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## 2022 Midwest Pride In Your Ride Truck Show



The 2022 Midwest Pride In Your Ride Truck Show was held in May 2022 at the Tri-State Raceway in Earlville, Iowa. The show featured working class show trucks. Turn to pages 16 & 17 for more photos. - Photo by High Gear Photography -

### Skelton – Your Family. Your Career. Our Honor!



By Steve Pollock

Jessica Kapasky, North American Recruitment and Retention Manager at Skelton is the third generation of her family to work in the transportation industry. Jessica remembers when she was a little girl, riding

in the family car past the Skelton complex and being impressed by the shiny orange trucks. In fact, Jessica recalls being impressed by Skelton for many years, so when she had the opportunity to go to work for them, she couldn't wait to get started.

Jessica has been at Skelton for 3 years and is excited to tell drivers about the opportunities that are currently available, such as the \$2100 per week guaranteed minimum per company driver running teams.

continued on page 31

### Savage: A Driver's Perspective



Ask any Team Member at Savage, and they'll list different reasons why they like their work: great benefits, a family-like work culture, and promotions from within. But ask a Savage truck driver, and they have an additional perspective. Drivers love the newer equipment that's fully functional and provides them with modern driver aids. They love having all the paperwork ready from

supportive dispatchers who treat them as partners. And most importantly, they enjoy having regular time with friends and family to be there for the moments that matter. Savage is a global provider of supply chain infrastructure and services, supporting diverse industries including food and agriculture, energy and chemicals, ports and terminals, construction and more.

Customers count on Savage and its approximately 4,000 Team Members to safely move and manage what is essential to their business in over 200 locations. Many of Savage's drivers provide last-mile rail service with local routes, allowing them to spend more time with their families and friends. Since its start 77 years ago, Savage has strived continued on page 20

# MISSION BBQ Customers Donate \$369,590 to Sponsor Veterans' Wreaths for Placement on National Wreaths Across America Day 2023



MISSION BBQ is proud to announce the donation of \$369,590 to national nonprofit Wreaths Across America (WAA). This contribution was made possible thanks to the generosity of MISSION BBQ customers and their support of MISSION BBQ's special American Heroes Cups. The donation will help sponsor over 24,000 veterans' wreaths to remember our fallen U.S. service members at 101 participating locations during the 2023 holiday season.

the U.S. and beyond at more than 3,700 participating locations, but their yearlong mission is to remember the fallen, honor those who serve, and teach the next generation the value of freedom.

are humbled by the hard work by our teammates, who ask all of our customers for their support, and all the good that will be done for our so deserving American Heroes in remembering their lives, their service and their sacrifices."

"In 2022 Wreaths Across America's theme was 'Find a Way to Serve,' and MISSION BBQ is a company who has committed to doing just that," said Karen Worcester, executive director, Wreaths Across America. "The impact they make in the communities they serve, through the generous support of their customers, is significant. They go above and beyond to not only support our yearlong mission to Remember, Honor and Teach, but so many other important programs in communities where their employees and customers live and work. We will forever be grateful for their support and commitment to the mission."

American Heroes Cups are available year-round, retailing at \$4.99 with \$2 of every cup purchase donated to a charity supporting national military charities and local first responders. Customers are encouraged to bring back their American Heroes Cup on return visits to the restaurant and receive \$.99 refills. To find a MISSION BBQ location near you visit: <https://mission-bbq.com/locations>.

To Learn More visit: <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/19520/News/921/?relatedId=0>

For more information, to sponsor wreaths or to sign up to volunteer, please visit [www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org).

For more information about MISSION BBQ: <http://mission-bbq.com/>

MISSION BBQ co-founder Bill Kraus presented this donation to Wreaths Across America Executive Director Karen Worcester today in Columbia, Md. View the livestream of the check presentation here. "We remain proud and humbled to stand with Wreaths Across America and the amazing work they continue to do to Remember, Honor and Teach," said Bill Kraus, co-founder for MISSION BBQ.

Wreaths Across America is best known for its annual wreath-laying ceremonies throughout

the U.S. and beyond at more than 3,700 participating locations, but their yearlong mission is to remember the fallen, honor those who serve, and teach the next generation the value of freedom.

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# OFF THE BEATEN PATH

**BY PAM POLLOCK**  
**The Book of Glad**

In the 40 years of knowing my mother-in-law (who died last August), it is only after she died that I have discovered that we actually shared many of the same traits and tastes. (I am going to write in the present tense, it's just easier.)

We are both not the greatest of cooks, but she really loved making bread. And her turkey soup was good. I, on the underhand, despise the kitchen. I only get excited about the decorative hand towels that I hang on the oven door.

If we both find a product that we like, we buy massive quantities of it. Hers was books, emery boards, tealight candles, fragrance air freshener refills, ballpoint pens, little wicker baskets, Kleenex, and small handled plastic storage cubes. My obsessive buying involves large quantities of Bath and Body Work soaps and hand sanitizers, toilet paper and paper towels, scissors, underwear, socks, (well, actually all clothing), camera memory cards, and greeting cards.

When I popped in to visit her last summer, the TV was tuned to a Hallmark Movie. I thought it was a mistake as my MIL never gave any indication that she was into sappy television, but she happily informed me that she shared my love of romance movies that always end the same way. We also both like the musical group Celtic Woman and share a mutual love of photography. Her forte was nature and still-lives, while I enjoy taking photos of family and friends, nature, and birds. She belonged to various camera clubs and won hundreds of ribbons. The walls of her house were adorned with framed photos of her winning shots. I have lots of photos of my family hanging on the walls of the Homestead and I make photo books that line the shelves of our bookcases in several rooms.

Yesterday, I spied a little book with ballet dancers adorning the cover on a little nook in the kitchen. Intrigued, I pulled it out and opened the pages. In the inside, my MIL had written, "Audrey - Glad Book". Her written entries (she had beautiful handwriting) began on December 17, 1991. She wrote random snippets of things, people and events that made her glad - there were only 35 pages, but they gave insight into her feelings and emotions, some of which she never expressed aloud. She wrote a lot about the love she shared with my father-in-law, who died in

August of 1995. She expressed her sadness and grief years after he died. She was glad for snow and skiing, her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Several times she wrote of her happiness of a fireplace on a cold winter morning. Books, coffee, and music made her heart soar. She wrote of her numerous pets through the years, who brought comfort and joy to her, and who kept her feet warm at night. The little things in life made her glad: clean windows, automatic washing machines, her lighted candles in all of the windows of her house, sunshine, silence, yellow leaves sleeping on green grass, windchimes, rocks, planting her garden, pleasant sales clerks, sleeping in on rainy mornings, having enough of everything. One of her last entries was poignant - she wrote that she was glad that she "was feeling better today than I felt yesterday."

I am glad (no pun intended) that I found Audrey's Book of Glad. I learned many things about her that I never knew. I laughed at some of her entries and felt sadness at others. She's inspired me to begin my own book of musings.

## ATA Truck Tonnage Index Increased 0.7% in January

Washington, DC... American Trucking Associations' advanced seasonally adjusted (SA) For-Hire Truck Tonnage Index rose 0.7% in January, 0.4% below the December level (113.2). In comparing with 116.2 in December.

ATA recently revised the seasonally adjusted index back five years as part of its annual revision.

"Tonnage has increased nicely in the last couple of months," said ATA Chief Economist Bob Costello. "I suspect that some of the gain is attributable to capacity coming out of the network, especially those carriers that primarily operate in the spot market and/or bought expensive used equipment in the last couple of years. This would push more freight to contract carriers, which dominate this index. It could also be that freight bottomed and is coming up a little too. So, the gain is likely a little higher demand and a little less supply. Despite the increases in December and January, tonnage is still off 1.4% from its recent high in September."

Compared with January 2022, the SA index increased 1.5%, which was the seventeenth straight year-over-year gain. In December, the index was up 0.9% from a year earlier. In 2022, compared with the average in 2021, tonnage was up 3.5%.

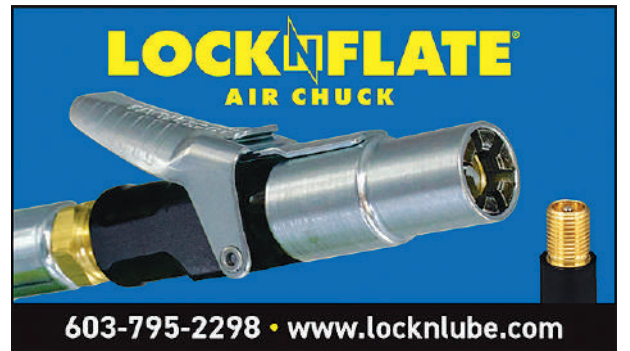
The not seasonally adjusted index, which represents

the change in tonnage actually hauled by the fleets before any seasonal adjustment, equaled 112.7 in January, 0.4% below the December level (113.2). In calculating the index, 100 represents 2015. ATA's For-Hire Truck Tonnage Index is dominated by contract freight as opposed to spot market freight.

Trucking serves as a barometer of the U.S. economy, representing 72.2% of tonnage carried by all modes of domestic freight transportation, including manufactured and retail goods. Trucks hauled 10.93 billion tons of freight in 2021. Motor carriers collected \$875.5 billion, or 80.8% of total revenue earned by all transport modes.

ATA calculates the tonnage index based on surveys from its membership and has been doing so since the 1970s. This is a preliminary figure and subject to change in the final report issued around the 5th day of each month. The report includes month-to-month and year-over-year results, relevant economic comparisons, and key financial indicators.

American Trucking Associations is the largest national trade association for the trucking industry. Follow ATA on Twitter or Facebook. Trucking Moves America Forward



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# Repeal Heavy-Duty Excise Tax and Get Cleaner Trucks on Our Roads, Transportation Groups Urge Congress

Washington, DC... A group of transportation and trucking stakeholders is calling on Congress to repeal the Federal Excise Tax (FET) on heavy-duty commercial vehicles. This century-old tax is impeding the deployment of cleaner, more environmentally friendly trucks on our nation's roads, according to a letter from the American Trucking Associations, American Truck Dealers, and Zero Emission Transportation Association sent to Congressional leadership.

