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"THE JOURNAL OF THE TRUCKING INDUSTRY"

2021 Wheel Jam Truck Show Sizzles!!



Blackshirt's Peterbilt makes a grand arrival during the Wheel Jam Truck Show Park in Huron, South Dakota! - Photo by Paula Linke - Turn to pages 12 & 13 for the story and more photos.

Koch Companies – The It Was Is The Way It Is



By Steve Pollock

MINNEAPOLIS, MN.... The Koch Companies Marine Division has exploded with growth the past couple of years. In fact, the fleet has doubled in size since 2020 and they are on schedule to deliver 30,000-35,000 boats in 2021. The company currently has 100 company trucks and 200 specialized marine trailers serving the fleet. They are seeking to hire 25-35 additional drivers.

Koch designed their own marine trailer that can be configured to haul multiple boats

of different sizes. The company serves 11 boat manufacturers as a dedicate carrier and a total of 57 across the USA. Drivers pick up loads at the manufacturer and deliver to dealers throughout the USA and Canada. All trailers are pre-loaded and most are secured, it is steady year-round work. Drivers receive extra pay for crossing the border as well as for each stop. Trucks are loaded and loaded about 65% of the time coming back, but drivers are paid all miles – loaded or empty. Drivers set up their

own delivery schedule with the receivers so they can travel at their own pace. You never have to deal with a grumpy receiver as everyone is glad to see you.

Mark Stratton from Columbia, Missouri has been a Professional Truck Driver for 5 ½ years and is a mentor to new drivers in Koch's Marine Division. I had the opportunity to interview Mark at the recent Walcott Truckers Jamboree and this is what he told me, "I got tired of bumping a dock, so I came to haul boats. Koch treats

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Keep On Truckin'!! PGT Trucking, Inc. Celebrates 40th Year



PGT Trucking CEO Pat Gallagher and President Gregg Troian with the vintage International TranStar presented to Pat during the 40th Anniversary Celebration.

By Steve Pollock

INDUSTRY, PA.... A special celebration was held on Saturday, May 22nd at the Willows Event Center in Industry, Pennsylvania to commemorate 40 years in business by PGT Trucking, Inc. Founded in 1981 by Pat Gallagher with a single truck and two employees, PGT Trucking has grown to over 1,000 employees, 1,000 power units and over 1,500

trailers. PGT has become a state-of-the-art flatbed carrier, servicing the steel, building materials, machinery, oil & gas, raw materials, aluminum and automotive industries.

Guests enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres before being welcomed by Pittsburgh radio and television personality Larry Richert. A short video was shown with a timeline of company achievements. Var-

ious employees talked about working at PGT Trucking, including employee #1 Lori Brown, who is still with the company today. Lori said, "PGT is Pat Gallagher and has been for 40 years."

PGT President Gregg Troian took guests on a trip down memory lane. Photos of vintage trucks from Diamond Reos to the TranStar II cabover continued on page 5

Peterbilt Makes UltraLoft Sleeper Available on Model 567



Denton, TX... Peterbilt Motors Company is pleased to announce the availability of the Model 567 in an UltraLoft sleeper configuration.

The workhorse of the Peterbilt product lineup, the Model 567 can be spec'd for virtually any application, from vocational to on-highway and regional haul configurations. With the addition of the UltraLoft sleeper, the Model 567 now offers a more spacious, integral sleeper option for customers that enjoy its traditional signature pod-mounted headlamps, durable Metton® hood and stainless steel grille.

By optimizing the space

available, the UltraLoft sleeper includes industry-leading storage and comfort, including 8 feet of headroom and 70 cubic feet of overall storage. The UltraLoft also gives drivers the largest upper and lower bunk mattresses, best-in-class headroom in both bunks and creature comforts of home with space to accommodate the industry's largest microwave and enough room to fit a 32-inch flat screen TV.

Interior updates to the Model 567 are highlighted by the class leading 15" Digital Display with a fully customizable user interface (UI) that delivers easy-to read information and full PTO

integration so operators can fine-tune the Digital Display information to suit their individual preferences, additional new driver comforts found inside including more cabin storage, two permanent cup holders and options for 12V or USB charging ports.

The Model 567 is available with the latest advanced driver assistance systems fully integrated into the Digital Display, including lane keeping assist, adaptive cruise control with auto resume, speed sign recognition, side objection detection, safety direct integration, multi-lane emergency braking and highway departure detection.

Shell Rotella® Understands The Road To Recovery

Houston, TX ... Shell Rotella®, the market-leading heavy duty diesel engine oil in North America, is excited to announce the launch of The Road to Recovery campaign which is rooted in championing the virtue of hard work. The program seeks to create opportunities out of change for people who drive trucks and operate heavy duty equipment on- and off-highway. Shell Rotella understands that on this journey hard work is a way of life for many. Through this campaign, the brand will celebrate and recognize those who are committed to getting the job done even in difficult circumstances.

Essential workers in transportation, construction and agriculture have taken their hard work down many roads, and now Shell Rotella wants to honor those embarking on the most important 'road.' Through the three pillars of go safely, go further and get savings, the campaign will support those who are living this commitment to hard work.

"As the industry, and North America, continue to navigate unprecedented times, hardworking men and women have been instrumental in driving us forward," said Annie Peter, North American Brand Manager for Shell Rotella. "Shell Rotella is proud to introduce The Road to Recovery campaign to put the spotlight on hardworking individuals, acting selflessly day in and day out by showcasing the resilience they have demonstrated in the face

of uncertainty."

The Road to Recovery is the next evolution of the Shell Rotella What Matters Is Inside campaign which focused on the lives and importance of drivers and equipment operators. To bring this campaign to life, Shell Rotella has enlisted influencers across trucking, construction and agriculture to share their own stories of how they are driving The Road to Recovery to help them go safely, go further, and get savings. Shell Rotella will also be calling on the community of hardworking individuals to collect similar stories sharing their experiences on The Road to Recovery.

For fans to share their story of how they are driving The Road to Recovery, visit <https://mymilesmatter.com/road-to-recovery>.

In 2021, Shell Rotella will be helping drivers go safely, go further and get savings through multiple touchpoints throughout The Road to Recovery campaign:

- Go Safely Program with OOIDA: Shell Rotella has partnered with Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association (OOIDA) to create the Go Safely award which highlights a hardworking truck driver that is dedicated to keeping themselves and others safe.

- Go Further on the Road: Shell Rotella full synthetic and synthetic blend engine oils provide engine protection, durability and performance in extreme operating conditions and temperatures for trucks

and equipment. To learn more about Shell Rotella synthetic oils, visit www.rotella.com.

- Savings with Synthetics: Shell Rotella offers a number of ways to save on their synthetic heavy-duty engine oils through coupons, rebates and sweepstakes throughout the year. To find where to purchase Shell Rotella near you, visit www.rotella.com/buynow.

- Social Media: Shell Rotella influencers will be sharing their own stories about their work and travels and how they are driving The Road to Recovery throughout the year. Keep an eye on the Shell Rotella social channels for updates as the brand spotlights and shares these stories. Follow Shell Rotella on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

- Brand Events and Activations: Shell Rotella will be integrating The Road to Recovery during key brand and industry moments in 2021 including the 39th Annual Shell Rotella SuperRigs®, National Truck Driver Appreciation Week and National Farmer's Day.

Shell Rotella is committed to supporting hard working drivers that help make sure vital goods are delivered and that industries such as construction and agriculture are recognized. The Road to Recovery seeks to champion the importance of hardworking people conducting vital work that helps keep North America moving forward.

For more information about Shell Rotella synthetic engine oil and The Road to Recovery, visit www.rotella.com.

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*Average oil drain interval in the US is 25,000 miles. Source: <https://www.machinerylubrication.com/Read/29117/oil-change-intervals>. And average OEM recommended oil drain interval for modern engines using an API CK-4 diesel engine oil is 50,000 miles. Distance between New York and San Francisco is 2,906 miles. This equates to up to eight more trips between the two cities by extending drain intervals up to the OEM recommendation. Check your owner's manual and always follow OEM recommendations. Rotella is a trademark of Shell Trademark Management B.V. © SCOPUS Products 2020. All rights reserved. CS16281-02

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Off The Beaten Path



by Pam Pollock

“How Do You Spell Lost?” (Cause That’s What We Are!”

I have always said that I could never be a Professional Truck Driver – heck, I could never be an Uber driver.... Yep, I am one of *those* people who can't drive a stick shift. I also stink at parallel parking; I think the last time I attempted that was about 38 years ago. Traffic jams, driving in construction, and city driving all make me twitchy. And then there's the issue of directions – the bane of my existence.

I cannot read directions of any kind – road maps, instructions on how to build things, Nada, zilch. I am a learner by watching and scribbling down notes. I was ecstatic nine years ago when we purchased a new vehicle equipped with OnStar and I have insisted that every vehicle since that SUV has the same feature. I have become brave in my old age and now venture off on adventures into cities and different states and all areas of the boondocks because I know that all I have to do is push a button and I will be given turn-by-turn directions. (Although I have had my fair share of direction fails over the years, but I've always managed to find my way home.)

