



May 25, 2007

Watco Team:

This weekend marks what many people call "the unofficial start of summer." Although many of us think of the long weekend for boating, camping or visiting friends and family, Memorial Day has much more important meaning.

Some of you might recall when Memorial Day was called Decoration Day. It seems that years ago more people used the holiday as it is meant, to honor our fallen heroes by visiting cemeteries and placing flowers on their graves. However, in recent years Memorial Day has been recognized as a long weekend for fun.

Freedom is never free. The men and women who courageously fought for our country, the wounded or who gave their lives for our freedom deserve to be honored, especially on this one special day of the year that is set aside for them. Without their sacrifice, we would most certainly be living a much different life. As members of the greatest team in the rail industry, we should take the time from our long weekend to remember those who have given the ultimate gift to us. We should also take time to remember those members of the military who are currently serving and unable to be with their families this holiday.

Please have a safe and happy holiday weekend. Have fun, but remember to honor the fallen by flying your flags Monday at half staff until noon. Take the opportunity to visit a war memorial and remember those who sacrificed their lives so we could live freely.

Thanks for being a member of the Watco Team.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. D. [unclear]', written in a cursive style.