The heavy-duty excise tax was established in 1917 to defray the costs of World War I and today adds 12% to the cost of a new truck, creating a major disincentive for trucking fleets small and large to modernize their equipment and replace older tractors with new, low-emission power units. The FET can add more than \$50,000 to the price of the latest low- or zero-emission vehicle, making these investments cost-prohibitive for smaller fleets. Over 90% of U.S. motor carriers operate six or fewer trucks.

"If Congress is serious about safety, the environment and jobs, then repealing the FET should be front-burner," said ATA President and CEO Chris Spear. "It's time to shelve

this World War I era tax and starting putting the best equipment on our roads."

"The federal government wants heavy-duty trucks to be cleaner or emission free, but slaps a 12 percent tax on the newest, greenest trucks. If the goal is to reduce emissions, repealing the counterproductive FET is a good place to start," said Scott McCandless, ATD Chairman and President of McCandless Truck Center LLC of Aurora, Colo.

"The federal excise tax harms American truckers and fleet operators by inflating the cost of heavy-duty trucks and limiting access to the many economic and public health benefits that come with transportation electrification," said Albert Gore, executive director at ZETA. "Medium and heavy-duty trucks account for 24% of all transportation carbon emissions in the United States but represent only 4% of vehicles on the road. It is time to accelerate our movement towards modernized transportation fleets, and we must enable our nation's fleet operators and truckers to join in this effort."

In the 117th Congress, U.S. Senators Todd Young (R-Ind.) and Ben Cardin (D-Md.), and Representatives Doug LaMalfa (R-Calif.)

and Chris Pappas (D-N.H.) introduced the Modern, Clean, and Safe Trucks Act (H.R. 8116/S. 2435), bipartisan and bicameral legislation to repeal the tax.

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# High Performance Diesels with Bruce Mallinson

## The Importance Of Aftertreatment

Heavy-duty trucks play a vital role in our everyday lives. These trucks are designed to carry large payloads and travel long distances, making them an essential component of the transportation sector. However, these trucks also significantly impact the environment due to their emissions. As a result, the

development of aftertreatment systems has become increasingly important for modern class 8 trucks to reduce their environmental impact.

An aftertreatment system is essential to a modern truck's exhaust system. It is designed to reduce harmful emissions that are produced during the com-

bustion process. These emissions include nitrogen oxides (NOx), particulate matter (PM), and carbon monoxide (CO), which can have a detrimental impact on the environment and human health. Aftertreatment systems use various technologies to remove these harmful emissions from the exhaust stream

before they are released into the atmosphere.

One of the primary benefits of aftertreatment systems for class 8 trucks is that they help to reduce harmful emissions. These emissions significantly contribute to air pollution and have been linked to various health problems, including respiratory diseases and cancer. By reducing emissions, aftertreatment systems help to create cleaner and healthier air for people to breathe.

One of the most common technologies used in aftertreatment systems is the diesel particulate filter (DPF). The DPF is designed to capture and remove particulate matter from the exhaust stream. It uses a ceramic filter that traps soot particles as they pass through the exhaust system. The trapped particles are then burned off during a process known as regeneration, which converts the soot into ash and releases it from the filter. This process helps to reduce the amount of particulate matter released into the atmosphere.

Another technology used in aftertreatment systems is the selective catalytic reduction (SCR) system. The SCR system uses a catalyst to convert nitrogen oxides (NOx)

into harmless nitrogen and water. The system injects a urea-based solution, known as diesel exhaust fluid (DEF), into the exhaust stream. The DEF reacts with the NOx in the presence of the catalyst, breaking it down into nitrogen and water. This process helps to reduce the amount of NOx released into the atmosphere.

In addition to reducing emissions, aftertreatment systems can improve the fuel efficiency of Class 8 trucking rigs when used correctly and regularly maintained in conjunction with the OEM's maintenance intervals. By reducing the amount of work

required by the engine to overcome the resistance of the aftertreatment system, the engine can operate more efficiently, resulting in lower fuel consumption. This reduces the cost of operating the truck and the number of greenhouse gases emitted during operation.

Another benefit of aftertreatment systems for class 8 trucking is that they help to comply with emissions regulations. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established strict emissions regulations for heavy-duty trucks to reduce their environmental impact. Aftertreatment systems are essential to meeting these regulations, as they help reduce emissions and ensure compliance with the EPA's standards.

We here at Pittsburgh Power understand that certain aspects of the industry have gotten complicated over the last few years. Between fuel pricing and parts availability, the Aftertreatment system has become more of a hindrance than a benefit to the owner-operators in the business. Some have even gone so far as to delete the system entirely in an effort to be rid of the headache. This will not only cost you money in the long run, but it could also irreparably damage your engine if not done by someone with vast

knowledge of the mechanical and programming aspects.

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Another exciting development at the shop is our return to Sirius XM. Pittsburgh Power is back on the Road Dog network, (Ch. 146). Be sure to tune in to our new show, The Pit Stop, Hosted by Dave Nemo every Monday at 10 AM ET,

Written by: Jordan Greathouse, Pittsburgh Power Inc., 3600 S. Noah Drive, Saxonburg, PA, 16056 Phone (724) 360-4080 Email: [Information@PittsburghPower.com](mailto:Information@PittsburghPower.com) Website: [www.PittsburghPower.com](http://www.PittsburghPower.com)



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# Gulf Coast Big Rig Truck Show Slated For July 21-22



**By Steve Pollock**

BILOXI, MS... The annual Gulf Coast Big Rig Truck Show is scheduled for July 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center, 2350 Beach Blvd. (off I-10) in Biloxi, Mississippi.

The event showcases the working truck, support to the military and first responders, as well as raising money for the Wounded Warrior Project. Trucking industry businesses are showcased in a family-friendly atmosphere. The exhibitors display their products and also bring awareness and knowledge of the transportation industry to the surrounding communities. The two day event ends with an escorted convoy along the beach displaying the trucks from the Chrome on the Coast Contest!

Tickets are \$15 at the door or \$12 in advance,

under 12 free with an adult. For more information call 985-630-9171 or email [pattimccleeny@gmail.com](mailto:pattimccleeny@gmail.com)

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# Latest Trucking Industry News

## Heavy-Duty Repair Revenues Recover to Pre-Pandemic Levels According to New Report

Orlando, FL... Heavy-duty repair shop revenue appears to be climbing back to pre-pandemic form in 2022, according to the third annual State of Heavy-Duty Repair report issued by Fullbay, in partnership with ATA's Technology & Maintenance Council.

"This year's report provides repair shops with essential insights and best practices to run their business," said Fullbay CEO Patrick McKittrick. "The report offers commercial repair data you can't find anywhere else with learnings on shop management, labor challenges and other current industry issues. It's all designed to provide shops with a tool to benchmark their business."

Among the key findings of this year's report:

- \* 76% of shops raised their labor rates in 2022, 24% did not.

- \* 25% of shops surveyed were pulling in between \$1 to \$2 million each year, while 17% reported revenue between \$250,001 and \$500,000.

- \* 19.8% of shops reported having a better handle on their P&L, as compared to only 9.8% last year.

"At TMC, we have been helping industry professionals improve maintenance and maintenance management for decades, and this report is an excellent way to better accomplish that goal," said TMC Executive Director Robert Braswell. "Facing obstacles isn't new for repair shops; our recommended practices, which are included throughout the report, offer proper assistance for repair shops looking for guidance dealing with these challenges."

The report's data is based on survey responses from more than 1600 individuals from shops in North America, Australia and New Zealand, across all avenues of the commercial freight, logistics, and repair industries. In addition, more than 500 businesses across North America using the Fullbay platform were sampled for real-world shop data. Results were anonymized and those surveyed included both customers of Fullbay and non-customers.

## Love's Awards Gemini Drivers \$2.3 Million In Safety Bonuses

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK... Love's Travel Stops recently awarded 140 Gemini Motor Transport drivers more than \$2.3 million in bonuses for their commitment to safety last year. Gemini, a member of the Love's Family of Companies, operates a fleet of more than 1,600 drivers who transport fuel to Love's Travel Stops across the country.

"The safety of our drivers and those on the roadways around us is our top priority and rewarding drivers for maintaining Gemini's high standard of safety is exciting to see," said Jeremy Gravely, director of Gemini. "The Safe Drivers Program is an investment that's unmatched in the industry, and one that's crucial to the success of Gemini and Love's Travel Stops."

Bonuses are based on safety credits awarded to drivers on an annual basis. To earn one credit, drivers

must remain accident- and ticket-free and have no fuel-related incidents over the course of one year. Drivers must also pass all U.S. Department of Transportation and Gemini inspections and adhere to Gemini's stringent safety policies. Once drivers collect five safety credits, they're eligible to receive the bonus.

Bonuses are given on a five and 10-year basis. This year, 96 recipients received a five-year bonus, and 44 recipients received a 10-year bonus. Gemini drivers have been paid more than \$24 million in safety bonuses through the safety credit program.

Love's recently announced that Gemini is continuing its commitment to safety in 2023 by adding 325 new trucks and replacing 250 older-mileage trucks. If you're interested in joining the company, visit [jobs.loves.com](http://jobs.loves.com).

## ATA Warns Congress Against Allowing California to Set National Emissions Rules

WASHINGTON, DC... American Trucking Associations President and CEO Chris Spear recently told Congress that the industry needed realistic national timelines and targets to reduce emissions, rather than allowing California and other states to drive standards.

"The trucking industry starts with 'yes,' Spear testified before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee today. "ATA worked with the Environmental Protection Agency, producing Phases I and II emission reduction rules, as well as the SmartWay Transport Partnership – which has been a model of public-private cooperation. To date, 98.5% of all emissions have been removed from our tailpipes. In fact, 60 trucks today emit what one truck emitted in 1988."

Spear emphasized that those gains, which include reductions of millions of tons of carbon, nitrogen ox-

ide and particulate matter emissions, were the result of collaborative regulatory processes and realistic goals.