With life starting to slowly get back to normal after the past 15 months of Covid, my two oldest granddaughters and I decided to treat ourselves to a weekend in Columbus, Ohio. I excitedly made hotel reservations that were very near to the American Girl and Lego Discovery Center in Easton. We stocked up on TONS of snacks and DVD movies for the 3 hour drive. We made it to our destination with zero trouble, other than a lot of bathroom breaks at interstate rest areas.

After we checked into our hotel, Google directions stated that the American Girl store was only .4 of a mile away! We danced our way down a street and crossed another and just ambled along until we stumbled upon the store. After a shopping spree and another bathroom break, we strolled down the street to find a restaurant. After our fine dining (pizza, girls' choice), we walked down more streets and found an ice cream parlor and a different Lego store with displays in the town square.

We finally decided to head back to the hotel and that's when things got hairy. For the life of me, we could not find the hotel. We wandered around and around and around streets and more streets. We enabled Maps on my iPhone and even asked Siri for help. We would be told that we were .7 of a mile or .5 of a mile from our destination and then Siri would cheerfully exclaim, “You are at your destination!” But we weren't. My oldest granddaughter looked

up at me and said, “We've just passed the American Girl store for the 4th time and that fish sign for the 3rd time!” She was wrong, you know, we actually had passed that fish sign for the 6th time. We would be following the directions on the phone, and it would suddenly flash, “Rerouting!” I am not known for being a calm, rational and patient person. I was trying my best to act nonchalant, but my mind was secretly doing a lot of \$*^&^@#^! thoughts!

My younger granddaughter was just going with the flow, doing little songs and dances as we trudged along and then out of the blue, she said, “Gaga, how do you spell lost?” At this point, we had just passed that dang fish sign for the SEVENTH time and I spelled, “L O S T”, that sweet child repeated back to me. “Lost. Cause that's what we are!” My oldest granddaughter chimed in, “We really are lost, aren't we, Gaga? Will we be able to make it back to the hotel tonight?”

Have you ever felt like a loser?



I believe this was bathroom break #2 on our drive over to Columbus.

Because, folks, that's how I felt in that moment. I choked back tears and hugged both of them tightly and told them that we were misdirected, not lost and we would definitely be jumping in that hotel swimming pool very soon. And somehow, someway, we made it back! And then the very next day, we got lost again – but this time was not as long, and I found out later that our hotel is brand new and on a new street that is not recognized by Google Maps (or OnStar)! The weather on the last day was a very humid 91° and when we finally arrived at my car to begin our journey home, we cranked up the A/C and I jabbed the OnStar button to get directions. And then things went south. I spoke with

an OnStar representative, and he told me that the directions were being downloaded to my car. And then I got an error message that my request could not be completed. I punched the button again and was in contact with yet another rep. Same error. I drove to a different location thinking that maybe OnStar's reception would be better there. Nope. Punch the button, jab the button, hit the button. I did it all. In fact, my granddaughter remarked, “Gaga, you have pushed that OnStar button 13 times to talk to people! Will we get home tonight?!”

Finally, a tech support person said that my OnStar was not working correctly, and they would record directions to get

me home. And they sent me in the opposite direction. I finally got disgusted, hopped off I-270 North and jumped on I-270 South, then I took I-70 and I-79 to my house. We arrived home hours later than expected and yes, we had several bathroom breaks. I was thinking, “These girls will NEVER want to go anywhere with me again.” But as we pulled into their lane, the oldest said, “Even with getting lost, this was the best weekend ever!” And the younger granddaughter sang, “L O S T! We were lost but we had fun!”



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Keep On Truckin' - PGT Trucking, Inc. Celebrates 40th Year



Pat Gallagher with daughters Candice Comunale and Mollie Rea, and granddaughters Sienna Comunale, Sadeigh, Sophia and Sutton Rea.

continued from page 1

first purchased by PGT were shared. Gregg spoke of the successes of PGT as well as some of the failures over the years. As a stark reminder of the volatility of the transportation industry, Gregg showed a list of customers that are no longer in business as well as trucking companies that closed their doors over the past 40 years. Gregg also talked about customers and PGT agents that have loyally supported the company for many of its 40 years.

Pat Gallagher then reflected on 40 years of owning, operating and growing PGT Trucking. He first thanked many individuals working at PGT Trucking as well as business associates and companies that helped PGT through its formative

years and fueled its growth into the future. Pat remarked, "It's all about people, employees and customers – building relationships on trust, respect and loyalty. I have been blessed to have such great drivers and employees working for me, as well as customers who are loyal and excellent to work for. One of my joys has been watching my employees grow over the years as they worked at PGT. Trucking is a tough industry, but we are going to continue to grow and keep our eye on the ball every step of the way."

Larry Richert then passed the microphone around the banquet room, allowing comments from PGT employees, associates and customers. A special presentation was made to Pat of a handmade, custom wooden

American flag commemorating PGT's 40th Anniversary, a gift from PGT employees.

Over 25 companies contributed to build a very special gift for Pat – a 1981 vintage TransStar II International Cabover, identical to the first truck he purchased when he started the company. The following companies, associates and individuals contributed to purchasing and restoring the TransStar II: BMO Transportation Finance, Campbell Signs & Apparel, Coury Financial Services, the Employees of PGT Trucking, 1st Source Bank, Hill International Trucks, International, Navistar, Kitchen Family Trucking, Michelin, Daniel and Merry Morton, MSR Transportation, Neilly Canvas Goods Company, Pilot Compa-

ny, Pion Law, The University of Pittsburgh Athletics, Reitnauer Aluminum Trailers, Schneider Downs, Seubert, The Law Offices of W. David Slomski, Esq., TAB Bank, Tri-State Trailers, Gregg & Judy Troian, Valley Tire Co., Joe & Cindy Vargo and Family and Len Yanni.

Parts from three trucks were used to rebuild the vintage TransStar at Hill International's East Liverpool, Ohio body shop. More than 1,100 man hours were put into the restoration. PGT has partnered with Hill International Trucks for 40 years to build their fleet with quality equipment. This is just one example of the lasting relationships that have contributed to PGT's success through the year. The cabover will be on display at PGT's Blairsville, Pennsylvania terminal. Each guest was given a die-cast collectable model of PGT's original TransStar II to take home.



Pat and Judit Gallagher



Chronological timeline of PGT Trucking's history.

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High Performance Diesels with Bruce Mallinson

What an amazing industry the diesel engine and trucking business is. You never know who is going to call, stop in, what they know and what they are capable of. About 1 month ago a gentlemen called me and mentioned he purchased an older Superliner Mack powered by a Big Cam 350 Cummins. He knew nothing about the truck. However, he wanted it to run well and would work it at times, but the main use was to haul his 2 pulling Chevrolet pickup trucks to the truck pulls. He then told me his 14-year-old

daughter pulls one of them and she gets 750 horsepower out of the Duramax Diesel. Her Chevy is a 2002 that her father bought new, and she pulls in the street stock class. Jayden says she pulls with the Duramax because it is the strongest engine in the pickups! With that statement I had to tease her and tell her she was in a Cummins shop, and we love the Ram Cummins pickups.

Jayden is a competition volleyball player, her position is the middle hitter, and she stands at 5'11", competes on a

traveling team, has played in 7 tournaments in 3 different states, and carries a 3.6 GPA average in school. She also rides a 2021 Husky 150 and a vintage YZ125 Yamaha and competes in flat track racing. Keep in mind this accomplished young lady is only 14 years old and a freshman at Magnolia High School in NewMartinsville, WV. Now for the 1979 Mack Superliner. With no knowledge of the engine, we noticed the number 1 cylinder had a miss. Upon removing the injector, we performed a compression test.



Above: Jayden and her '79 Mack. Below: her '02 Silverado .

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The cylinder was good, so now we entered the combustion chamber with a borescope to get a part number off the piston. The number was not visible, so we installed the timing tool to verify the engine was an NTC 350, however the timing was

set for 400 hp. The injectors failed the leakage test, so we recalibrated a set of Cummins Reman 400 injectors, increasing the flow to our 550- 600 hp spec. Next the competition turbocharger was installed, and a new torsional damper

and mercury filled engine balancer along with a turbo boost gauge. The Mack was also equipped with a pyrometer. We did not remove the fuel pump, just made changes while it was installed on the

continued on page 7

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Latest Trucking Industry News

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and Labor Secretary Marty Walsh Host Roundtable with Trucking Industry about Driver Retention, Supply Chain, and Safety

Washington, DC... As part of the Administration's ongoing work addressing supply chain disruption, Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, Labor Secretary Marty Walsh, and Deputy Administrator Meera Joshi of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) hosted a roundtable to discuss truck driver recruitment and retention.

Turnover rates are over 90 percent for large long haul carriers and over 72 percent for small carriers -- meaning that drivers are regularly leaving companies or leaving the industry altogether. The lag time that results in training and onboarding new drivers can result in driver shortages. This turnover, coupled with effects from the pandemic, has helped lead to supply chain disruptions for essential goods and transporting freight in and out of ports.

