# "THE JOURNAL OF THE TRUCKING INDUSTRY"

# 2024 Ascendance Truck Centers Truck Show



Ascendance Truck Centers, formerly Trivista, held a Truck Show in conjuction with ATHS of Northeast Ohio in August 2024 at the Ascendance Truck Center (formerly Cerni Motors) in Youngstown, Ohio. Turn to page 13 for more photos. - Photo by Pam Pollock -

# **Foodliner & Quest Liner Supports Key Initiatives**



Foodliner NASC Award: In September 2024, Foodliner and Quest Liner were honored as the Grand Champion award winners in the For-Hire Carrier Classes - Class 1 category in the North American Safety Contest. Mike O'Connor, vice president of operations for Foodliner/Quest Liner, center accepts the award on behalf of the organizations.

At Foodliner and Quest Liner, we are dedicated to supporting key initiatives focused on responsible care and safety, Operation Clean Sweep, being a SmartWay Transportation

partner, and assisting the Truckers Against Trafficking group.

Innovative Services Best In Customer Service Safety

In our continuing effort

to provide exemplary service and safety assurances to our growing customer base, Foodliner & Quest Liner maintain a satisfactory rating with the Decontinued on page 12

# **Gear Head Fifth Wheel Lubricant Pads:** Save Time, Save Money, Save The Mess



### By Steve Pollock

CEDAR FALLS, IA.... Every once in a while, something comes along that is a great improvement over the way things have been done for a very long time. Things like the internal combustion engine, cell phones, the internet and email, and now Gear Head Fifth Wheel Grease Pads.

Gear Head Fifth Wheel

Lubricant Pads underwent testing in 2019 and were introduced at the Trucking Mid-America Show in 2022. Gear Head Fifth Wheel Grease Pads are 3"x3"x1/2" thick and are made from 80% soybean oil. Since the product starts out as a clean, firm solid material, there is no mess - simply add a square on each side of the 5th wheel (or two if the 5th

Wheel is very dry), hook up and go. The  $5^{th}$  Wheel spreads the lubricant automatically and since it doesn't require a grease gun to apply the formula, it is thicker than regular grease, requiring less product on the 5th Wheel. A huge advantage to Gear Head Fifth Wheel Grease Pads is that there is no

continued on page 15

# The 43rd Shell Rotella SuperRigs: Where Big Rigs and Big Dreams Take Center Stage in Atlanta



Mark your calendars and rev up your excitement as Shell Rotella proudly announces the 43rd Shell Rotella SuperRigs truck beauty contest! This year's event is set to take over Atlanta Motor Speedway from May 29-31 and promises to be a thrilling celebration of North America's most impressive and hardworking big rigs.

This iconic event is more than just a competition—it's a tribute to the incredible spirit and dedication of truck drivers. The three-day extravaganza will feature some of the finest and most eye-catching trucks

from across the U.S. and Canada. Families, fans, and trucking enthusiasts alike can look forward to enjoying an action-packed weekend filled with fun, entertainment, and admiration for these rolling masterpieces.

Highlights of the 2025 SuperRigs include:

\* Over \$25,000 in cash and prizes to be awarded across more than 20 categories, including Best Chrome, Best Lights, and the prestigious Best of Show.

\* The chance for 12 drivers to earn a coveted spot in the 2026 Shell Rotella SuperRigs Calendar, cap-

turing the beauty and grit of these extraordinary vehicles.

\* A weekend full of family-friendly activities, interactive exhibits, and community fun celebrating the trucking lifestyle.

Everyone is invited to join the festivities at the Atlanta Motor Speedway, which is open to the public and free of charge. Registration details will be announced soon, so stay tuned!

Stay connected with Shell Rotella® on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for the latest updates on SuperRigs and news on our products and programs.

# New Shell Rotella® Fuel Card Offers Savings and Benefits for Drivers and Fleets



Rotella is proud announce the launch of the Shell Rotella® Fuel Card in conjunction with the Multi Service Fuel Card. The card offers savings and benefits designed to meet the needs of fleet and owner-operator drivers across the United States and Canada. It offers a comprehensive solution for significant fuel savings designed to enhance every aspect of fuel management for fleets. Cardholders will earn up to one MyMiles-Matter mile per gallon purchased using the Shell Rotella Fuel Card.