"This is not a debate about if we get to zero, but when. – we'll get there, just not on the timelines proposed by California. By excluding our industry in a mad dash to zero makes their timeline and targets not only unachievable... but guarantees they will fail," Spear said. "To get to zero, we must be honest and transparent about the road ahead. Sourcing rare minerals needed for millions of 5,000 pounds of truck batteries, the infrastructure needed to charge them and the additional electricity needed to power our trucks – full scale – doesn't yet exist... and won't if you allow California to set the nation's standard."

If California's proposals are allowed to set targets and timelines for emissions reductions, Spear said it

will certainly impact the industry and the supply chain – and Americans will feel those disruptions.

"Over the next decade, trucks will be tasked with moving 2.4 billion more tons of freight than they do today – the moment that slows or stops, Americans, your constituents, will want answers," he said. "The responsible approach is also the realistic approach. Achievable timelines and targets matter. We're committed to a cleaner environment – we've proven that. We simply ask that we be realistic about the path forward. Do that, and we'll post the best environmental gains possible."

## ATA Hails Revised FHWA Priorities Memo

Washington, DC... The American Trucking Associations said a revised memo outlining the Federal Highway Administration's priorities for states' use of funds from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will reduce confusion and accelerate important investments in improving freight capacity.

In 2021, FHWA issued a memo outlining a wish list of priorities for states as they spent IJIA funds – priorities that ran counter to the bipartisan bill's intent by directing funds to highway maintenance and non-highway projects over investments in expanding highway capacity.

Chris Spear told the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on February 1 that the effect of the memo was the country would have "really nice roads and bridges, but we're still sitting on them going nowhere. We need truck lanes we need parking we need new bridges. We need more capacity to move the freight."

FHWA's new memo brings the agency's guidance in line with IJIA's language and clarifies that states can invest in critical freight capacity expansion projects.

"We are pleased that thanks to congressional leadership – notably House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman Sam Graves and Senator Shelley Moore Capito, ranking member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee – FHWA recognized their mistake and changed course," Spear said. "We look forward to continuing to work with FHWA and Congress to make sure this historic investment goes to where it can do the most good for our country and economy."

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## Fischer Pushes Back Against Federal Outreach - We Have an Obligation to Stand Up and Push Back Against Out-of-Touch, Far-Left Policies\*

WASHINGTON, DC... U.S. Senator Deb Fischer (R-Neb.) recently delivered a speech on the Senate floor highlighting the Biden administration's obsession with unhelpful and unnecessary regulations.

During her remarks, Sen. Fischer also discussed her legislation to overturn a burdensome EPA regulation on the trucking industry, as well as other measures she is supporting to push back against out-of-touch policies.

Following is a transcript of Senator Fischer's remarks as prepared for delivery:

M. President,

My colleagues are here today to shine a light on the Biden administration's obsession with unhelpful and unnecessary regulations.

We know that excessive red tape devastates our economy and harms communities. That's why the President's woke agenda needs to be stopped — and we can do that here in the Senate.

I've introduced legislation this Congress to push back against the administration's misguided rule intensifying emissions standards for heavy duty vehicles.

In my home state of Nebraska, one in 12 people are employed by the truck-

ing industry — making it the third largest industry in our state.

In the United States as a whole, over three million people work as commercial truckers, and American truckers transported almost 11 billion tons of freight in the year 2021.

Consumers all across the country rely on trucking to bring goods to markets quickly and affordably.

Truckers play an essential role in our communities and economy — but the Biden administration doesn't seem to agree with that fact. Instead, our president routinely chooses to prioritize excessive environmental regulations over people's livelihoods.

Nowhere is this clearer than in the Environmental Protection Agency's recent rule establishing stricter emissions standards for heavy-duty vehicles.

The Biden administration wants to saddle hardworking drivers with an onerous regulation that will increase vehicle costs and deal a serious blow to good-paying jobs.

This aggressive EPA rule will hit mom-and-pop truck operations the hardest — for trucks to be compliant with the new overregulation, it will be cost-prohibitive for small business

owners.

Don't get me wrong — Nebraskans, over a quarter of whom work jobs related to agriculture, care deeply about environmental stewardship. But the EPA's emissions rule wouldn't actually accomplish its stated purpose of cleaning up our climate.

The EPA itself estimates that the technology required to meet this new rule's standards will cost between approximately \$2,500 and \$8,500 per vehicle.

This means that many truckers will choose to keep their old heavy-duty vehicles, which have higher rates of emissions, instead of buying vehicles that are both affordable and more climate-conscious.

During a period of high inflation and supply chain disruptions, the last thing this country needs is more expensive freight costs and fewer truckers.

Congress needs to vote to overturn this excessive rule — one that will hurt both the transportation sector and consumers at large.

The bottom line is that we have an obligation to stand up and push back against out-of-touch, far-left policies. I appreciate the work so many of my colleagues are doing toward this goal.

Senator Braun is leading the charge to overturn the president's new environmental, social, and corpo-

rate governance rule on retirement funds. The Biden administration shouldn't be playing games with Americans' hard-earned money like this.

My friend Senator Tuberville is pushing back on the administration's Veterans Affairs rule that would funnel taxpayer dollars toward abortions.

And, as Senator Capito shared earlier, she is leading us in resisting the Obama-era WOTUS rule implemented late last year.

The WOTUS rule — which I've been fighting since my first term in the Senate — is the federal government at its worst: it encroaches on families, communities, and businesses by its brazen intrusion into states' precious water resource.

The Biden administration has a track record of prioritizing politically-charged regulations over the financial and economic wellbeing of Americans. My colleagues and I are here to stop these rules before they damage the livelihoods of Nebraskans and others across the country.

As long as I have the honor of working in the Senate, I'll continue to oppose radical, far-left rules and promote common-sense solutions instead. My colleagues on both sides of the aisle should join me.

Thank you. I yield the floor.

## OOIDA Sends Letter To The Senate's HELP Committee Leadership

The Honorable Bernie Sanders

The Honorable Bill Cassidy

Dear Chairman Sanders and Ranking Member Cassidy:

The Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association represents 150,000 owner-operators leased to motor carriers, small-business motor carriers with their own operating authority, and employee truck drivers. We oppose Ms. Julie Su's nomination to lead the Department of Labor and the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions must reject her nomination in order to protect the livelihoods and careers of the hard-working truckers we represent. Her record as California Labor Commissioner and Secretary for the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, including her support for AB5 and overseeing its disastrous implementation, demonstrates she would pursue policies that threaten our members' ability to use a business model they have properly and beneficially used for decades.

AB5 in California, which implements the ABC Test to classify workers, essentially requires that an owner-operator working with a carrier through a lease

agreement must be classified as an employee. This is contrary to decades of practice as well as federal laws and regulations that allow for owner-operators to be independent contractors. This is the most disruptive worker classification policy to be enacted anywhere at the state or federal level.

When asked about AB5 in an interview, Ms. Su responded that it was meant to address misclassification that has "resulted in the day labor-ization of our economy." She continued, "Instead of the steady, consistent, reliable work, people end up basically in odd jobs and you're hustling all the time, right? So AB 5 is meant to address that kind of misclassification so that we can bring more people who should be under the protection of our labor laws back on that floor."

These comments demonstrate either an ignorance of the owner-operator model in trucking or an overly broad generalization of how different workers operate as independent contractors. For the tens of thousands of truckers who have enjoyed a successful career as an owner-operator, it would come as a surprise to learn that their business represents an "odd job" in need of fixing.

It has been frustrating enough for small-business

continued on page 11



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In celebration of OOIDA's 50th Year Anniversary, we are offering a special membership rate for the entire year of 2023.

Join or renew for a **2-year membership for only \$50** — that is a savings of \$40 off the regular annual price for two years.

The special rate is valid **Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2023.**

Show your support for OOIDA and join or renew for a 2-year membership and save! Visit [oida.com](http://oida.com) or call the OOIDA Membership Dept. at **816-229-5791** to take advantage of this special offer.

\* The special \$50 membership dues offer is only applicable to a two-year membership. Purchase of a single year membership remains the regular annual price of \$45. Spouse members and additional driver members are \$10/year. Life membership is calculated as \$35 x number of years until 65, minimum \$125.

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## OOIDA Sends Letter

continued from page 10

truckers that the California legislature ignored their concerns when enacting AB5. But the implementation of the law has been just as, if not more, disappointing. For months after the law was enacted, OOIDA sought guidance about how the law would apply in the trucking industry and how small businesses and independent contractors could potentially comply. Despite our efforts, we were left with essentially no guidance before the law took effect. The law and its haphazard rollout has forced independent contractor truckers to leave the state of California, become an employee, attempt to reconfigure their business, operate under a cloud of uncertainty, or abandon the trucking profession altogether.

For these reasons, we are concerned that Ms. Su would continue to pursue an ideologically-motivated agenda towards worker classification that ignores the thousands of small-business truckers that depend on the ability to work as an independent contractor. Make no mistake, if Ms. Su were to advance the same policies that she championed in California, it would force hundreds of thousands of truckers to change their business model and put their livelihood in jeopardy. We are especially concerned with her nomination at a time when the Department of Labor is working on an updated worker classification rule. There is the potential

for this rule to make some improvements to worker classification at the federal level, but if Ms. Su is confirmed to lead the Department, we fear that we will see a repeat of what's happened in California.

Our association is in a unique position to offer an important perspective on labor issues because we are the only trade association dedicated to representing the interests of truckers who make their living out on the road. Unfortunately, these views have been left out of discussions involving worker classification. There is certainly misclassification in trucking, but there is no one-size-fits-all solution to address the problem. We have seen proposals that would implement a much too broad definition of employee and force owner-operators to work as employees, as well as proposals that would allow motor carriers to exert greater control over owner-operators while avoiding scrutiny on the classification issue.

We stand ready to work with Senators to address misclassification and improve working conditions in the trucking industry. But we believe that Ms. Su's confirmation would make it extremely difficult to fix these issues in a way that benefits America's truckers.