«Our economy is getting back on its feet, but the pandemic has exposed and exacerbated longstanding challenges in our supply chain - including truck driver retention.» said Secretary Pete Buttigieg. «We are bringing government, industry, and key stakeholders together to help support truck drivers and all the consumers and businesses who rely on them.»

«Registered Apprenticeship - which offers workers quality, on-the-job training along with wage progression, and has been shown to improve job retention - can help build a more stable and resilient workforce,» said Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh. «I look forward to working with Secretary Buttigieg and industry leaders to expand Registered Apprenticeship in order to improve access and retention in the trucking industry.»

The Biden-Harris Administration is addressing these transitory supply chain challenges using all the tools at its disposal. Last month, the President announced the Supply Chain Disruptions Task Force - to bring a whole-of-government approach to addressing near-term supply/demand mismatches. Today's roundtable is part of that effort.

Secretary Buttigieg moderated a conversation with stakeholders to surface best practices to improve driver retention and limit turnover. Secretary Walsh provided an overview of the Department of Labor's (DOL) registered apprenticeship programs and how they can be a tool in driver retention. Apprenticeships can allow drivers to enter the industry without the burden of debt from training, help drivers prepare for the challenges of the job, and receive training on innovative technologies. FMCSA will facilitate connections between stakeholders and DOL apprenticeship resources and help support the implementation of best practices and administrative actions to improve long-haul truck driver retention.

In addition to today's

meeting, the FMCSA is working to address other challenges in trucking. FMCSA is supporting state DMVs as they return to—or even exceed—pre-pandemic commercial drivers license issuance rates, which is helping address the truck driver shortage. In 2021, an average of 50,000 Commercial Drivers Licenses have been issued each month, which is 14% higher than the 2019 monthly average and 60% higher than the 2020 monthly average. Further, FMCSA granted operating authority to more than 92,000 motor carriers -- businesses that dispatch large trucks for the transport of goods. This is a 88% increase from the same time period in 2020 and a 60% increase from the same time period in 2019.

The Department of Transportation and FMCSA will continue to engage regularly with key stakeholders to address driver retention and other issues in trucking. Last month, Deputy Administrator Joshi visited the Port of New York & New Jersey to learn

directly from port leaders and trucking companies about how to support driver retention and apprenticeships, and how to alleviate unnecessary downtime for drivers, and the financial consequences of returning empty cargo containers. Following her visit, Deputy Administrator Joshi spoke with Chair Daniel B. Maffei of the Federal Maritime Commission about challenges witnessed and discussed possible ways to work together.

Deputy Secretary Polly Trottenberg and Deputy Administrator Joshi also spoke with the National Tank Truck Carriers leadership about short and long-term strategies to improve gas supply chain resiliency and tank truck driver recruitment and retention. And Department staff has engaged with a broad cross-section of the trucking industry - carriers of all sizes; private carriers and for-hire carriers; women and minority driver organizations; organized labor; experts in transportation labor; as well as road safety advocates.

TravelCenters of America Launches Nationwide Fundraising Campaign to Help Professional Drivers

Westlake, OH... TravelCenters of America Inc., nationwide operator of the TA, Petro Stopping Centers and TA Express travel center network, is launching a fundraising campaign at locations nationwide to help professional drivers in need.

Starting today through Labor Day, September 6, 2021, customers will have the option to round up their purchase to the nearest dollar in the travel stores and at the fuel islands.* All proceeds of the round up amount will benefit the St. Christopher's Trucker Relief Fund (SCF), an organization helping professional drivers who may be out of work due to an illness or injury.

«TA began its support of SCF in 2010 and has since raised nearly \$3 million for the organization. We are honored and humbled by the support we receive from TravelCenters of America and its generous customers,» said Donna Kennedy, Director of SCF. «Professional drivers always support each

other and we are confident when they see the point-of-sale fundraiser at TA registers across the country, they will be proud to help. This campaign will have an immense impact for those in need.»

TA Chief Executive Officer Jon Pertchik talks about the importance of the campaign in the video below:

*Promotion not applicable in Alabama and South Carolina.

ATA Truck Tonnage Index Decreased 0.7% in May

Arlington, VA... American Trucking Associations' advanced seasonally adjusted (SA) For-Hire Truck Tonnage Index decreased 0.7% in May after falling 0.6% in April. In May, the index equaled 113.7 (2015=100) compared with 114.5 in April.

«Tonnage, despite falling

slightly over the last two months, remains well above the lows of last year,» said ATA Chief Economist Bob Costello. «This is no small deal considering that truck tonnage fell significantly less than many other indicators during the depths of the pandemic in the spring of 2020.

«One freight segment that is helping tonnage is gasoline as demand for travel, both commuting and vacation related, picks up,» he said. «I'm also expecting retail freight to remain robust as inventories are at historic lows. As retail stocks are rebuilt, it will boost freight. As has been the case for some time, trucking's biggest challenges are not on the demand side, but on the supply side, including difficulty finding qualified drivers.»

April's reading was revised down slightly to -0.6% from our May 18 press release.

Compared with May 2020, the SA index rose 3.7%, which was preceded by a 6.7% year-over-year jump in April. Year-to-date, compared with the same five months in 2020, tonnage is up 0.4%.

Drivewyze Announces Open Enrollment for e-Inspections at Weigh Stations

DALLAS, TX... In a major move to improve speed, efficiency and accuracy at weigh station inspection sites, Drivewyze has announced open enrollment for automated electronic e-Inspections at weigh stations in three participating states. Software activation is free for Drivewyze PreClear customers, and available through participating Drivewyze ELD partners.

Inspection sites in Maryland, Maine, and Virginia are the first states to partner with Drivewyze to make e-Inspections a reality. Other states are following suit as state agency software is upgraded or enhanced to process e-inspections.

Currently, drivers undergoing an in-station inspection need to go through manual steps on an ELD to transfer their logs to the inspection site's computer, including entering the officer's inspector code. «This not only takes time, manual entry leads to input errors,» said Heath. «If the driver, for example, mistypes the officer's inspector code, and the logs can't be transferred, it's an HOS violation. Likewise, if a driver isn't familiar with the ELD and doesn't know how to transfer logs, or locate the Driver Instruction Sheet, the carrier can be dinged on their safety score. With the advent of e-Inspections to automate HOS data transfer, problems sending logs to inspections sites are no longer an issue.»

To learn more about Drivewyze, visit www.drivewyze.com.

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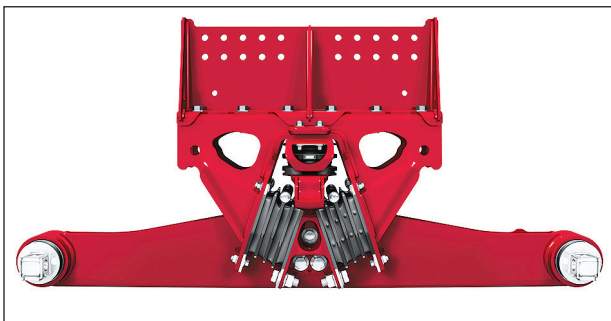
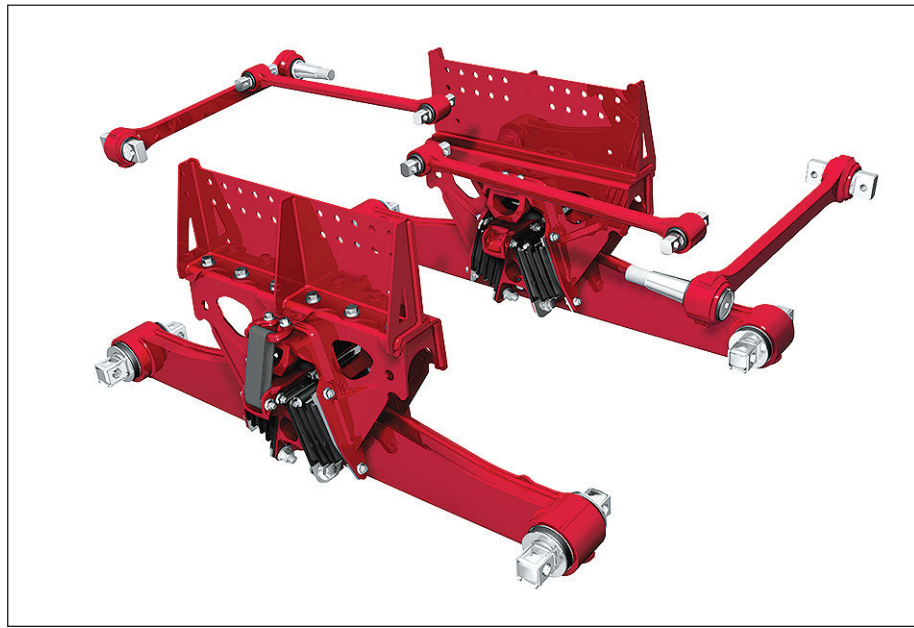
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Kenworth Adds Hendrickson HAULMAAX EX Suspension for Class 8 Models



Kenworth now offers the Hendrickson HAULMAAX® EX as an option for the Kenworth T880, W990, T680 and T480 models.