Shell Rotella Fuel Card -Features and Benefits

Save at the Pump: Card-holders can enjoy an average savings of 45 cents per gallon off the credit price at participating locations. The savings are based on actual discounted gallons purchased by all Multi Service Fuel Card customers in 2024. Actual savings by customers will vary.

Nationwide Acceptance: The Shell Rotella®

Houston, TX... – Shell Fuel Card is accepted at totella is proud to more than 8,900 locations across the United States

and Canada.

Mobile Transparency: Leveraging the Multi Service Fuel Card mobile app alongside the Shell Rotella® Fuel Card provides even more opportunity for savings and convenience. Drivers gain visibility to the most up-to-date diesel pricing across the network while trip planning while fleet managers can access transaction history and manage cards and users on the go.

Earn More: For every gallon purchased using the Shell Rotella® Fuel Card, users earn up to one MyMilesMatter point, which can be redeemed for gift cards and Shell Rotella® branded merchandise.

Generous Credit Lines and Dedicated Account Management: To support business growth, the Shell Rotella® Fuel Card offers multiple credit options and dedicated account management, ensuring that each customer receives personalized support and solutions tailored to their needs.

Premium Customer Service: Available 24/7, the customer service team is dedicated to providing the support needed quickly and efficiently, ensuring a smooth experience for cardholders.

Flexible and Insightful Billing Options: The card offers flexible billing statements, departmental billing to streamline accounting, and consolidated billing for a comprehensive overview of fuel expenses, all designed to support business operations.

Advanced Fraud Protection: The Shell Rotella® Fuel Card provides added protection at the pump from skimmers with One-Time PIN functionality through the mobile application.

Enhanced Fuel Management Solutions: With features that enable the authorization of non-fuel items and set spend limitations, the Shell Rotella® Fuel Card offers comprehensive fuel management solutions. Additionally, InstaMoney Checks provide a secure way for drivers to access cash for lumpers, repair shops, or tows.

New customers can activate their Shell Rotella® Fuel Card via an online account. For more information about the Shell Rotella® Fuel Card and to start enjoying the benefits today, please visit www.multiservicefuelcard.com/lp/rotella-fuel-now/.



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# **OFF THE BEATEN PATH**

BY PAM POLLOCK



# The Language Of Love

The recent death of former President Jimmy Carter revealed a love letter that he had written to his wife Rosalynn after they had been married for two years. Carter had been away from her and wrote these words to his love, "My darling, every time I have ever been away from you, I have been thrilled when I returned to discover just how wonderful vou are. While I'm away, I tried to convince myself that you really are not, could not be, as sweet and beautiful as I remember But when I see you, I fall in love with you all over again. Does that seem strange to you? It doesn't to me. Goodbye, darling. Until tomorrow, Jimmy."

Rosalynn and Jimmy were married for 77 years - they were eighteen and twenty-one years old when they married. She died in 2023 and of course he died in January of this year.

Valentine's Day is less than a month away as I write this column on a very snowy day at the Homestead. Reflecting on the romance of the Carters got me to thinking about my own relationship with my spouse of 42 years. We always buy each other cards for every holiday and our birthdays - Steve always gives me a romantic card as well as a funny one. I pretty much do the same thing and I will jot a line or two about how much I love and appreciate him. We do leave each other littles notes but I don't think that either of us have ever written a letter like Jimmy wrote to Rosalyn. And for a fleeting moment, I was like, "Oh no! Are we not showing each other our "true love"?!

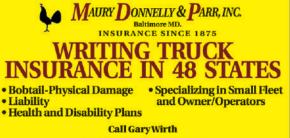
I mean, when we first got married, we gave each other "cutesy" names – he was Bwinky and I was Boinky. Don't judge us, we were only twenty-one and twen-



ty-four years old. On second thought, go ahead with your judgment, we totally deserve it. We had some rather risqué comments in our cards to each other. We can still send some steamy texts to each other.