Thank you,  
 Todd Spencer  
 President & CEO  
 Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association, Inc.

## Shenandoah Adds Walcott Truckers Jamboree as Stop on 50+ City Revival Tour!



WALCOTT, IA... Iowa 80 Truckstop is pleased to announce that Shenandoah will be this year's Friday night headliner for the 44th Anniversary Walcott Truckers Jamboree. Shenandoah is set to take the stage on July 14th at 7:00 pm.

"We are thrilled to be able to bring Shenandoah to the Jamboree Concert Stage this year. This dynamic, Grammy® Award winning group became well known for hits "Two Dozen Roses", "Church on Cumberland Road" and "Next to You, Next to Me" as well as such achingly beautiful

classics as "I Want to be Loved Like That", says Heather DeBaillie, Vice President, Marketing. "The Walcott Truckers Jamboree is a summer event you won't want to miss. We look forward to celebrating America's truckers and the work they do each day to keep this country rolling."

The 44th Anniversary Walcott Truckers Jamboree, will be held July 13-15, 2023, at Iowa 80 Truckstop, I-80 Exit 284, Walcott, Iowa. Check out [www.truckersjamboree.com](http://www.truckersjamboree.com) for the most up to date event information. Admission and parking are FREE! Concerts are FREE! Complimentary shuttles will be provided from the parking area to the event grounds.

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fully validated by an independent third party testing company. It dramatically reduces engine wear after hundreds of thousands of miles of hard use.

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## Peterbilt Recognizes Top Dealers of 2022

Denton, TX... Peterbilt Motors Company honored its top performing dealers at the 2023 Peterbilt Dealer Meeting in Carlsbad, California, February 8-10, 2023. Dealers recognized for top performance in specific categories included:

- North American Dealer Group of the Year: TLG Peterbilt
  - Sales Excellence Dealer Group of the Year: Rush Peterbilt Truck Centers
  - Medium Duty Dealer Group of the Year: Hunter Peterbilt
  - Red Oval Dealer Group of the Year: TLG Peterbilt
  - MX Engine Dealer Group of the Year: The Peterbilt Store
  - Parts Dealer Group of the Year: Peterbilt of Atlanta
  - Service Dealer Group of the Year: Allstate Peterbilt Group
  - TRP Dealer Group of the Year: JX Truck Center - Peterbilt
  - eCommerce Dealer of the Year: TLG Peterbilt
- Peterbilt also presented the Best-in-Class Dealer Group of the Year awards, which are based on a combination of Peterbilt's Standard of Excellence scores, financial performance, parts and

service performance, and utilization of PACCAR training and programs. Dealerships receiving 2022 Best-in-Class Dealer Group Awards included:

- Allstate Peterbilt Group
  - Dobbs Peterbilt
  - Hunter Peterbilt
  - Jackson Group Peterbilt
  - JX Truck Center - Peterbilt
  - Performance Peterbilt
  - Peterbilt of Atlanta
  - Rush Peterbilt Truck Centers
  - The Peterbilt Store
  - TLG Peterbilt
- "The entire Peterbilt dealer network, and these award-winning dealers demonstrate how Class Pays and that customers are at the center of everything we do," said Peterbilt's Director of Dealer Development, Peyton Harrell. "Their investments in facility expansion, employing the best staff and service technicians, increasing hours of service and offering mobile service solutions, drive uptime every day."
- Visit [www.peterbilt.com](http://www.peterbilt.com) for more information. Peterbilt is a PACCAR Company, traded publicly on the NASDAQ as PCAR.

## ATA Voices Support for Bipartisan, Bicameral Effort to Repeal Truck Excise Tax

Washington, DC... The American Trucking Associations is hailing congressional leaders for their efforts to repeal the antiquated federal excise tax on the purchase of new trucks.

"The federal excise tax on purchases of trucks adds nearly \$25,000 to the cost of new equipment - slowing deployment of safer and more environmentally friendly vehicles," said ATA President and CEO Chris Spear. "This more than 100-year-old tax - first instituted to support American troops during the First World War, has far outlived its usefulness and now acts as an impediment to creating jobs, reducing emissions and improving highway safety."

The Modern Clean and Safe Trucks Act of 2023 was introduced in both the House and Senate by a bipartisan coalition of Congressmen and Senators, led by Reps. Doug LaMalfa, Chris Pappas, Earl Blumenauer and Darin LaHood in the House and Sens. Ben Cardin and Todd Young in the Senate. The FET is currently the highest percentage excise tax - at 12 percent - levied on any product.

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# International Roadcheck Is May 16-18 with Emphasis on ABS and Cargo Securement

Washington, DC... The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) has announced May 16-18 as this year's International Roadcheck. International Roadcheck is a high-visibility, high-volume 72-hour inspection and enforcement event where CVSA-certified inspectors in Canada, Mexico and the U.S. will conduct inspections of commercial motor vehicles and drivers at weigh/inspection stations, designated inspection areas and along roadways.

This year, inspectors will focus on anti-lock braking systems (ABS) and cargo securement to highlight the importance of those aspects of vehicle safety. Although ABS violations are not out-of-service violations, ABS play a critical role in reducing the risk of collisions by preventing the wheels from locking up or skidding, allowing a driver to maintain control of the vehicle while braking. In addition, improper cargo securement poses a serious risk to drivers and other motorists by adversely affecting the vehicle's maneuverability, or worse, causing unsecured loads to fall, resulting in traffic hazards and vehicle collisions.

During International Roadcheck, inspectors will conduct their usual roadside safety inspections of commercial motor vehicles and drivers. Data will be gathered from those three days and shared later this year, as a snapshot of the state of commercial motor vehicle and driver safety.

International Roadcheck also provides an opportunity to educate the motor carrier industry and general public about the importance of safe commercial motor vehicle operations and the North American Standard Inspection Program.

During a routine North American Standard Level I Inspection, inspectors focus on two areas – driver and vehicle safety compliance.

\* Vehicle safety – Inspectors will ensure the vehicle's brake systems, cargo securement, coupling devices, driveline/driveshaft components, driver's seat, fuel and exhaust systems, frames, lighting devices, steering mechanisms, suspensions, tires, wheels, rims, hubs and windshield wipers are compliant with regulations. Inspections of motorcoaches, passenger vans and other passenger-carrying vehicles also include emergency exits, seating, and electrical cables and systems in the engine and battery compartments.

\* Driver safety – Inspec-

tors will check the driver's operating credentials, hours-of-service documentation, status in the drug and alcohol clearinghouse, seat belt usage, and for alcohol and/or drug impairment.

Vehicles that successful-

ly pass a Level I or Level V Inspection without any critical vehicle inspection item violations may receive a CVSA decal, which is valid for three months. If the inspector does identify critical vehicle inspection item violations, as outlined

in the North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria, the vehicle will be restricted from operating until the identified out-of-service conditions have been corrected. Inspectors may also restrict the driver from operating if the driver is found to have driver out-of-service violations, such as not possessing a valid or necessary operating license or exhibiting signs of impairment.

CVSA's law enforcement

member jurisdictions in cities, states, districts, provinces and territories in Canada, Mexico and the U.S. participate in International Roadcheck with support from trucking associations, transportation safety organizations and federal agencies, such as the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Transport Canada and Mexico's Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications and Transportation.

## CVSA Opens Nominations for 2023 International Driver Excellence Award

Washington, DC... The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) is now accepting nominations for its International Driver Excellence Award (IDEA), an annual award that recognizes an extraordinary professional commercial motor vehicle driver and their commitment to public safety.

In addition, the Alliance is pleased to announce that it has increased the monetary award amount for the IDEA winner, doubling it from the previous amount of \$2,500, to \$5,000 this year.

The 2023 IDEA recipient (and a guest) will also receive complimentary airfare to Grapevine, Texas, along with a two-night, one-room hotel stay at the Gaylord Texan, to attend the CVSA Annual Conference and Exhibition awards luncheon where they will receive their check and crystal trophy.

Nominees must have:

\* At least 25 cumulative years of crash-free driving in a commercial motor vehicle with a clean driving record for the past three years

\* No felony convictions

\* No safety-related driving suspensions in the past three years

\* No driver violations in the past three years, excluding form and manner violations

CVSA's simplified application enables individuals to easily fill out the nomination form and submit the required supporting documentation, all online. Access the 2023 IDEA online nomination submission form.

As the leading organization working to improve commercial motor vehicle safety and enforcement by providing guidance, education and advocacy for enforcement and industry across North America, CVSA recognizes the exceptional careers of professional commercial motor vehicle drivers and their commitment to public safety through this award program. Therefore, IDEA is open to the entire commercial motor vehicle industry. There are no stipulations that nominees must be a member of or affiliated with CVSA to apply.



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# Do Truck Drivers Matter to God?



by Ron Fraser, Transport For Christ President

### TH & WORK

The interview playing over my car radio was standard fare. The host of a Christian program was interviewing a wildly popular contemporary Christian music star—little more than background noise as I drove down the highway. But then the discussion landed on the topic of serving the Lord in ministry. The musician told the listening world how his brother was once a truck driver but gave up trucking in order to serve the Lord as an assistant pastor. This drew hearty affirmation from the host, who was actually laughing at the compar-

ative insignificance of truck driving. The music star then recounted his congratulatory words to his brother: "I always thought you had more in you than being a trucker."

There are 5.7 million truck drivers in the United States.

I turned the interview off and silently drove down the highway, wondering, what are the truck drivers who heard this feeling right now? A superstar Christian just implied that 5.7 million truck drivers are less significant than assistant pastors.

A massive question now hangs in the air—a question loaded with profound implications for the significance of your life and vocation: "Are truck drivers—the same drivers who transport our food, clothing, building materials, and church sound systems—less significant to God?"

What about all the other occupations? Such as electricians, engineers, firemen, police officers... the list goes on and on.

