload. No more than 50% of payloads should exceed the target payload.

2. **FOLLOW CORRECT LOADING PRACTICES**
   - Improper loading practices (biased loading, on the canopy, etc.) may cause body damage as well as premature strut and tire wear.

3. **AVOID BODY MODIFICATIONS**
   - Body modifications that are not approved should be avoided. Truck components are designed to work together in a system. Modifications may cause unforeseen problems in other areas.

4. **ACCOUNT FOR ALL MACHINE MODIFICATIONS**
   - Any modifications to components, engines, major accessories—the list goes on—should be carefully evaluated for weight. The target payload should be adjusted accordingly.

5. **WATCH FOR MUD ACCUMULATION**
   - Wet site conditions can affect total truck weight. Excessive mud accumulation should be taken into account when determining target payloads.

6. **AVOID EXCESSIVE WATERING**
   - Excessive watering can lead to the same problems as naturally wet site conditions, including premature tire wear and possible drive train component damage.

7. **SELECT THE CORRECT LOADING TOOLS**
   - Incorrect loading tool selection can lead to over- and under-loads. It may also result in an inefficient pass match that reduces load/haul productivity.

8. **ADD HAUL ROAD SUPER ELEVATION**
   - Adding super elevation to hairpin or high speed turns minimizes lateral loading, which reduces suspension wear and helps optimize cycle times.

9. **LEVERAGE MACHINE DATA**
   - Implement a robust system for reporting and managing operator-induced events, including RAC, body up, abuse shift, overloading, coasting in neutral, etc.

**UP YOUR GAME**

Want more truck management recommendations? Contact your Cat dealer for a review of your current operations plus expert management advice.

Always refer to the Cat Operations & Maintenance Manual supplied with your truck for recommended operation and maintenance practices.

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