After further pondering, I realized that maybe we don't express our love in written words all the time but we do in our actions. It's the little things, like him taking out the garbage, scrubbing the toilet, and removing all of the snow and ice from my car in frigid temperatures. He surprises me with frozen drinks from Sheetz and treats that I love. I turn all of his clothes the right way when

I am doing laundry and try my best to match up his socks. I keep his medicine orders straight and buy him some bottles of bourbon that I know he would never get for himself because of the price. He spends all Spring and Summer up in our woods cutting up the trees that have fallen, hauling them back down to our yard, where he splits and stacks the logs so we can use them to heat our old house in the fall and winter. I try to help out by loading up the wood wagon and bringing the logs into the house. I also get up some mornings and scoop out all of the ashes from the fireplace before we build a fire



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**PUBLISHER** Steven M. Pollock **EDITOR** Pam Pollock **NATIONAL SALES** 



CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Dr. Michael McGough Bruce Mallinson Roger Clark



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for the day. We slather and lather each other up with our pain relief ointment. He silently goes along for my insistence of having a professional family photo taken every year. I tolerate his hunting and fishing, just as he puts up with my bird feeding and watching obsession.

Sure, we fight - quite honestly, just about each and every day - we live together, work together and it's a lot to handle much of the time. We have battles over who gets the TV in the living room, because neither of us wants to watch the one in the home office or in the spare bedroom upstairs. We compromise after some bickering and sometimes I find the two of sitting on the couch

together - he'll pop in to watch bits and pieces of my Hallmark movies and I will quickly view his Forensic File and news shows. It's a battle of the sexes each night over the covers and who we think is hogging more than their fair share of the bed. But we still say, "I love you" to each other before we drift off to slumberland.

We've stood by each other during sickness and in health, when it felt like it was the two of us against the world, and during the death of three of our parents and my brother. We get annoyed, frustrated, and angry at each other, but we also love, respect and admire each other. Maybe we don't have a flowy, romantic letter to each other

- but we have each other and I think that's a beautiful thing.



Last May we spent over 15 hours sitting on a plane in 3 different tarmacs because of storms. Our flight was supposed to take 2.5 hours. And we're still married... it must be love, right?!



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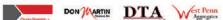
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# **High Performance Diesels with Bruce Mallinson**

# **Gearing By Request**

Several emails recently asked me to explain gearing again. When a truck runs on the Dyno, the transmission is always in direct gear, or 1 to 1. Direct gear is the BEST pulling gear; the engine and transmission run cooler and quieter. This pertains mainly to 2018 and older trucks. In direct gear, 1 to 1, the additional horsepower gained is about 80, and the torque is about 240 pound-feet. A loaded semi-truck running in double overdrive approaches a hill, and the driver has to

drop 2 1/2 gears, such as a 13-speed dropping to 11 gear and 18-speed dropping to 16th gear, which is 1 full gear drop. Now, the engine comes to life, and you go over the hill or long grade. Just think, if you were already in direct gear, 1 to 1, you would not have to touch the gearshift because you are already in the best pulling gear. Many people think you will lose power on the hills, but the opposite is true, you will gain power because the downshifting is eliminated; remember, the increase in

torque in 1 to 1 or direct gear is 240-pound feet, so the truck will go over the hill easily. Now, a truck that runs in double overdrive, which is almost all OD transmissions since the mid-1990s, and you drop 1 full gear, and now in direct, yes, the gain in torque is 240-pound feet. However, the speed is 5 to 6 mph. Running in direct gear will increase the fuel mileage by 1/2 mpg at the same speed.

So, how do you know what gear to install in the differentials? If you like the speed and RPM, the current gear ratio is producing

for you, subtract 90 from that number. Let's say the current gear ratio is 3:55, minus 90 is 2:65; the closest gear ratio to that number is 2:64, which is pretty simple. Now, a 3:36 gear minus 90 is 2:46; no such gear ratio; however, there is a 2:47, close enough. There can be a problem going to 2:47, as the ring gear diameter may not fit in the existing housing. A sharp person at a gear house will be able to tell you if it's possible once you give him the model number of your differentials. Older Walmart trucks ran a 2:47 rear gear with a 10-speed direct. So the housings are available, Easton, Md., will be able to help you. Sometimes, he can sell you a cutoff with disc brakes and the correct gear ratio for a little more than the price of the two drop-ins or pumpkins.