The reality of the situation is this. The regular every-day occupations

of a believer does are of great importance to God. The work God has given us to do was not given to us by accident. He has put us in the positions we are in so that we might have an impact on those around us and that we might be ambassadors for Him. Using every opportunity to share the gospel or to minister to the needs of someone who might cross our path. We need not question the sovereignty of God as to whether we are in the right vocation. It is no accident that we are where we are. This is the place God wants us to be. This is where He has put us to make a difference for all eternity. He speaks to us as if to say, "Live the life I gave you, and focus on making a difference right where you are at." So we live our regular everyday lives hammering away at the work God has called us to do with the understanding that He has given each of us a regular everyday life to live and our own special place where we have an opportunity for us to shape eternity.

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# Roadex To Donate Match Gift To Truckers Final Mile

## Carlisle Events Season Schedule



LIVONIA, MI... Transportation service provider, RoadEx, offering freight bill factoring, dispatch and insurance services to owner-operator truck fleets, announced today the company will donate their largest match gift to date of \$5,000 to truckersfinalmile, a charity created to reunite truckers and their families due to unforeseen circumstances they experience in the line of duty. The matching gift campaign will take place at the Mid-America Trucking Show, March 30 - April 1. RoadEx CEO Paul Adams made the announcement.

"Over the past 2 years, we have been committed to supporting truckersfinalmile and their mission to help truckers and their families during difficult times," said RoadEx CEO Paul Adams. "We hope our contribution will encourage others to support this important cause and continue to support the truckers and their families that are at the heart of our industry."

truckersfinalmile was founded in 2014 by founder Robert Palm—inspired by more than 40 years in the industry and several life-changing events from his time on the road. Palm saw a recurring need for truckers and families who were faced with financial hardships due to the loss of life, injury, serious illness or crisis. The demand for services has increased in the past three years because of rising fuel costs, insurance, cost of equipment, health and stress-related conditions as well as increasingly dangerous driving conditions.

"To date, truckersfinalmile has reunited more than 500 truckers with their families following a tragic accident by covering costs from funeral home services and more," said Palm. "Thanks to RoadEx and their generous partnership, we're one step closer to reaching our goal to eliminate financial

burdens for drivers."

Donations can be made through PayPal and will benefit the organization's program to provide home improvement support to truckers due to injury and

disabilities. For more information about truckersfinalmile and to donate, visit <https://www.truckersfinalmile.org/donate/>.

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a one-stop-shop for owner-operators of new or existing fleets, RoadEx proudly offers freight bill factoring, dispatch, and insurance services, backed by superior customer ser-

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Carlisle, PA... 2022 was a great year in Carlisle, Pennsylvania both with the internationally recognized car shows backed by Carlisle Events as well as some awesome collector car auction excitement powered by Carlisle Auctions. Records fell, smiles per hour were at an all-time high, and kids flocked to Carlisle too!

The first Carlisle-based event is Spring Carlisle, April 19-24. Some 100,000 guests flock to Carlisle, all looking to buy, sell, or trade something with a little automotive flavor to it.

Once the Spring show comes and goes, Carlisle transitions to specialty events season. This includes a portfolio of six car-centric events, led May 12-13 by the Carlisle Import & Performance Nationals. As May becomes June and Memorial Day ushers in the unofficial start of summer, the Carlisle PA Fairgrounds welcomes THE Ford car show of Ford car shows. The Carlisle Ford Nationals (June 2-4) offers no shortage of cars, people, and excitement.

Three weeks after the Blue Oval excitement leaves town, the Bow-Tie fun rolls in. Summer officially gets going with the Carlisle GM Nationals (June 23-24) as 100 years of history adorn the National Parts Depot Showfield. Planned features include a few "shows within the show."

June becomes July and that means the largest all-Mopar event in the world, the Carlisle Chrysler (July 14-16). and organizer of the Survivor Display, Malaise Era Mopars, Mopars from your high school days, 50-Years of 1973 Mopars, and more.

August offers two events in the form of the Carlisle Truck Nationals (August 4-6) and Corvettes at Carlisle (August 24-26). For three days, truck lovers of all ages can see in real life the toys they played with as kids. This includes trucks of all shapes, sizes, styles, and eras; plus Monster Trucks, cool custom vans, big rigs, and heavy equipment. There are also a handful of planned displays, including 40 Years of the Ford Ranger, the "low show", Vanarama, antique Fire Trucks, and the Big Rig Show and Shine. Don't miss a sensory-laden event, complete with sights and sounds, including the big rig glow show, drop and drag contest, and neon that frequently accompanies the vans.

Corvettes at Carlisle wraps up the August offerings at Carlisle and for 2023.

Lastly for Carlisle in 2023 is Fall Carlisle (September 27-October 1). Corvettes at Carlisle - August Links to purchase, details on the 2023 schedule, and more can be found at [CarlisleEvents.com](http://CarlisleEvents.com) or by calling 717-243-7855.

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# Savage: A Driver's Perspective



- All photos courtesy of Savage -

continued from page 1

promoting programs for military veterans and their spouses.

Women at Savage represent a growing segment of Team Members working in rewarding careers that include truck drivers, equipment operators, rail engineers, financial analysts, milling superintendents, operations managers, directors, executives, and more. In fact, Savage was named a 2022 Top Employer for Women in Transportation by the

Women in Trucking Association.

"We're pleased to be recognized for our ongoing efforts to make Savage a great place to work, and truly appreciate all the women at Savage who create value for our Customers and teams every day," said Kirk Aubry, Savage president and CEO. "In addition to the many women in leadership, operational and functional roles, we also have exceptional women serving on our Board of Directors who help guide the direction of the company."

In Redefining the Road's announcement of award recipients, publisher Brian Everett noted the recognized companies are distinguished by characteristics including corporate cultures that foster gender diversity; competitive compensation and

benefits; flexible hours and work requirements; professional development opportunities; and career advancement opportunities.

Savage Team Members move and manage what matters so Customers and Partners can Feed the World, Power Our Lives, and Sustain the Planet. Savage's growth opportunities include expanding its geographic footprint with a focus on strengthening the renewable fuels supply chain, helping Customers and railroad Partners streamline first- and last-mile rail service, and adding to its port and terminal operations across North America.

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# Something to Think About - Some Things Don't Change

by: Mike McGough

"How have things changed since you were a child?" Area seniors were asked to respond to this prompt by a local agency on aging. The agency wanted to create contacts with the senior community, and at the same time learn a little about them. If they requested, students from a local college writing class would meet interested individuals at the college library and record their reflections for them. In addition to being in touch with local seniors, the agency hoped that looking at the differences the seniors have or are noticing might give some indications of services and programs the agency could provide. Nobody was going to become a Nobel Laureate with this research, but it would be interesting and potentially insightful for the agency, while being fun for those who chose to participate.

In the end, there were more than 200 responses, about a third of which were written and submitted directly by seniors. The agency didn't request any identifying information, just an age, and even that was optional. All but a limited few agreed to provide their age. In discuss-

ing the differences they've observed, the respondents hit a wide range of topics. They touched on clothing and grooming styles, music and entertainment, politics and government, lifestyle, technology, religion, and a host of other topics where they saw noticeable change. There was however, one response, written out in longhand, that on first read, didn't seem to address the prompt. After a careful read, that response was a true testament to the person who wrote it. Here it is, just as it was offered.

Oh, there's lots of differences I've noticed over my years. But I suspect most of them are more the result of how my perspectives has changed. If you fight change, change generally wins in the end, so long ago I learned how to adapt and make the most of it. There's several things that haven't changed, at least for me, and holding onto them has made adapting much easier. Here's a few of them.

A lot of the people I loved as a kid, I love even more now, because we've been though decades together. We've laughed a lot, cried a little, and did what we did day by day to live out our lives. Lots of new people have come

into my life. I've learned that there's really no limit on how many people you can love or how much you can love them; that's all up to you. Some of the folks who were big players in my childhood are gone. Because I've come to realize how much more fully, they did for me, I respect them and love them more. Love is the real thing, it's the big deal, always has been always will be!

There are eight other similarities that easily come to mind.

1. The harder I've worked the greater the rewards of my efforts, but no reward has ever seemed sufficient if I'm not enjoying life.

2. Curiosity maybe killed the cat, but it's still the spark that starts the fire of my imagination, lights the lamp of my learning, and ignites the engine of my motivation

3. Luck can be bad or good. Only a fool is stalled by the prospect of bad luck or neglects to learn its lessons to reduce return visits. It's also the fool who depends on good luck, fails to appreciate her when she shows up, or doesn't invite her back.

4. Time is a precious gift. Not a second can be bought or sold, but there's an endless array of ways

to misuse, squander, and abuse the gift. You can waste time, meander aimlessly through it, or make the most of it. You play out your choices each and every day.

5. Optimism is a better friend than pessimism. Positivity is a partner worthy of your embrace, but only if you embrace her with some realism. Those who partner with optimism don't get a free ride, but their trek through life seems happier and easier.

6. Making sense of everything I encountered as a child wasn't always easy. It was difficult, even impossible at times. There are still a bunch of things that I can't make heads or tails of!

7. Please and thank you were three powerful words I learned as a child. Please and thank you are three powerful words no adult should ever forget.

8. Believing in something bigger than my fears, my dreams, my world, and myself, makes life easier. I don't have the weight of the world on my shoulders; He carries that for me!

Sorry if I didn't answer your question as you wanted me to. By the way, I'll be 103 on my next birthday!




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## Daimler Truck North America Awards Fyda, Inc. for CIC Efforts



Fyda Freightliner CICs from left to right: Melissa McCombs (Pittsburgh & Barkeyville, PA; Youngstown, OH), Kara Ellis (Columbus & Zanesville, OH), Derik Wells DFIC, Brandon Voegeli (Cincinnati, OH), Shannon Shopinsky (Youngstown, OH) and Michael Paul (Walton, KY).

Columbus, OH... Fyda, Inc. was presented with several awards recently at the 2022 Elite Support Summit held in Savannah, Ga. where more than 500 Continuous Improvement Coordinators (CIC), dealer principals, and executive leaders from the Daimler Truck North America (DTNA) network came together to share best practices and recognize continuous improvement efforts.