The Hendrickson next generation heavy duty lightweight rubber suspension is designed for vocational applications such as dump, concrete mixer, refuse, logging, crane/boom, platform, and fire/rescue. The new suspension replaces the Hendrickson HAULMAAX family of 40,000-

and 46,000-pound capacity suspensions and also adds a new 52,000-pound capacity.

In addition to the increased capacity range, the Hendrickson HAULMAAX EX provides a higher site rating and maintains the same weight and durability compared to its predecessor. The suspension utilizes a unique rubber spring design that balances empty-ride quality and loaded stability. Angled bolster springs and a unique progressive load spring

provide extra stability for demanding applications such as refuse, concrete mixers and dumps.

"The Hendrickson HAULMAAX EX is an excellent choice for Kenworth vocational customers seeking a lightweight, durable suspension equipped to handle rugged operating conditions and provide a smooth on-highway driving experience," said Genevieve Bekkerus, Kenworth marketing director. "Now that this suspension line is also available with a 52,000-pound suspension rating, Kenworth customers operating in heavy applications have a viable new suspension option to consider."

For more information about the new Hendrickson HAULMAAX EX suspension, visit Hendrickson-intl.com or contact your local Kenworth dealer.



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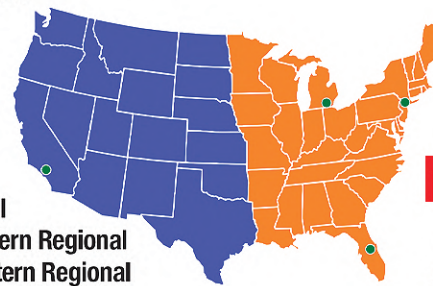
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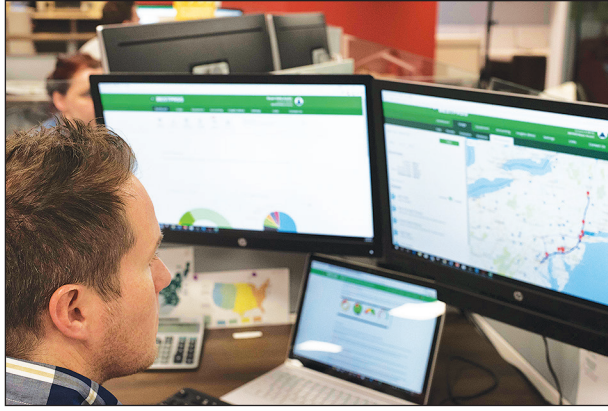
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There is no membership fee to join Bestpass, the company charges a nominal monthly service fee, but the members' tolling discounts will far surpass this fee. As most of us know, toll by plate and cash tolls charge a substantially higher fee compared to electronic tolling. Bestpass earns two discounts for their members, one for using electronic tolling and another for being a part of a large group earning a volume discount. These discounts also apply to toll bridges across the USA.

Bestpass also offers PrePass compatibility, with tolling and PrePass both provided with a single transponder. If you are only comfortable with toll by plate, Bestpass can handle



Transponders x2: Bestpass offers a variety of transponder options based on customer needs

that as well.

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account up or down to be more efficient.

There are a couple of services available, first is "Complete Pass Scout" (the most popular), providing service in 100% of major toll roads across the USA. There is also Bestpass's proprietary technology, "Horizon Scout", which provides services for Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas,

Florida, South Carolina and now Alabama and California. Bestpass maintains a call center for customer assistance for state-by-state tolling.

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Love's Announces New Truck Care, Speedco Locations

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK... Love's Travel Stops is now serving customers at 10 Speedco and Love's Truck Care locations that are open 24/7. The locations offer tire, lube and light mechanical services, as well as DOT inspections, for professional drivers and fleets at affordable prices. Commercial drivers can stop at over 415 locations across the country for their needs.

"We'll continue to open new Speedco and Love's Truck Care locations where professional drivers need them most so they can get back on the road quickly and safely," said Gary Price, executive vice president of Truck Care. "We know we're in one of the busiest driving seasons of the year, and our team members are prepared to deliver strong and fast customer service at locations across the country."

Love's Truck Care and Speedco is the nation's largest over the road preventive maintenance and total truck care network, with more than 1,500 maintenance bays and the most comprehensive, roadside coverage in the country.

Here are the newest Speedco locations:

- * 14375 Cornhusker Rd., Omaha, NE 68138.
- * 3550 W. Winnemucca, Winnemucca, NV 89445.
- * 3201 N. Ameristar Dr., Kansas City, MO 64161.
- * 8901 Hwy. 374, Green River, WY 82935.
- * 182 Claiborne Rd., Sandersville, MS 39477.
- * 1165 Aedc Rd., Hillsboro, TN 37342.

* 9901 Schuster Way, Etna, OH 43018.

* 4352 State Route 225, Diamond, OH 44412.

* 8400 County Farm Rd., Irvington, AL 86544.

Here is the newest Love's Truck Care location:

* 7748 Route 53, Bath, NY 14810.

Love's is looking for team members to join the company, including diesel technicians, service advisors, tire technicians and diesel technician apprentices for its Speedco and Love's Truck Care locations across the country. Love's prestigious diesel technician apprenticeship program – valued at \$12,000 – allows apprentices to earn a competitive wage while working toward the designation of a diesel technician, all while taking on zero debt, which is typically associated with apprenticeship programs.

Upon successful completion of the apprentice program, apprentices will receive a tool kit valued at \$3,500, which is theirs to keep after one year of employment as a diesel technician. Newly hired diesel technicians can make between \$22-\$32 an hour, plus commission after achieving certain sales milestones.

Interested candidates can visit <https://jobs.loves.com/> for more information and to apply.

"Dear Kevin"

Dear Kevin:

Thank you for commenting on the column of editor Pam Pollock. Now go back to sleep.

What I care about, and what Mrs. Pollock cares about, is entertaining you and 70,000 others with humor, insight, trivia, and wisdom. My goal is to hit three out of four without double clutching, skip shifting, blindside backing, or starting a story with, "You ain't gonna believe this, but...."

After all, you already know all that. Even if you're not a driver, you already know a steer tire from a drive tire, a Cat from

a Cummins, and Mack from a Marmon. There's a lot to be said for such a level of knowledge.

But you could spend years accumulating the photos Mrs. Pollock gets in a single issue. You could camp out for a week at an east coast Petro, and not hear a story the way she tells it. You could even wait in line for hours at a book signing or read all about it for free in one of Pam's three-minute stories.

As writers or drivers, we're fair game for naysayers, deniers, analyzers, and complainers, but we do the best we can with what we have. For years, the Pollock clan has put out a first-class magazine with timely information, brilliant photography, insightful history lessons, and occasional biographical trivia. But they hired me anyway.

Roger Clark



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Sizzlin' Hot Trucks and Sizzlin' Hot Weather EQUALS One Priceless SPECTACULAR 2021 Wheel Jam Truck Show!!!



Lorna and Bernie Feldhaus, owners of Feldhaus Trucking from Howard, South Dakota were recognized as the 2021 Lifetime Achievement recipients.

the first Legacy Award which was given to Danny Wilde of Huron, South Dakota! Danny has over 5 million accident free miles!

The 18 Wheel Truck Promotions, LLC crew would like to personally "THANK" all the truck drivers, owners, vendors, judges, volunteers, sponsors, and spectators as they are what make the Wheel Jam Truck Show SPECTACULAR!!! Next year's Wheel Jam Truck Show is scheduled for June 2nd-5th, 2022 at the South Dakota State Fairgrounds! More info is available at: www.wheeljamtruckshow.com or check out our Facebook page at Wheel Jam Truck Show Classics!

- All photos by Paula Linke-

By Tracy Bratland-Bruns

Once again, Scot Marone, along with the 18 Wheel Truck Promotions, LLC produced the Annual Wheel Jam Truck Show in Huron, South Dakota at the South Dakota State Fairgrounds that was another SIZZLIN' success!

There were Sizzlin' Hot Trucks from across the United States! With the American flag flying overhead at the Wheel Jam Truck Show on a 150 foot crane from the Riverside Colony of Huron, South Dakota, it made one proud to be an American! As always, the truckers did not disappoint the parade watchers on Saturday morning as they came strolling down the main drag in Huron, South Dakota!

The Dynamic Engine Brake

Competition is a favorite amongst the drivers and the crowd which was sponsored by G & S Transports from Minnesota. Paying tribute to our wonderful nation in trucker style were the Wilbur Ellis Flying Aces from Huron, South Dakota flying overhead after the National Anthem.

At the Trucker's Meal on Sat-

urday night sponsored by the Hatch Agency from Minnesota, 10 Show' N' Shine Awards were given out. Lorna and Bernie Feldhaus, owners of Feldhaus Trucking from Howard, South Dakota were recognized as the 2021 Lifetime Achievement recipients. They are celebrating 50 years of trucking in 2021! Something new this year was





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TDDS Technical Institute School of Transportation Careers Closes Its Doors

Dear Friends of TDDS,
After serving the transportation and education community for over 48 years, TDDS Technical Institute's School of Transportation Careers has suspended all training operations. Since 1973, TDDS Tech has

prided itself on providing the highest-quality truck driver and diesel technician educations available in the transportation industry. Owner/CEO Rick Rathburn, Jr. says, "We are so proud of the thousands

of people from the Mahoning Valley, Midwest as well as from across the country, that we have been privileged to educate and guide into well-paying, secure careers to take care of their families, while along the way, earning the respect of many in and outside of the trucking business."