If you are running an older 60 series Detroit, the gear ratio may be 3:70 or 3:73. If you install the 2:64, your RPM will be about 60 to 80 RPM less; however, your engine will pull harder. A 2:64 gear, low pro 22.5 tire, will run 1460 RPM AT 65 mph. At 70 mph, the RPM will be 1560 RPM, which is okay for engines 2012 and older.

There is a 2:53 gear and the speed vs RPM is 65 mph is 1425 RPM, and 70 mph is 1540 RPM.

The 2:47 gear at 65 mph is 1375 RPM, and I do not have the RPM at 70 mph. This gear ratio is a little high for an older 60 series, but it is great for a 3406 E through a C-15 Caterpillar.

New low-RPM engines, like the Detroit, X-15 Cummins, Volvo, and Mack, use a 2:28 gear to keep the RPM lower where the engine is built to operate. Older engines DO NOT OPER-ATE at the lower RPM like new ones

Running in direct 1 to 1 is great for over-the-road trucks. It's not meant for farms, logging, or any application starting out in soft dirt or thick gravel. This is not for heavy haul trucks either.

Tire size: A 22.5-inch rear tire will increase the speed by 2 to 3 mph, and a 24.5-inch tire will be 5 to 6 mph faster. When we are talking gearing, it's always with low-pro 22.5 tires.

Annual Snow Mobile Conference Update

We changed the location. We are now at the Comfort Inn at Ogden Utah, I-15 and 21st Street. \$99.00 plus tax for two queen beds or one king bed. They are pet-friendly. Meet on

Wednesday afternoon, February 19, and ride on the 20, 21, and 22. Depart Sunday the 23rd. Wednesday at 4 pm, we visit Karl Malone/ ADS Power Sports, one of the largest in the USA. On Thursday evening, we will watch Smokey and the Bandit. We go to a local country western bar with a large dance floor and dance on Friday. Several restaurants in the area, one right in the parking lot.

The riding man, Cisto, is a 35-minute drive into the mountains. It's a beautiful drive, and the snowmobile rentals are right there at the trailhead. The trail riding and off-trail riding are phenomenal, with Mike Lane as the tour guide.

Written by: Bruce Mallinson, Pittsburgh Power inc., 3600 S. Noah Drive, Saxonburg, PA, 16056. Phone: (724) 360-4080 Email: Information@Pittsburghpower.com Website: www.PittsburghPower.com





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# ATA Truck Tonnage Index Contracted 1.9% in November

Washington, DC... Trucking activity in the United States contracted in November, according to the American Trucking Associations' advanced seasonally adjusted For-Hire Truck Tonnage Index, just the second decrease since July.

"The frustratingly choppy freight environment continued in November," said ATA Chief Economist Bob Costello. "Since hitting a low in January of this year, tonnage is up a total of 1.1%, but the path has been fraught with nice gains one month only to come back down the next. The good

news is that the overall trend this year is up, albeit at a slow rate."

In November, the ATA advanced seasonally adjusted For-Hire Truck Tonnage Index equaled 112.5 compared with 114.6 in October. The index, which is based on 2015 as 100, was down 1% from the same month last year.

The not seasonally adjusted index, which calculates raw changes in tonnage hauled, equaled 109.6 in November, 9.6% below October.

The seasonally adjusted decrease follows a sequential 1.2% gain in October.

which was unchanged from the November 19 press release.

Trucking serves as a barometer of the U.S. economy, representing 72.6% of tonnage carried by all modes of domestic freight transportation, including manufactured and retail goods. Trucks hauled 11.46 billion tons of freight in 2022. Motor carriers collected \$940.8 billion, or 80.7% of total revenue earned by all transport modes.

Both indices are dominated by contract freight, as opposed to traditional spot market freight.

# ATA Urges Truck Manufacturers to Partner with Industry on Emissions Goals

Washington, DC... American Trucking Associations President and CEO Chris Spear called upon the nation's heavy-duty truck and engine manufacturers to abandon their agreement with California regulators to abide by the state's increasingly untenable and unachievable zero-emission vehicle regulations.

"By strong-arming our industry into unachievable targets and timelines void of operational and economic reality, the California Air Resources Board's mad dash to zero has set our industry up for failure, sowing the seeds of another supply chain crisis," Spear wrote in a letter to

the nation's truck and engine makers. "California's ideological approach has cratered the truck market; sales are down by over 50 percent compared to last year. Availability of California-certified diesel engines are hard to come by and expensive, rationed due to zero-emission truck sales requirements."