Derik Wells of Fyda Freightliner Cincinnati, Inc. brought back four awards including the Change Management Team award which recognizes teams who make full use of all CI tools to implement

innovative, sustainable improvements in their dealerships. Other awards included the Parts Performance Development Award, Truck Sales Performance Development Award and Service Performance Development Award.

Kara Ellis, CIC for Fyda

Freightliner Columbus, Inc. and Fyda Freightliner Western Star Zanesville was given the Elephant Award which recognizes Excellence in Continuous Improvement Leadership.

Dan Ruhe, general manager for both the Cincinnati and Walton, KY dealerships stated that "Special recognition went to Derik Wells for overseeing all the efforts of the CICs in all seven Fyda locations in Ohio, Kentucky and Pennsylvania. His leadership has been instrumental in moving the needle as it relates to Elite Support. We are incredibly proud of him and Kara, and our entire CIC Team and efforts across all Fyda dealerships."

Fyda Freightliner operates dealerships in Columbus, Zanesville, Cincinnati and Youngstown, Ohio; Pittsburgh (Canonsburg) and Barkeyville (Harrisville), Pennsylvania; and Walton (Richwood), Kentucky. For more information, visit us online at [www.fydafreightliner.com](http://www.fydafreightliner.com).



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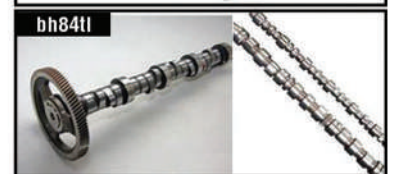
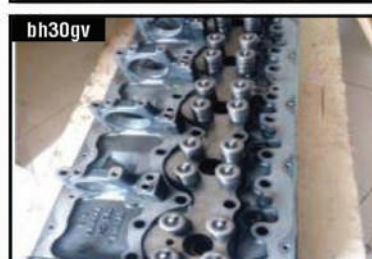
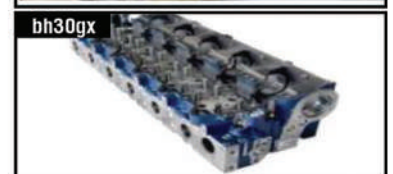
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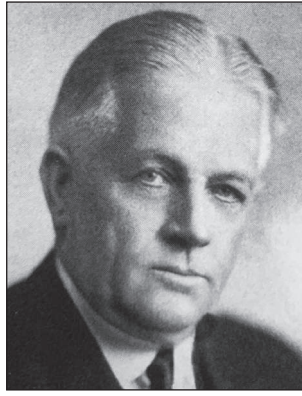
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# A Century of Innovation: Kenworth Turns 100 in 2023



Harry W. Kent

Edgar K. Worthington

Harry Kent and Edgar Worthington combine their names to form the Kenworth Motor Truck Corporation on January 22, 1923 with headquarters established in Seattle, WA.

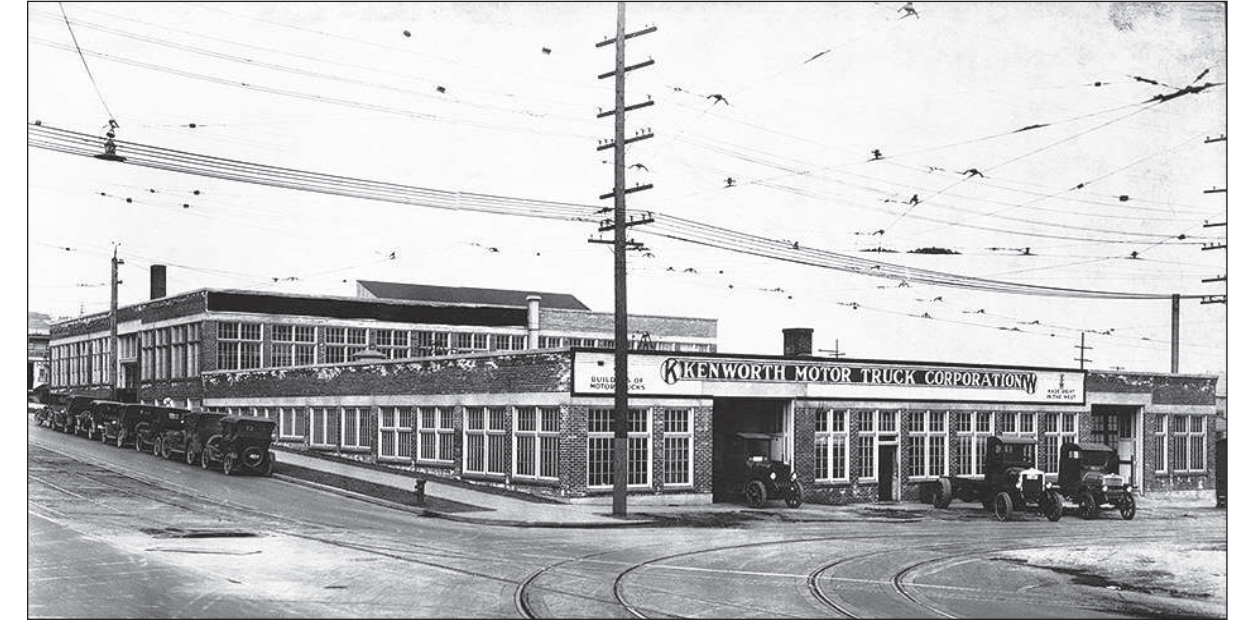
Throughout the last century, more than 1.3 million trucks have hauled goods across the United States and Canada roadways with the Kenworth badge on the grill. In 2023, Kenworth begins a year-long celebration, commemorating its 100th anniversary and contributions to the transportation industry.

The history of Kenworth began in 1923 when Harry W. Kent and Edgar K. Worthington incorporated the Gersix Motor Company as Kenworth. The company name was formed from a combination of letters from the founders' last names while the world-renowned Kenworth "bug" logo originated from the K in Kent and W in Worthing-

ton.

That first year, the small Seattle truck manufacturer produced 78 six-cylinder, gasoline-powered trucks. Since then, Kenworth has produced more than a million Class 5 to Class 8 models, and super heavy duty trucks, like the C500 6x6 with its gross combination weight rating of 1 million pounds. Kenworth is also now producing medium and heavy duty battery electric vehicles.

"Kenworth's storied history over the past 100 years provides much to be proud about. From being the first U.S. truck manufacturer to offer a diesel engine as standard equipment in 1933 to selling Kenworth trucks



The Kenworth plant on Yale and Mercer streets in Seattle was constructed in 1923. It had a capacity to build 50 trucker per month and remained in-use until 1946.

with an electric powertrain today, it's been quite a journey," said Kevin Baney, Kenworth general manager and PACCAR vice president. "We're also especially proud of our leadership in truck aerodynamics with the Kenworth T600 introduction in 1985. That model began the revolution in fuel-efficient trucks and its evolution has tremendously advanced in the new flagship T680 that sets industry standard today in truck aerodynamics."

Kenworth's success and staying power in a competitive business can be continued on page 25



In 1985, Kenworth introduced the T600A – the industry's first truly aerodynamic truck.

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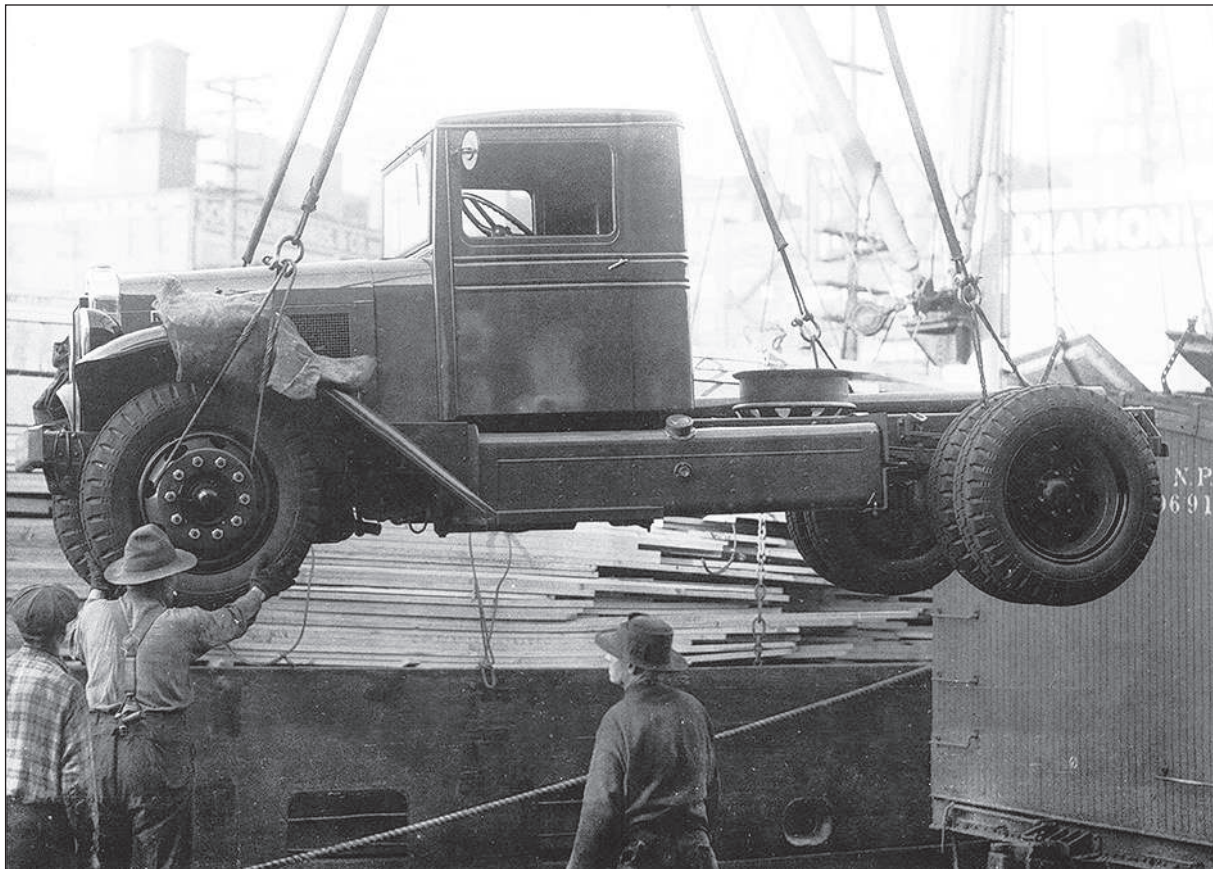
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# A Century of Innovation: Kenworth Turns 100 in 2023