He continues, "We consider our graduates entering either career path as heroes to our country and representative ambassadors of TDDS Tech for years to come. These men and women continue to deliver all the necessities of our everyday lives with little recognition.... Food, medical supplies, clothing, building and raw materials, automobiles, gasoline includ-

ing the all-to-important toilet paper are brought to you by these dedicated drivers without question, not to mention the awesome heavy-duty truck technicians that keep these drivers moving up and down the road."

TDDS Tech closing affected 31 employees of the Mahoning Valley. Although training activities have been suspended, the nationally accredited postsecondary learning facility is actively looking for a buyer from the educational or transportation communities. If not successful in that arena, the school campus/terminal and equipment will be sold.

Rick Rathburn, Jr.
CEO/Owner

America's Road Team is Seeking Professional Drivers to Educate America on Safety and Essentiality

American Trucking Associations announced it is seeking nominations for professional drivers to serve on the 2022-2023 America's Road Team.

Founded in 1986, America's Road Team, a group of skilled professional truck drivers with incredible safety records, promote the trucking industry by educating the general public, media, and elected officials about the industry's strong safety record, importance to the economy and what a great career option the trucking industry is.

Every two years, ATA searches for professional drivers with

superior skills and strong safety records who are willing to take time away from the cab to demonstrate the trucking industry's commitment to safety. Due to the pandemic, American Trucking Associations postponed the selection process of the newest class of America's Road Team Captains until now.

ATA members are encouraged to nominate professional truck drivers who exhibit strong interpersonal skills, have impressive safety records, and demonstrate a positive attitude toward the industry and their careers as professional truck drivers. Nominations for the 2022-2023 class of America's Road Team are due September 10. To nominate a professional truck driver for America's Road Team, please review the eligibility requirements and complete the nomination form. For additional questions go to americasroadteam.com. Finalists will be announced November 8, with the final selection taking place in January 2022 in Arlington, Virginia.

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The 1957 Mack Named Lili C - From A Working Truck To My Everyday Ride In Honor Of My Daughter Lili C



By Eddie Crock

This stunning Mack started life at Cincinnati Mack and was purchased new by Haines Marathon. Pat Kelly purchased in 1977 from Haines Marathon who had it fitted with a wrecker body. To better accommodate Pats blacktop business, he refitted it with a flat bed. The truck was used to haul materials and equipment to the job site and pull a triaxle trailer.

The year 1991 Pat left the paving business to start a port-a-john rental business called "Got-a-Go". Removing the flat bed, a 3000-gal tank was installed to haul septic waste. Receiving a contract to haul sewage from the newly built Kentucky Speedway in 2000 this Mack was put to good use. On the first trip out with the truck, Pat discovered that the truck did not have enough braking power. The truck was sent to Liskie Mack to have Jake brakes installed and back to the speedway haul. Pat, being a single parent with custody of his daughter Lili, allowed him the option of her riding with him in the truck. Lili was a great co-driver and she loved riding with Dad in the Mack. She especially liked the sound of the twin stacks and the Jake brakes.

Pat and Lili would make seven trips a day from the speedway to the unloading area. When stopping at the office, Lili would jump out of the truck with the manifest paperwork and Pat would go to unload. After she got the paperwork approved, she would bounce down to her Dad where he was unloading with all papers signed and ready for their next load. Everyone at the station fell in love with the little blonde 2-year-old with pigtails and the big endearing smile. The truck is named in honor of Lili C. For 5 years and 5 months Lili would ride in the truck with Pat chatting away on the daily trips. Tragically, in 2003 Lili lost her life in a car accident on the same stretch of road she traveled with her Dad. Pat retired the Mack Lili C. in 2008 and put it in storage, not willing to part with the truck that held memories of his daughter.

In 2018 on Lili's 20th birthday Pat decided to pull the Mack out of storage and have it restored and updated in remembrance of

his daughter. Pat contacted Ed Crock of Crock Custom Trucks, a good friend to start the rebuild and design.

Pat delivered the truck, and the process began by pulling the cab, fenders and hood off the frame and removing the engine and transmission along with cutting off the rear end. Next the frame and front axle

was cleaned, and epoxy primed and painted. Adding an air ride suspension on the front axle and a newer air pride rear end with a 290 gears. The frame was then cut and welded extending to the right length.

Engine and transmission overhauls with the engine voltage changed from 24 volt to 12 volts. Power steering and air conditioning units were added for ease of driving and comfort. No truck is complete without chrome and this truck shines. All emblems including radiator shell and light covers were removed and sent to be re-chromed. Metal panels received epoxy primer and paint along with the cab extended six inches for more leg room and more comfortable ride. The cab extension being the most time consuming and tedious. Matching the interior and the exterior to look uniform and stylish on a truck requires hours of measuring and fitting. The GMC eight-foot bed was extended nineteen inches, again paying close attention to the overall look of the truck. The trucks front fenders were recut and extended to be used on the dually bed of the truck. New fenders were purchased to be used on the front of the truck. An 80-gallon fuel tank added to the trucks compacity and a steel box was built between the frame attached to the back bumper to add stability with 2000 lbs. of steel to add to the ride.

Starting the process of reassembling the truck began with new front fenders and new chrome radiator shell along with new chrome headlight panel. The custom sun visor was fitted on the cab along with custom make chrome Mack bulldogs air cleaners. Running boards along with 6-inch chrome exhaust stacks, chrome mirrors, cab lights added to the overall look. With Pat's love for things loud, train air horns were a must for his favored truck. The completion of the exterior turned the focus to the interior.

Painting the interior panels and the doors to match the exterior along with adding gauges and redesigning the dash gives a modern updated look. The dash holds all controls for heat and air, radio and GPS, CB radio and air gauge for the front air ride suspension and engine hour gauge. Red lights reflect from the floor, inside the cup holder and gauges. Chrome rings around the gauges and toggle switches along with extenders and Id plates shine and reflect the overall beauty of the interior. Looking inside the cab reveals a wood and chrome steering wheel, two toned leather seats with custom stitched Mack bulldogs and hardwood floor with a designed console between the seats complete with cup holders and a storage area with matching paint and leather. The leather headliner sports an embossed Mack logo behind the seats.

This truck would not be complete without a few touches by Darell Allen of Killer Designs pinstriping and artwork. Both inside and out pinstriping along with logos of Kelly Green Farms and a tribute to Lili C compliment the look and the memories this truck represents. Florence Kentucky is the home for this unique and sits alongside a collection of antique and unique vehicles owned by Pat Kelly.

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Pacifico Reflections - Brother Friendly

by: Mike McGough

The day started out warm. By mid-morning it was hot. By noon it was sweltering. The humidity was a sticky match. This was yet another in a stretch of similar days. A local pastor seized the moment. He offered a humorous yet poignant reminder on the church signboard that read, "If you think it's hot here. . .?"

Days like this one easily call to mind a line from Neil Diamond's song, Brother Love's Traveling Salvation Show. In describing an August night in a revival tent, he said it was so hot and still that, "... you'd almost bet you could hear yourself sweat." It wasn't August, and it wasn't a revival, but it was that hot.

Because of heat advisories, she got up early to get her run in, before the serious heat set in. She generally ran between two and four miles. She wasn't fast, and that was okay because she wasn't racing anybody. Because she ran similar routes, there were several other walkers and runner who she routinely saw on her morning outings. There was usually a casual greeting followed by a brief exchange as they passed. She knew some of their names, and she didn't know others. That really didn't matter, it was just nice to engage in some pleasant greetings. It was an agreeable way to start the day. On this day, she met someone new. They had seen each other before, but today they would exchange greetings.

His was a necessary job. It wasn't easy, glamorous, or overtly pleasant. It was nonetheless essential to the

community. Without he and others in his line of work, communities would face problems that would produce significant consequences in short order. His work is done quietly, with little fanfare, and regrettably with little credit for the range of potential social, health, and environmental problems those in his life of work keep in check. He's a loader on a sanitation truck. Regardless of the weather he rides the back of the truck. His typical day starts at 7:00 am, and although most work days are eight hours long, his often runs much longer.

On that day he was one of two guys hanging on the back of the truck. As the driver approached the trash containers along their route, he or his partner would jump off, and drag the container to the truck, so it could be emptied. The physical exertion of his job left him sweat soaked. His gloves were well used, and they had gotten thoroughly dirty and stained in the process.

As she approached the truck, she waved and offered a friendly greeting. He responded in kind with a big smile. As she got closer, he held up his well-worn and thoroughly stained work-gloved hand to offer her a high-five. She laughingly and respectfully declined. She did however, sincerely appreciate the friendly gesture, and she let him know that she did. Their entire encounter lasted no more than 30 seconds, but it left a positive impression on her.