Spear decried the agreement CARB struck with the Clean Truck Partnership, a consortium of truck makers, as "deeply flawed and coercive," and urged the organization to vacate the pact, citing a lawsuit filed by Nebraska Attorney General Mike Hilgers and the "shifting political land-

scape," which should allow the manufacturers to partner with their customers to advance their shared goal of reducing emissions.

"As your customers and partners, we ask that you work with all members of the American Trucking Associations to forge a viable path forward. Abandon the CTP and work with us and the incoming Administration in Washington to reopen Greenhouse Gas Phase 3 and revise it with achievable, national standards that put our industry on a sustainable and successful path towards a zero-emissions vehicle future," Spear wrote.







# **Latest Trucking Industry News**

# **EPA Grants CARB NOx** Waiver, PMTA Challenge Will Continue in PA

# **Truckstop Survey Reveals Carrier Confidence** and Growth Optimism for 2025

### By Rebecca Oyler, PMTA

On December 18, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) granted the California Air Resources Board (CARB) a waiver to enforce its stringent NOx emissions standards for heavy-duty trucks, aiming to reduce NOx emissions by 90%, overhaul engine testing procedures, and extend engine warranties.

The American Trucking Associations (ATA) has expressed strong opposition to this decision. ATA President and CEO Chris Spear stated that the waiver imposes unworkable state-by-state standards on the trucking industry, compromising the federal NOx standard adopted just two years ago. He argues that the waiver, which allows California to enforce its own, more stringent NOx emissions standards and allows states the option to adopt them, creates a fragmented regulatory environment, posing challenges for the trucking industry nationwide.

A consistent, nationwide standard is preferred to a patchwork of state-specific regulations, which leads to increased operational complexities and costs. California's mandates have already led to significant truck shortages and price increases, limiting truck sales and purchases in several states. CARB's unworkable policies disregard the operational needs of the trucking industry and will adversely affect consumers through higher prices for everyday goods.

In Pennsylvania, the recent EPA waiver intensifies the debate over adopting CARB's NOx standards. The waiver means that the state's Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) existing regulation adopting CARB's emissions standards is now permitted by federal law and can now be enforced in Pennsylvania.

The Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association (PMTA) and four of its members argued in court in June that the automatic incorporation of these standards in the state causes economic and operational challenges for the local trucking industry. Peters Brothers, Inc., et.al. v. DEP et. al., PMTA contends that regulatory delegating authority to CARB deprives Pennsylvania businesses and residents of a voice in the rulemaking process, violating constitutional principles.

In late November, PMTA learned that the state's Commonwealth Court found by a vote of 4-3 that PMTA's lawsuit cannot proceed because of a bar on "pre-enforcement challenges" in state law. PM-TA's attorneys at the Pacific Legal Foundation will file

an amended complaint early next year continuing to challenge the constitutionality of the adoption of the NOx standards and warranty requirements. In addition to challenging Pennsylvania's unlawful rolling incorporation of California standards, PMTA will now raise new state and federal constitutional claims arguing that PMTA has a right to have its case heard - regardless of whether DEP is actively enforcing California standards at this time.

At the same time, PMTA is closely watching events at the national level as the incoming Trump administration may reevaluate EPA's policies on emissions standards.

The trucking industry in Pennsylvania is already under significant strain, and these additional regulatory burdens could have far-reaching consequences for the state's economy. PMTA continues to urge consideration of all relevant factors as emissions standards are considered.

This article was originally published on PR Newswire.

BOISE, ID... Truckstop's Carrier Insight latest reveals Survey an optimistic and forwardthinking outlook within the trucking industry. With 91% of carriers confident in achieving their professional goals and nearly half expecting significant personal and business improvements, the survey of nearly 500 carriers underscores their readiness to navigate challenges and seize opportunities in 2025.

"The survey results highlight carriers' resilience, ambition, and determination to enhance their businesses and overall quality of life," said Kendra Tucker, chief executive officer, Truckstop. "Whether focusing prevention, on fraud professional development, or securing more relevant loads, Truckstop provides innovative tools resources to empower

carriers and help them two percent (82%) believe thrive in an ever-changing industry."