**Kenworth Diesel Valley Motor Express being loaded on ship**

**Kenworth was the first American truck manufacturer to install diesel engines as standard equipment. The first diesel was built for Valley Motor Express in California, and had a small HA-4 Cummins engine – 100 horsepower. It also had the first vertical exhausts in the industry**

continued from page 24  
traced back to a philosophy established early in the firm's history. The goal was to build the right Kenworth truck for each customer's application to get the job done and build that truck to last. That philosophy, which continues to be true to this day, resulted

in Kenworth establishing a solid reputation for its quality, innovative and durable trucks driven by state-of-the-art technology. "Kenworth has remained true to its core values since its founding," said Baney. "We've achieved many amazing accomplishments

in our first 100 years. But there's more work to be done at Kenworth as we drive the next 100 years and continue our mission of producing The World's Best trucks." Kenworth Truck Company, founded in 1923, is the manufacturer

of The World's Best® heavy and medium duty trucks. Throughout 2023, Kenworth is celebrating its historic 100th anniversary. To learn more about the 100th anniversary celebration visit [www.Kenworth100.com](http://www.Kenworth100.com).

# Kriete Steps Up Support of Electric Truck Customers



MADISON, WI... Kriete Truck Centers has announced that it has installed two charging stations at its Madison, Wisconsin location to serve the needs of electric truck customers and to assist the industry's and Kriete's brand partners' support of this key national initiative.

Family owned and operated for more than 70-years with 10 locations across the state, Kriete partnered with Hino Trucks utilizing their end-to-end electric vehicle (EV) enablement solution, INCLUSEV, in securing the charging stations from ChargePoint, a leading provider of EV

charging stations in North America and Europe.

"The installation of these two charging stations represents a significant milestone in the electrification journey of Kriete, our customers and the trucking industry," David Kriete, President and CEO of Kriete Truck Centers, said. "Electric trucks are key to a sustainable future not just for trucking, but society as whole, and together with our industry partners, we're committed to playing a leadership role."

For more information, including store locations and hours, visit [krietetrucks.com](http://krietetrucks.com).

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# Cleveland Brothers Offers Trailstar Trailers



A brand new Trailstar Aluminum End Dump ready to go to work. - Photos by Steve Pollock -



Custom trailer to haul and paint Bilbeau Steel Dump Bodies.



Newly painted Bilbeau body ready to be mounted on a matching Mack Granite tractor.

**By Steve Pollock**

NEW STANTON, PA... Cleveland Brothers, a Caterpillar dealer with 29 locations in 3 states, is pleased to announce that they now carry full lines of aluminum and steel dump trailers and bodies. All Cleveland Brothers locations offer

parts, and most have service for steel and aluminum dumps. Select locations offer sales, along with body installation. The company is a distributor of Trailstar aluminum frame type and frameless dumps as well as steel frame type and frameless dumps. They are also

dealers for Bilbeau steel dump bodies. Trailstar will soon be offering aluminum dumps for self-installation. Call 855-333-0666 for information.

In stock are 40' frameless and 34' frame type aluminum and steel dump trailers as well as Steel

Bodies. See the lineup of quality Trailstar Trailers at the Trailstar Booth # 32125 at the Mid-America Trucking Show in Louisville Kentucky on March 30-April 1. All trailers are for sale.

Cleveland Brothers is a member of Rig 360 Truck

Centers, a nationwide network of CAT dealers offering parts and service for all makes of trucks and engines. In addition, Cleveland Brothers are Wabco distributors.

With 29 locations, Cleveland Brothers has many opportunities for employ-

ment. The company is currently hiring engine and truck technicians, welders and fabricators, and truck body installers. Go to careers.clevelandbrothers.com or call 866-778-3870.



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# MOVIN' OUT

## Calendar of Events

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**April 15 - LargeCarMag 5th Annual Family Gathering "United We Roll" Truck Show** - Maple Grove Raceway, Mohnton, PA. Raising money for American Cancer Society Relay for Life in honor of our Friend Sal Castiglione Jr and all others that have lost and fought for their lives due to this horrible disease! For more info email: [lrgcar@verizon.net](mailto:lrgcar@verizon.net) or call Michele at 717-806-8907.

**April 28-30 - 75 Chrome Truck Show** - 75 Chrome Shop, located off Exit 329 1-75; 419 E State Road 44 Wildwood, FL 34785. For more info, call 866-255-6206 or visit them on the web at [www.75chromeshop.com](http://www.75chromeshop.com)

**May 11-15 - East Coast Truckers Jamboree** - Kenly 95 Petro, Kenly, NC. For more info contact Alicia Bedford, 919-502-7071. Email: [alicia.bedford@iowa80goup.com](mailto:alicia.bedford@iowa80goup.com)

**May 5-6 - Midwest Pride In Your Ride Truck & Tractor Show** - Tri-State Raceway, Earlville, IA. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society. For more info call 563-923-3724 or visit [www.midwestprideinyourride.org](http://www.midwestprideinyourride.org)

**May 14 - Annual Make-A-Wish Mother's Day Convoy** - Manheim Pennsylvania Auto Auction, 1190 Lancaster Road, Manheim, PA 17545. For more info, visit [www.wishconvoy.org](http://www.wishconvoy.org) or phone 717-283-4868.

**May 26-27 - Troy Huddleston Memorial Truck Show** - Jasper Co. Fairgrounds, Newton, IL. Parade, Truck Show, Entertainment by Confederate Railroad, Kentucky Headhunters, and Tony Justice. For more info call 618-553-0809

**May 20 - 3rd Annual Semi Crazy Cornfield Round Up** - Waspy's Truck Stop, located right on Highway 71 South Side of Audubon, IA (address 2079 US 71). All vehicles welcome if it has tires. Multi ATHS Chapter Event - Show and Shine, No Charge Event. For more info call Dave @ 712-789-0155 or email [dgammell@netins.net](mailto:dgammell@netins.net) or Russell @ 402-680-6121 or email [kwcoefan@gmail.com](mailto:kwcoefan@gmail.com)

**June 1-4 - Wheel Jam Truck Show** - South Dakota State Fairgrounds, 43118th St. SW, Huron, SD. For more info visit [www.wheeljamtruckshow.com](http://www.wheeljamtruckshow.com) or phone 605-354-2809

**June 8-10 - ATHS National Convention & Truck Show** - Grand Sierra Resort & Casino, 2500 E. 2nd St., Reno, NV. For more info visit [www.aths.org/convention](http://www.aths.org/convention)

**June 24-25 - 11TH Annual Ohio Vintage Truck Reunion** - (Weekend after Father's Day) - Ashland County Fairgrounds. Sponsored by Ohio Chapters of the American Truck Historical Society. Hours 9 am to 4 pm. Hundreds of Vintage Trucks, Truck Model Contest, Trucking Memorabilia Display, Swap Meet, Camping, Food, T-shirts, 50-50, Activities, Country Convoy. Donations to Show Charities appreciated. For more info 419-332-8352. [www.ohvintkrreu.com](http://www.ohvintkrreu.com)

**June 25 - American Truck Historical Society ATHS Nutmeg Chapter Show** - Brooklyn Fair Grounds, Route 169, Brooklyn, CT/ 8:00am-3:pm. For more information, call Tom Bachand @ 774 230 3553

**July 13-15 - Annual Walcott Truckers Jamboree** - Iowa 80 Truckstop, I-80 Exit 284, Walcott, IA. Super Beauty Truck Show, Antique Truck Display, Trucker Olympics Games, Exhibits, Fireworks, Live Music and much more!! For more information go to <http://iowa80truckstop.com/trucker-jamboree/>

**July 15-16 - Gulf Coast Big Rig Truck Show** - MS Coast Coliseum & Convention Center, 2350 Beach Blvd., Biloxi, MS 39531. Showcases the working truck, supports the military and first responders, as well as raising money for the Wounded Warriors Project. The two day event ends with an escorted convoy along the beach displaying the trucks from the Chrome on the Coast Contest! For more info, call 985-630-9171. Email: [pattimccleney@gmail.com](mailto:pattimccleney@gmail.com)

**July 21-22 - Keystone Chapter ATCA Truck, Tractor, and Machinery Show** - 139 Municipal St., East Freedom, PA. Dash plaques while supplies last. No judging. Food and drinks both days. For more info, visit [www.keystonetrucks.org](http://www.keystonetrucks.org) or call 814-224-2084.