His manner fascinated her. As she later shared, this young man greeted her in a way that clearly demonstrated that he was making the most of his day. Charged with a responsibility

that would leave many people disgruntled and sullen, he opted to go about his day with social charm and interpersonal grace. He had an opportunity to be pleasant and he made the most of it. He not only did his job, but in the process, he made her day a bit more pleasant.

Everyone has a bad day now and again. Some people tend to have them more frequently than others. And unfortunately, there are those whose bad days far and away outnumber the good. If asked, these folks could give any number of reasons for their less than happy demeanor and their sorely affected interpersonal skills. Their outlook is dim, their perspective is tainted, and as a result they project either nothingness or a negative persona.

That is clearly not the case with this trash loader. He could easily go about his day focused on the less agreeable aspects of his job. Instead, he clearly focuses on the positives, which enables him to project a model of sociability and genuine friendliness worthy of emulation. We all have choices about how we go about our days and how we interact with those we encounter.

On your next not-so-perfect day, consider this trash loader's example. Greet people with the interpersonal friendliness that he showed. It will enhance your day and brighten the day for the people you encounter. You may not have the impact of Brother Love and his salvation show, but you could easily have the influence of Brother Friendly and his show of kindness!

Thanks, Jake!

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Koch Companies – The It Was Is The Way It Is



Jeff Wirts

freight” for their drivers, creating a place to retire from. “The way it was in the way it is at Koch.”

Koch (pronounced “Cook”) Trucking, Inc. and Koch Industries, Inc. are two distinct parent companies, made up of 11 divisions and affiliate companies. They offer com-

plete transportation services including truckload freight, logistics warehousing, and truck and trailer leasing. Koch is an asset-based company with over 800 tractors and 2,000 trailers. To learn more about the opportunities at Koch, call 800-625-5292.



Mark Stratton

continued from page 1
treats me and my family well. This is the third company I have worked for, and it will be the last. I plan to retire from Koch. Koch works with their drivers and treats them like adults until you give them a reason not to. When I show up with my load of boats, everybody is glad to see me!”

If boats aren't your thing, Koch operates other fleets:

- The Specialized Fleet that hauls snowmobiles, golf carts and ATVs in van trailers.

- The dry Van Division has regional hauls of palletized consumer foods and pet foods. There are 130 trucks in the fleet with a 2:1 trailer to tractor ratio, nearly all is no touch, drop and hook freight. There are opportunities for 50 drivers in this division.

- If you like flatbed work,

Koch offers a unique challenge. They operate flatbeds, step-decks, double drops and RGNs, but there are no steel coils. The Flatbed Fleet is dedicated to one customer – Cummins Engine Company's Generator Division. Koch trucks haul parts components into the Fridley, Minnesota Cummins plant and hauls finished generators to all points in the USA.

Jeff Wirts of Portage, Wisconsin, a Professional Truck Driver for 21 years, works in Koch's Flatbed Division said, “I like the family atmosphere at Koch. It is pretty cool delivering generators to hospitals and places that need them. Randy and Dave Koch are great people. They talk with us drivers and make us feel like we are part of the family and involved in the company.” The Flatbed Division has opportunities for 20-25 qualified drivers.

Most drivers have worked for Koch for 5-15 years, some as long as 35 years. The company strives to eliminate “unfriendly



The Koch team at the 2021 Walcott Truckers Jamboree. From left to right: Driver Jeff Wirts, Recruiting Director Tim Haala, Operations Manager - Marine Glen Ackley, Recruiting Director Greg Iverson and Driver Mark Stratton.



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The Circuit Rider



Robert E. Harris, "The Circuit Rider" was the nation's last practicing circuit riding preacher until his death in 2007. His ministry took him to numerous towns throughout western North Carolina as well as rest areas along I-40. His ministry and legacy continues through the Robert E. Harris Evangelistic Association, Inc., P. O. Box 67, Asheville, NC 28802.

Individual Kindness

It has been said that "a man is great only as he is kind." This is short saying, but it reaches across a lifetime. The mistake with many of us is we have spasms of kindness rather than a continuance of kindness. And for some of us is easy to be kind on special occasions. But it takes grace and knowledge to be kind all of the time and under all circumstances.

We think of Moses as a great person and the Bible says, "He was the meekest man on earth." Meekness and greatness associated? That's what the Bible says.

It is said of Jesus Christ that He loved children. That's what the Bible says.

It is said of Jesus Christ that He loved children. One of His best known statements is "Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not for of such is the kingdom of God."

If we had more kindness and less competition, we would live in a better world. We could understand each other better. God could bless us, and our victories would be much greater than what they are at this time. Kindness is usually something you talk about for the other person, but in order for you to produce kindness it must begin within your own heart as an individual.

Pilot Company Surprises 40-Year Driver With Custom Peterbilt Truck - Daniel Abshire Recognized For Years Of Service



KNOXVILLE, TN... Pilot Company is recognizing one of its long-time drivers with the rig of a lifetime. Carrying on a family tradition, Daniel Abshire has driven for Pilot for more than 40 years and was honored for his contributions during a luncheon on July 7 at the company's Sales and Support Center headquarters in Knoxville.

Pilot Company and Peterbilt surprised Daniel at the event, presenting him with a custom Peterbilt truck that is reminiscent of the rig his father, Jim, drove during his tenure at Pilot. Family is very important

for Pilot Company, which has been a family-owned business for 63 years, and this tradition rings true with Jim and Daniel Abshire. In 1971, Jim Abshire was the second driver ever hired by Pilot. Based in Virginia, Jim became the company's first lead driver and drove for Pilot for 42 years. Following in his father's footsteps, Daniel joined Pilot in 1980 at the age of 21, and eventually assumed the role of lead driver when Jim retired from the position in 2013.

"The Abshire family and Pilot transportation are synonymous," said Jim Haslam, Founder and Chairman Emer-

itus of Pilot Company. "Daniel is the best. And that's because he learned from the best - his father, Jim. This job requires patience, endurance and a deep regard for everyone on the road. We are very proud of these two long and legendary careers and it's an honor to recognize Daniel for his 40 years at Pilot with this specially designed Peterbilt truck."

Today, Daniel oversees the trucks and drivers based in Staunton and Roanoke, Virginia, where he resides. During his 40-year career, Daniel has:

- * Driven 2.5 million miles, the equivalent of five trips to the moon and back or 1,650 trips Knoxville-to-New York and back.

- * Amassed 9,800 Safety Days in the cab of his truck, the equivalent of more than 26 years of safe driving.

* Delivered more than 200 million gallons of fuel, the equivalent of 300 Olympic swimming pools.

"I'm still in shock," Daniel Abshire said. "I wasn't expecting to be recognized, let alone get a new truck to drive that also celebrates my dad's time with Pilot. I remember him driving a Peterbilt like this one, and this is my dream truck. We've always been part of the Pilot family, and the team here, especially the other drivers, always have been part of the Abshire family. That's not lip service; it's how we operate. This just illustrates how true it is. We are family."

Both Jim and Daniel are fans of Peterbilt trucks. Inspired by a photo of Jim from the 1970s with his Pilot truck, Peterbilt designed the truck that Daniel will drive as a throwback to the 389 model with updated red and yellow Pilot Flying J graphics.

"Everyone at Peterbilt would like to congratulate Daniel Abshire and the whole Abshire family for the millions of miles they have spent on the road delivering fuel for the Pilot Company. To be a part of this celebration is a privilege and we look forward to seeing Daniel on the road behind the wheel of his Peterbilt Model 389 outfitted with a throwback design honoring the legacy of his father," said Jason Skoog Peterbilt general manager and PACCAR vice president.

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Truck Horns Were Blasting and Wedding Bells Were Ringing!



The wedding party, from left to right: Jolie Aslinger (flower girl), Kasey Aslinger, Shannon Linss, Birgitta Irblich, Alicia Hardwick, Norma Bradford, Lisa Scheoning, Kim Jaikes, John Jaikes, Dan Linss, Carl Nelepovitz, Mike Gaffin, Trevor Hardwick, Aaron Murphy, Jeff Michalesko and Justin Mosser.



John Jaikes (and his glorious purple hair) and Wedding Officiant Dennis Mitchell.

By Pam Pollock, Editor
WALCOTT, IA.... "Going to the Walcott Truckers Jamboree and they're gonna get married!" Longtime couple Kim Grimm and John Jaikes not only attended the recent Walcott Truckers Jamboree, held at the Iowa 80

Truckstop in Walcott, IA, but they also polished and shined their tractor and trailer to perfection and entered in the truck show. Oh—and they also got hitched!

The new Mr. and Mrs. Jaikes were married on July 9th the Credit Island Lodge in Davenport, Iowa along the mighty Mississippi River.

Kim explained, "Dennis Mitchell performed a true Trucker Service with seriousness and added enough laughter to make everyone there have fun. We can't thank him and Barb Mitchell enough for helping to make our wedding perfect."