Overarching Optimism Fuels Career Confidence

The majority of carriers (91%) feel optimistic about achieving their primary professional goals in 2025, with 54% describing themselves as "extremely optimistic." Career stability is a cornerstone of their plans, as 97% intend to stay in trucking-63% in their current roles and 34% transitioning to new opportunities within the industry.

- \* Professional outlook: Ninety-four percent (94%) believe their professional life will improve in 2025, with 53% expecting it to be "significantly better."
- \* Career changes: Only 3% of carriers plan to leave the trucking industry in 2025, reinforcing trucking's role as a stable and rewarding career choice.

Gaining Ground on Fraud

Fraud prevention remains a top priority for carriers in 2025. Eightvindustry measures will improve, and nearly one-third expect significant advancements.

- \* Future of fraud prevention: Carriers overwhelmingly see improvement ahead, with 28% anticipating major gains in fraud prevention efforts.
- \* Support needs: Many carriers look to companies like Truckstop to provide resources and tools to address fraud more effective-

Prioritizing Wellness and Personal Development

Carriers are making significant commitments to health, wellness, and self-improvement. Over 70% plan to improve their eating habits and exercise routines in 2025, while an impressive 93% are likely to pursue additional training or certifications to advance their careers.

- \* Health and wellness
- Seventy-six percent (76%) plan to improve eating habits.

- Seventy-one percent (71%) plan to increase exercise.
- \* Personal growth: Carriers view professional development as critical, with 93% likely to invest in training or certifications.

Although work-life balance remains challenge, 22% hope to spend more time at home while 32% plan to spend less time at home, likely due to their professional demands and desire to grow their income.

Strategic Investments for Business Growth

In 2025, 77% of carriers plan to make rig upgrades, performance including improvements and driver comfort enhancements such as heated seats and updated sound systems. Financial planning is another critical area, with 45% focusing on revenue growth and 38% prioritizing savings for equipment upgrades.

- \* Rig upgrades: In addition to comfort and performance improvements, many carriers are also interested in adding technology for route optimization and adding safety features like cameras.
  - \* Top financial goals:
- \* Forty-five percent (45%) are focused on increasing revenue.
- \* Thirty-eight percent (38%) aim to save for equipment upgrades.
- Seventeen percent (17%) either prioritize reducing costs or building an emergency fund.



After reading your January issue, I realized that 50 years ago I picked up your first issue. Made me stop and think, damn have I really been out here for 50 years. I've read every issue since number 1 and they have always been interesting and informative. Keep up the good work and thank you.

Jim Harris

Editor's Note: Jim! You totally made our day with your very kind email! We truly appreciate you being such a loyal and longtime (from the very beginning – 50 years ago!) reader of Movin' Out! Thank-you! We hope you continue to take Movin' Out along for the ride on all of your journeys.



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# From The Chaplain's Desk



By Ron Fraser, TFC Global President

# When Struggles Come

The two verses below are special to me because they remind me that I am fallible and have no control over my life. Even though I may think I do. Realizing that, I then need to decide how I am going to respond to that infallibility when struggles come into my life. There really is only two choices. Blame God and try to work them out or trust God.

"Oh, that I knew how

to find Him, That I might come to His home!" (Job 23:3,)

"Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him" (Job 13.15)

Job sought God in his suffering instead of waving a fist over the feeling of being treated unjustly. The loss of his children, the failure of his business, and the infliction of physical pain, Job chooses to seek God in the middle of his severe trials. Faith is designed by our heavenly Father to be tested by trials and temptations. Untested... it's unfamiliar with the depth and breadth of God's love and care. Like any relationship, there is only a surface, shallow understanding of one another, until one or both walk through the valley of fear, shame, or loss. Job's desire is to go home to be with his God, not run away in fear-but run toward in humble trust.

Are you running to the Lord in humble trust or drifting away from Him in fearful distrust? Pause. Pray. Take a deep breath...and believe. Believe your same Savior Jesus who secured heaven for you by His grace is the same Lord Jesus who is in control of your life and circumstances. The Holy Spirit will lead you as you lean into Him, hopeful and aware of His presence to show you one day at a time your next step. God gives you grace for today and hope for tomorrow. Rest. Go deep in intimacy with Almighty God in your time of intense affliction. Immerse in love.