**July 21-22 - 6th Annual Gear Jammer Magazine Truck Show** - NEW LOCATION! Franklin County Fairgrounds, 89 Wisdom Way, Greenfield, MA. 01301. All proceeds donated to The Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Children with Autism. Over 100 trophies, vendor midway, Light Show, kids activities and more. For more info call Bob @ 508-212-9998 or email: [mttconrad7@aol.com](mailto:mttconrad7@aol.com)

**August 4-6 - Carlisle Truck Nationals** - Carlisle, PA Big Rig Show and Shine. Monster Truck Shows, Vendor Midway and Truck Themed Swap Meet, Kids at Carlisle Activity Center. For more info call 717-243-7855 or visit [www.carlisleevents.com](http://www.carlisleevents.com)

**September 29-October 1 - 3rd Annual Soza Memorial Truck Show** - Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, Turlock, CA. All proceeds benefit Dyslexia For Kids in honor of AJ Soza. For more info call Ashleigh Soza @ 209-247-9739 or email: [sozameorialtruckshow@yahoo.com](mailto:sozameorialtruckshow@yahoo.com)

If you would like to list an upcoming show or event, send all the details including a telephone contact number to:  
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## TDI Repair and Towing – Complete Services For Heavy Duty Trucks



From left to right: Adam Bartemy, Lynn Bartemy, Herbert Bartemy, Ellen Bartemy, Aaron Bartemy



**By Steve Pollock**  
SWANTON, VT... TDI Repair and Towing is Northern Vermont's largest auto and truck towing, roadside repair, collision repairs, and recovery provider. Located at 50 Babbie Blvd. in Swanton, Vermont, TDI Repair and Towing operates primarily along I-89 & I-87. They are a family operated business owned by Herbert and Lynn Bartemy alongside their two sons Adam and

Aaron as well as their daughter Ellen. The company offers heavy-duty towing and recovery for tractor/trailers in addition to repairs and fabrication for Truck and trailer. TDI also does equipment hauling and complete commercial truck load services, including scale and point-of-entry service. There is a great selection of tires from Double Coin, Goodyear, BF Goodrich, Michelin,

and Toyo. Other services include AlumiTank Fuel Tanks, Air Weigh Systems, and Torque Parts. ASB certified technicians are on duty to perform all types of diesel engine repairs, heavy truck service and even Regen services. PM service for all makes of trucks and trailers is also available. TDI can also service your RV or passenger vehicle.

TDI Repair and Towing is affiliated with the following service providers: NTTS National Truck and Trailer; Truck Down; Truck Pride; PTP Stops; AAA; Cross Country Road Assistance; WreckMaster Operator Training; Towing and Recovery Association of America; and the Vermont Towing Association.

Most money and credit services are accepted. Call 802-868-5270 for assistance or any questions. TDI Repair and Towing was recognized as the Swanton Chamber of Commerce 2022 Citizen Business of the Year.



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# A Likely Story - The Night Shift



**By Roger Clark**

It was a cold April night in the countryside outside El Paso, and drivers were just settling in the TV room when word came down from dispatch. Five trucks were immediately needed to bobtail for Dallas, scheduled to arrive first thing in the morning. Taking a few minutes to grab some snacks, top off the fuel tanks, and empty the ash-trays, we headed out with our bright red T600's.

Chatter on the CB was heavy that night, but everyone was in cheery spirits, and that always makes the night a lot less formidable. Eventually, however, the trip turned quiet as the evening wore on. Still we motored on, our minds and hearts on the same wavelength as cruise control.

Somewhere in the hills above Van Horn, deep in the 3:00 AM hour, we were running about a half mile apart from each other, when we were passed by

a white KW T600. I was running back door that night, and barely even noticed it. Neither did the three trucks ahead of me.

By the time the interloper passed the next red racer, they were both beyond my line of sight. Then suddenly the silence of the night was broken by the CB voice of our front door, who exclaimed, "If I didn't just get passed by a white T600, I'm throwing out this whole bottle of pills!"

I was once one of three drivers assigned to loads of candy going from Memphis to City Of Industry, a Los Angeles suburb. The instructions were somewhat cryptic. Arrive at 4:00 AM, speak only to Dennis, and pay what he asks for. We didn't even have a last name, which struck me as odd, but even crazier was the order to show up with seven hundred dollars, each.

Sure enough, as we turned into the gate, Dennis was there to greet us, and he very pleasantly asked for \$700. Although it was a breathtaking amount, even for a California lumper, I readily handed it over. So did the driver behind me. But then things got bizarre.

The third driver balked, claiming it was a rip off, and refused to pay the lumper fee. Dennis informed the driver that he didn't have to pay but would be required to unload his trailer without help. Oh, and by

the way, Dennis said, the load is 7,500 pieces, and it could stretch out to several hours.

At 7:00 AM, following a brief nap, two of us were empty and headed for the street. One of us wasn't. Two of us went to LAX and loaded car parts for Tennessee. One of us didn't. Two of us passed the candy warehouse on the way back to Memphis, and one of us was still backed into the dock. He may still be there, for all I know.

My best friend in all the world turns 190 this summer but comes alive in the night. He sees more in the dark than most of us notice

in the daylight. But it really has affected his brain because he still listens. He still forgives. He still prays, and still does a thorough pre-trip inspection.

This was particularly evident when we ran team together. I could rest easy every night, knowing he would be wide awake enough to tell me that he passed 132 trains, 16 wind farms, and 4 classic cars between midnight and 0600. He lived on a thermos of coffee and half-pack of Oreo cookies, most nights, and thirty years later remembers every load we ever hauled.

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Boasting high refrigeration capacities, demonstrated fuel savings of 20 to 25% and reduced emissions for greater sustainability and regulatory compliance, Carrier Transcold's new X4™ 7700 trailer refrigeration unit is now available through the company's North America dealer network.

The new unit employs an advanced version of the smart engine used throughout Carrier Transcold's existing trailer platforms. Benefits of the new unit include:

- \* Enhanced compliance – Under current regulations, the X4 7700 provides lifetime compliance with the Cali-

fornia Air Resources Board's (CARB) stricter rules for trailer refrigeration systems.

- \* Significantly better fuel economy – The advanced engine features common-rail fuel injection for optimized fuel delivery that reduces fuel consumption by 5 to 10%. The new third speed, called "eco speed," automatically decreases engine RPMs during intervals where conditions permit, significantly improving operating efficiency compared to normal low-speed operation for even more fuel savings. Combined, these performance enhancements demonstrated 20 to 25% average fuel savings, relative to standard

X4 units, for premium performance X4 7700 units tested by over-the-road fleets under a variety of operating conditions during the summer of 2022.

- \* Greater sustainability – The unit uses R-452A refrigerant with a global warming potential 45% lower than that of the traditional transport refrigeration unit refrigerant, R-404A. The efficient common rail fuel system and a diesel oxidation catalyst push particulate, hydrocarbon and NOx emissions to new lows, and the unit is the most environmentally responsible choice in the X4 Series for fleets seeking sustainable options.

- \* Lighter weight – At

1,690 pounds, the X4 7700 weighs about 10% less than its competition.

- \* Highest capacity – As with its predecessor in the X4 Series, the X4 7700 achieves the high industry benchmark of 68,000 BTU/h at a setpoint of 35 degrees Fahrenheit under certification conditions of the Air-Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration Institute.

All X4 7700 units are equipped with Carrier Transcold's industry-leading Lynx™ Fleet telematics solution for remote monitoring of temperatures, location, movement and system operating performance.

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# Skelton – Your Family. Your Career. Our Honor!



continued from page 1

teams. Most company driver teams make over 100K per year (each person). Owner-operator teams average 350K to 400K per truck annually. Skelton pays \$5,500 per team for orientation. Each driver is given \$250 on the first day for food and expenses and when orientation is completed, Skelton puts \$2500 in their paycheck.

Skelton hauls high value pharmaceuticals, and the entire fleet is temperature controlled using dual reefers. The company is still

operated by the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation of the Skelton family but was purchased by the Andlaure Health Group that also owns Boyle.

Skelton's corporate office is in Sharon, Ontario Canada, however they have been operating in the USA for the past 7 years. The company opened a terminal in Canal Winchester, Ohio, just south of Columbus 2 years ago and is breaking ground for another terminal just south of Memphis, Tennessee.

Skelton has grown substantially in the USA in the past couple of years. With

steady freight volumes, the company would like to grow by one to two trucks per month. The freight is over-the-road for dedicated customers and Skelton is seeking company driver teams and owner-operator teams in most states. Company drivers can take the truck home and Skelton helps owner-operators with the cost of secure parking.

Skelton offers good, consistent freight year-round with stable rates and steady volumes. All Skelton owner-operators and company drivers receive two free

truck washes per week. Skelton is the winner of the 2023 Best Fleets To Drive For, Fleet To Watch, and Top Employer For Women To Work For In Transportation.

If you would like to learn more about the opportunities at Skelton, give Jessica a call at 800-387-9796, ext. 345 or stop and see her and one of Skelton's new Peterbilt 579s at the Mid-America Trucking Show in Louisville, Kentucky on March 30-April 1. They will be at booth #62024 in the West Wing.

Jessica Kapasky, North American Recruitment and Retention Manager and Skelton Team Driver Cher.



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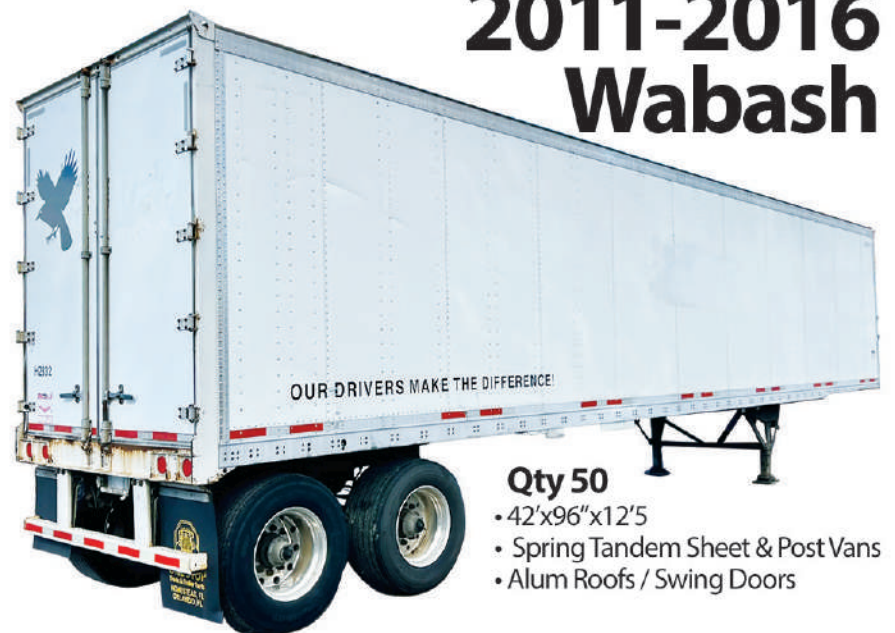
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