We all know that members of the trucking industry have big hearts and helping hands and the Jaikes were blessed with many friends helping to clean their truck for the show as well as making sure the nup-

tials went off without a hitch. John and Kim wanted to thank you Birgitta, Carl, Norma, Lisa, Aaron and Stephanie Murphy; Tammy and Alan Stein; Desiree Hedegus and her daughter Madison, who shared her 13th birthday with the newlyweds; Dierdre Wogaman; Danny Vela and Shelby Miller; Wendy Wilfong; Dave Foster; Carmen Anderson and the awesome chauffeur Jacob Murray.

Wedding guests raved about how much fun they had. And as Kim aptly remarked about her new husband, "Only John could pull off purple hair [a wig] and suit and make people laugh!"

Congratulations John and Kim! Here's to many years (and miles) of happiness as you embark upon married life.

- Photos by Wendy Wilfong -

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MOVIN' OUT Calendar of Events

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July 29-31 – 39th Annual Shell Rotella SuperRigs® - Love's Truck Stop, I-90 & US 20, Hampshire, IL.

July 30-31 – 4th Annual Gear Jammer Magazine Truck Show - The Monadnock Speedway, 840 Keene Rd., Winchester, NH on July 30-31, 2021. All proceeds donated to The Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Children with Autism. Over 100 trophies, Vendor midway, Beer Pavilion, Tony Justice in Concert - Friday evening, Light Show - Friday evening, NEW FOR 2021 - TRUCK PULLS Big Raffle - Saturday, Kids activities & more! Questions: Call Bob @ 508-212-9998 or email to: mttconrad7@aol.com

July 31 - "Burning Diesel For A Cause" Truck Show - Indiana Mall, 2334 Oakland Ave., Indiana, PA. All proceeds to be donated to the Ox Hill Fairgrounds. Food Truck. For more info, call Brad Fisher @ 724-422-5255 or Devin Dalessio @ 412-289-7990.

July 31 – Horns of Hope Convoy - Chautauqua County Fairgrounds, Dunkirk, NY. Convoy is inspired by a previous event established by a 10 year old boy, Nathen Lindstrom from Brocton, NY. The Semi-Truck Convoy will travel through Dunkirk, Fredonia, Brocton and Westfield, NY while providing a ride for individuals with a disability or terminal illness. Chicken BBQ, Aerial Photography, Helicopter, and Special Guest "Optimus Prime (the replica) – Optimus-Is-Here". For more info or to pre-register, visit www.hornsofhopeconvoy.com, visit the Horns of Hope Facebook Page or call Johnnie at 716-467-5483.

August 6-8 - 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

August 7 - 16th Annual ATHS Iowa-Nebraska Classic Truck Show - Sapp Bros. Truck Stop, Omaha, NE. Northwest parking lot. I-80 and Exit #440. 9 am till 3 pm. FREE to public & entries. For more information, contact Russell Spawn Jr. @ 402-680-6121.

August 13-14 - Waupun Truck-n-Show - Waupun Community Center, 510 E. Spring St., Waupun, WI. For more info, phone 920-324-9985.

August 20-22 – Big Rig Truck Show - Big Rig Truck Show - Northern Wisconsin State Fairgrounds, Chippewa Falls, WI. Truck Show, Night Truck Parade, Indoor and Outdoor Exhibits, Live Music, Food, Kids Zone. Drivers can register online at www.bigrigtruckshows.com. For more info or to register, call 715-559-1708 or email: brians@ppgwi.com

August 21-22 - Old National Pike Truck Show, Antique Truck Club of America - Washington County Ag Center, 7313 Sharpsburg Pike, Boonsboro, MD 21713. Museums and events for the whole family. Pre Registration Fee \$5.00. Day of show registration fee \$10.00. All Trucks Welcome. More details 301-582-2304.

August 28 – Damiron Truck Center/Chrome Warehouse Jamboree Truck Show - Damiron Truck Center/Chrome Warehouse. 6575 Old U 27, Fremont, IN. Non-judged Truck Show, Vendors, Public Welcome. For more info, call Jeff at 260-833-9344. rgroups.com, Kasson, MN. Visit www.bigironclassic.com or email: info@bigironclassic.com

September 11 – 5th Annual Cable Truck Show - 2876 State Route 286, Saltsburg, PA. 15681. Sponsored by Hunter Truck Sales, Kenworth of PA & American Legion Riders. Trophies, Raffles, Music, Food and Beverages. Bobtail Trucks Only. For more info, call 724-639-9043.

September 11 – Blessing of the Trucks - Elkhart County Fairgrounds, Goshen, IN. For more info, contact Lavern Cross at 574-596-8957.

September 12-18 – National Truck Driver Appreciation Week

September 24-25 – Truckers 4 Hope Truck Show - Clinton County Fair, 98 Race-track Road, Mackeyville, PA. 17751. Benefits the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Non-judged Truck Show. Semi-Pulls, Tractor Pulls, 4x4 Pulls. Family friendly. Live Music, Beer Tent, Kids Activities, Vendors, Camping, Light Show and Much More! For more info contact Jason Smith @ 570-660-7281 or email: truckers4hope@gmail.com

September 23-25 - CSM'S Guilty By Association Truck Show (GBATS) - 4 State Trucks, Joplin, MO. A cross between a truck show, a customer expo, and an open house, GBATS is jam-packed with much fun, good food and great friends! Come for this incredibly action-packed 2-day weekend event filled with big rig burnouts, storewide sales, bull riding, concerts, truck & tractor pull, world's largest convoy, shop tours, kids pedal pull, downtown Joplin street party + much more ... bring the whole family for a weekend of trucking fun! For more information, go to: <http://www.chromeshopmafia.com/guilty-by-association-truck-show>

October 2 – Victory Road Truck Show - hosted by Pittsburgh Power and Long Haul Custom Detailing, held at the Victory Road Business Park, 3600 S. Noah Dr., Saxonburg, PA 16056. Activities include: Show 'N Shine, Live Dyno Runs on the Pittsburgh Power Chassis Dyno, Food Trucks, Kids Activities, Raffle Prizes, Give-aways and much more! For more information, call Pittsburgh Power at 724-360-4080

October 16 – 12th Annual LargeCarMag Southern Classic Truck Show - Whites Travel Center, Raphine, VA. For more info www.largecarmag.com

March 24-26, 2022 – 50th Anniversary Mid-America Trucking Show - Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville, KY. www.truckingshow.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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PA Turnpike Approves All-Electronic Toll Rates for 2022

Harrisburg, PA... The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC) recently approved a 5% toll increase for 2022 for both E-ZPass and TOLL BY PLATE customers. The increase is slated to start at 12:01 a.m. on Jan. 2, 2022 and will be effective across the entire system except on the Southern Beltway (PA Turnpike 576) west of Pittsburgh.

E-ZPass drivers will continue to receive the lowest toll rates across the PA Turnpike, with some customers saving nearly 60%. Non-E-ZPass customers can now download the PATOLL PAY smartphone app to create an autopay account and receive 15% savings on their monthly TOLL BY PLATE invoices.

Like all previous annual increases since 2009, the measure is generally required to meet escalating debt-service costs resulting from the PTC's payments to the Commonwealth of PA for transit operations under Pennsylvania Acts 44 and 89. This year, however, there is one significant difference: Under those statutes, the PTC plans to make its final annual payment of \$450 million later this month.

"Today's action is the first time in six years that the rate of increase is under 6%," explained PA Turnpike CEO Mark Compton. "Starting in July 2022, our transit funding requirement to PennDOT under Act 44 of 2007 will be cut to \$50 million annually. Finally, we are seeing a light at the end of this very long tunnel. In addition to breathing a huge sigh of relief ourselves, it enables us

to begin to offer some relief to customers from those heftier toll increases and refocus on essential improvements to our roadway."

Beginning in July 2022, the \$400 million in annual transit funding that had been provided by the PTC will be funded by the Commonwealth's Motor Vehicle Sales and Use Tax (MVSUT) as prescribed by Act 89 of 2013.

Act 89, however, does not eliminate the Commission's debt, future debt service or funding obligation. Even with this much-needed relief, the PTC is still responsible for annual payments to PennDOT of \$50 million until June 2057, and it must continue to pay down debt incurred from previous borrowing needed to fund Act 44 payments.

"The Act 44 sunseting spelled out in Act 89 of 2013 is critical if the PTC is to remain fiscally sound as an organization and for the economic vitality of Turnpike-connected communities," Compton explained. "But it's important for customers understand that, even with the reduced obligation, we are still looking at annual toll increases of 5% from through 2025, 4% in 2026, 3.5% in 2027, then 3% annually from 2028 to 2050."

Because of borrowing required by the Act 44 funding plan, the PTC currently has annual Act 44 debt-service obligations of nearly \$400 million. Due to the terms of these bonds, the PTC's Act 44 debt service will continue to rise even though borrowing has ended. Act 44 debt service will

grow to an annual maximum of nearly \$600 million by 2038 before it starts to decrease.