Remember those who are watching you to see if you live out what you have believed all these years as a faithful follower of Jesus. Use your new reality as an opportunity to gain experience and adapt, not become a victim stuck in your situation. Give genu-

ine attention to those who tirelessly serve and give you attention, not taking advantage of your neediness to totally drain all their energy. Be grateful to God and His children who love and give, so you might live. Live with love. Live with peace. Live with joy. Live with hope. Your life is a living sacrifice of intimate love on the Lord's altar of affliction. Like Job, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him."

"Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews12:2)

I don't know what 2025 will hold for you. But this thing, I am sure. It will not be without its struggles in some form or another. The question is how will you handle them when they come?

# ATA Reveals Five Finalists for National Driver of the Year

Washington, DC... The American Trucking Associations announced the five professional truck driver finalists for the 2024 ATA National Driver of the Year Award sponsored by DMC Insurance, one of the trucking industry's top awards.

Here are the finalists for 2024:

Jay Williams has spent 20 years of his driving career with TCW, Inc., accumulating over three million accident-free miles. Mr. Williams was the winner of the TCW 20 Year Safe Driving Award in 2023 as well as becoming the Tennessee Driver of the Year in 2024.

Rollie Fugate has driven for Wal-Mart for 24.5 of his 47.5-year career on the roadways. Mr. Fugate has accumulated an impressive six million accident-free miles. Mr. Fugate was awarded the Nevada Driver of the Year Award for 2023.

Michael Bortz has driven for Sorensen Transport for 21 of his 43 total years in the industry. Mr. Bortz has accumulated 4.85 million accident-free miles over his career without sustaining a single accident. Recently Michael was awarded the 2024 Montana Driver of the Year

Award

Danny Tankersly has driven for WEL Companies for 14 of his 36 career years as a driver. During his time on the road, Mr. Tankersly has amassed 4.6 million accident-free miles and counting. Mr. Tankersly has been awarded the WEL Companies Driver of the Year Award 11 times, as well as a 13-year Safe Driving Award Winner, and recently the WMCA 2023 Driver of the Year.

Thomas Miller has driven for 25 years for Prime Inc. out of Missouri. Mr. Miller has accumulated 3.5 million accident-free miles as a Prime employee and 3.8 million accident-free miles in his career. He has also been awarded multiple awards including but not limited to MOTA Professional Excellence Award (2019), Missouri Trucking Association Driver of the Year (2016/2023), as well as serving as one of ATA America's Road Team Captains.

The Safety Management CThe winner will be announced at ATA's Safety, Security and Human Resources National Conference and Exhibition, which will be held in Louisville, KY, on April 23 – 25, 2025.







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efficient than any other turbo on the market:

## A Turbocharged-History of Success

With a remarkable 40-year journey in the turbocharger industry, Switchblade Turbo's founder, Jim Blaylock, has honed his expertise in crafting and repairing top-quality turbocharger systems.

> Our team has the knowledge and skill to craft and remanufacture turbochargers for most makes and models, including Caterpillar, Cummins, and Detroit Diesel, with precision and reliability.

### How It Works

### "Two-in-One" Turbo Technology for Superior Fuel Economy

The Switchblade Turbocharger is engineered with a groundbreaking "two-in-one" VGT design that transforms engine performance and fuel efficiency. The Switchblade utilizes a single internal vane that adjusts with boost pressure.

At low RPM's the Switchblade provides rapid spool-up, eliminating turbo lag and providing more efficient fuel combustion. As the boost pressure increases, the vane opens to allow the turbo to deliver great top-end power. With the Switchblade you get the best of both worlds - quick spool up and unparalleled performance at the top-end.

# Customer Testimonials

"I tried about every other turbo on the market, but the results we've seen with the Switchblade regarding fuel efficiency are incredible. Switchblade Turbochargers took our Cummins ISX15 from 5 MPG to 7.1 MPG. In our industry, those gains are huge. Great customer service. I'm only buying Switchblade from now on."

-Jon Haller, M+D Repair, Ohio

"The Switchblade Turbo extended our oil change intervals from 109 hours to >200 hours -- no questions asked. The black smoke on all of my rigs has reduced immensely, and the improved fuel mileage is the cherry on top. The Switchblade pulls everything I have down the road."