Because of today's action, the most-common toll for a passenger vehicle next year will increase from \$1.60 to \$1.70 for E-ZPass customers and from \$3.90 to \$4.10 for TOLL BY PLATE customers. The most common toll for a Class-5 tractor trailer will increase from \$13 to \$13.70 for E-ZPass and from \$26.60 to \$28 for TOLL BY PLATE. The cashless toll for a passenger vehicle at the westbound Delaware River Bridge will increase from \$6.10 to \$6.50 for E-ZPass customers and from \$8.20 to \$8.70 for those who use PA Turnpike TOLL BY PLATE.

The PTC also approved the toll-rate schedule for the opening of the Southern Beltway slated for October. Tolls for the Southern Beltway will include the application of the 45% additional charge that is in place on the Turnpike system. However, there will be no January 2022 toll increase for the Southern Beltway.

The PTC first started making Act 44 payments to PennDOT in August 2007. It has increased tolls annually since 2009, providing \$7.45 billion in toll-backed funding to PennDOT in 14 years.

After the 2022 increase is applied, E-ZPass and TOLL BY PLATES rates for both passenger and commercial vehicles will round up to the next dime. The PTC will post a 2022 trip calculator and toll schedule online this fall. Visit <https://www.paturnpike.com/toll/toll-mileage.aspx>.

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Grassmid – Where You Are One Of The Family



By Steve Pollock

ZEELAND, MI.... If you are looking for a job that is a personal experience with a work family, then Grassmid Transport, Inc. is the place for you. The company has been family owned and operated since 1967 and is now under the management of the 2nd generation of the Grassmid family. The Grassmids take great pride

in providing a personal work experience for their drivers and employees.

Grassmid Transport, Inc. currently has opportunities available for Professional Truck Drivers located within 100 miles of Zeeland, Michigan or within the state of Michigan. The company is seeking company drivers and contractors with their

own authority to load in Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana and to run lanes to points all over the United States. The freight is mostly drop and hook – no touch. Loads are about 90% refrigerated and 10% dry van. All miles are paid – loaded and empty.

Grassmid offers a full benefit package, including vacation pay and dental

and vision insurance. The company operates about 75 late model (3 years or newer) Freightliner Cascadia tractors and 350 refrigerated trailers along with 50 dry vans. Grassmid Transport is presently offering a sign-on bonus. If you are interested in joining a true “work family”, give Grassmid a call at 616-875-8171, ext. #2.

A Likely Story - “The Woman Behind The Man Behind The Wheel”

by Roger Clark

Country music legend Red Sovine recorded “The Woman Behind The Man Behind The Wheel” in 1977, a top-100 pick on the Billboard Charts. Already famous for “Giddyup Go” (1965), “Phantom 309”, (1967), and “Teddy Bear” (1976), “Woman Behind The Man Behind The Wheel” was his almost last big hit. This record never moved me much, because my ex’s were always moving, a lot.

But then I met Susan, who turns sixty-something in a couple of weeks, and the lyrics of this song grow more meaningful by the year. We didn’t even meet, till July of 2014, but she’s become my greatest ally, bestest friend, closest confidant, and first call bail bondsman. I trust her to stand behind me, prepared to defend me, and keep a grip on my bungee cord. She has never uh, let me down.

They say multiple jobs and multiple marriages share a lower percentage of success. I’ve certainly had my share of both, and a corresponding rate of failures, but now have the highest pay, strongest credit, best vehicles, and a life insurance policy too low to hire a hitman. Life is good, eh?

But it wasn’t easy. Well, okay, for me it was easy. All I had to do is show up and shut up, do my job, and find my way home to the right address. My girl, on the other hand, had to work with the realtors, research opportunities, investigate neighborhoods, and navigate countless sacrifices. She did this and more, with grace, patience, humor, and prayer.

Just today, in fact, I tried to track her movements as I slaved away on the computer. It’s not that easy. Last time I caught a glimpse of her, she was assembling the new patio set. Before that she was washing dishes, by hand, because she can watch the backyard wildlife. Prior

to that, of course, she was making breakfast, which is no small affair in our home.

Susan puts out our best dishes, for just the two of us, with the best cloth place mats and napkins. I get full size silverware, fresh flavored coffee, and fruit-filled oatmeal as a regular fare. We say grace for every meal together, and I thank God every day for her, even when it’s salmon for the fourth time this week.

Before the dew is off our lawn, that woman is filling the bird feeders, weeding a garden, and picking the crop for dandelion tea. As the sun gets higher, she digs deeper for the energy to do laundry, sweep the floors, make the beds, and take out the trash. I did see her go to the bathroom, just now, and thought it was break time, but she was in there only to lower the lid before moving on to her next project.

Our neighbors have golf course quality lawns, expensive as they look, but thanks to Susan we have blue jays, orioles, robins, and cardinals. We also have squirrels, thanks to neighbors who think they’re cute, but I can shoo them away while my wife waters the plants, cleans the gutters, gathers up leaves, and stows the recycling.

I thought this energizer bunny with a servant heart would throttle back some, in the early years, but she shows no signs of stopping. Even now, as I dedicate my third half of life to viewing every YouTube video, she is studying Hillsdale College, practicing sign language, and learning to speak Spanish.

She knows a lot of big words, because she reads a lot of big books, often while sitting upon my stack of Marvel Comics. George Macdonald, C.S. Lewis, GK Chesterton, and JR Tolkien all share a place in her heart, while she has a place in mine. This..... is what August means to me!

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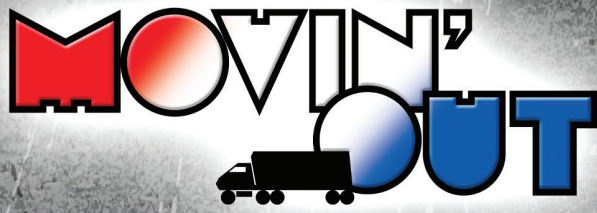
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Working Show Truck Of The Month

Doug McCallister - LLP Company



long & low look that Doug was trying to achieve. Doug went with a set of 8" Dynaflex straight exhaust to give it that "roar" when he shifts thru the 18 speed transmission that's paired up with the 6 NZ CAT and 3:55 rears. Let's just say, this black beauty has plenty of get up and go when Doug needs to pull those hills!



He hooks to a matching 2021 Great Dane that's equipped with an Eagle tarp system and Doug says that Forest & LLP definitely keep him moving with dedicated loads. Doug wanted to thank Forest for letting him build his dream truck, and he says he still has a few things to do to make it 100%. He also wanted to thank his wife & family for putting up with the long hours associated with trucking and for always showing their love & support. When Doug isn't driving the

Peterbilt, he enjoys riding his motorcycle, that just happens to match the truck, with just the right amount of bling accenting the black paint! Whether he's trucking on the interstate in the 379 or cruising down a back road on his motorcycle, Doug McCallister definitely rides in style!

needed some upgrades to make it stand out in a crowd. Company owner Forest Peaslee gave the reins to Doug, letting him build the truck the way he wanted, and the end result is the black beauty you see in our photos.

The wheelbase was stretched to 310" and an air ride front end from House of Air was installed, letting Doug put the truck "in the weeds" when he wants to! Doug added extra lights all around and Talladega Fiberglass did the single hump rear fenders and custom T-bar.

Berube's Truck Accessories in Bow, NH supplied the custom 20" front bumper and the window chops, adding to the overall



By Robert Conrad started driving this 2003 Peterbilt 379 for LLP Company, it was a basic 275" wheelbase truck that had potential but

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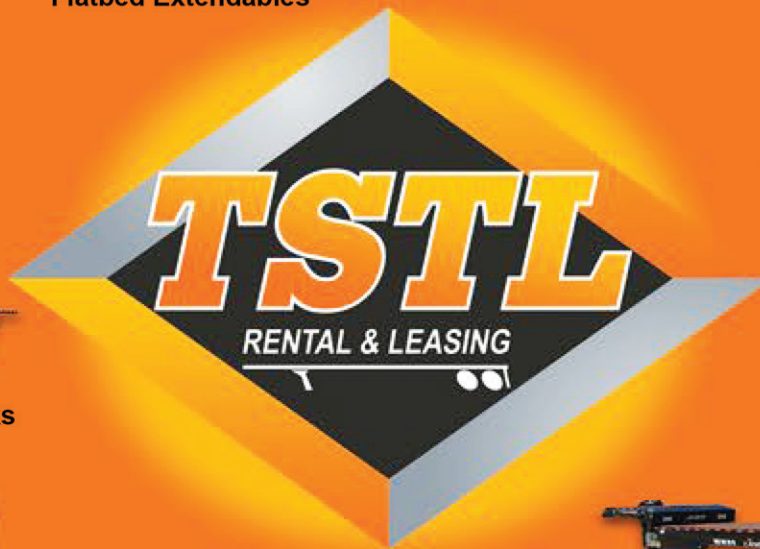
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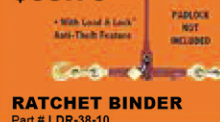
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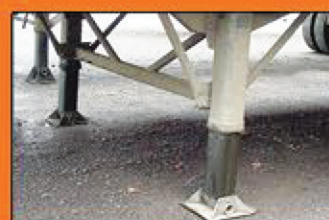
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