Jeff Anderson, Anderson Construction, Blackfoot, ID - "JPayDirt" on YouTube

"I purchased a Switchblade Turbo for my B Model CAT and it performs every bit as good as Jim described. Overall better engine response & performance, 150-200 cooler EGT's, and fuel mileage increase from 5.3 MPG to 6.4 MPG pulling an average gross weight of 120,000lbs."

"I would recommend the Switchblade to anyone looking for better engine performance and improved fuel efficiency." -lan Manger, White Sulphur Springs, MT



-Jim Blaylock, Founder



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# Foodliner & Quest Liner Supports Key Initiatives



Last fall, Foodliner driver Jeff Schaefer (pictured above) was named a winner of the Foodliner/Quest Liner Defensive Move of the Week driver safety award. The organization honors drivers who take action to avoid roadway accidents, with weekly recognition.

continued from page 1

ment of Transportation.

We have also implemented quality control measuring devices in all aspects of our operations to review and evaluate our performance, helping to ensure we always receive high trucking company safety ratings. In each of our semitrucks, we utilize the Lytx camera systems, which provides camera footage

that helps us provide better customer service, protects our drivers, maximizes efficiency and helps us with

We're a proud member of the following industry orga-

- 'NTTC National Tank Truck Carriers
- \* IMTA Iowa Motor Truck Association
- American Chemistry Council Responsible Care®

Partner Carrier

- Operation Sweep® Logistics Member \* Truckers Against Traf-
- \* EPA SmartWay Transport Partner

INDUSTRY'S CAMPAIGN TO REDUCE PELLET, FLAKE AND POWDER LOSS.

By participating in the Operation Clean Sweep® initiative, Quest Liner is making an important contribution to protecting the environment from plastic pollution.

THE VALUE OF OPER-ATION CLEAN SWEEP®

The campaign's goal is to help every plastic-resin handling operation implement good housekeeping and pellet, flake, and powder containment practices to work toward protecting the environment and saving valuable resources.

PLASTICS IN THE EN-VIRONMENT

Zero pellet, flake, and powder Loss is a priority for the plastics industry and a critical issue for our environment. Spilled pellets, flakes, and powder can make their way into local waterways and ultimately estuaries and the ocean. This isn't just an eyesore and a litter issue; pellets, flakes, and powder, are harmful if mistaken for food by birds or marine animals. That's why the industry is behind zero pellet, flake, and powder loss, and it can only be achieved with your help. The OCS program

was created to help you protect the environment and keep it clean. Quest Liner has a few examples that demonstrate our commitment. We use specialized equipment, have unique processes used in offloading rail cars, utilize the 5S system in our warehouses just to name a few. For additional information on Operation Clean Sweep, please visit opcleansweep.

Specific to food trucking safety, we utilize the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) management system to provide a comprehensive food safety program and corresponding training.

Meanwhile, Foodliner and Quest Liner have partnered with their customers to take environmentally friendly measures by incorporating the use of renewable-energy powered and zero-emission producing vehicles to their fleet.

Currently, the companies are working with multiple customers to utilize a renewable diesel and biodiesel blend in trucks. Trevor Meyer, the sustainability and corporate responsibility manager for Foodliner and Quest Liner's parent company, McCoy Group, noted renewable diesel reduces air emissions by up to 85% compared with traditional diesel.

Meanwhile, the organizations plan to incorporate the use of zero-emission spotter truck at one of its customer's locations later this year, thanks to grant funding that was received to offset the purchase of vehicle and install charging infrastructure.

SAFETY **TRUCKING EOUIPMENT** 

Vehicle and equipment inspection and maintenance is a top priority for Foodliner. To ensure our vehicles are always operating safely, we have highly qualified personnel who per-

form daily maintenance, inspections, and repairs - all of which are required to be properly documented. We

- \* Electronic Logs
- \* Satellite Tracking
- \* Lane Departure Warning System
- On-Guard forward sensing radar crash avoidance
- \* RSS Roll Stability System
- \* Anti-lock Brakes
- Tolling Transponders for major tollways
- Tractor cameras and detection technologies
- \* Trailer GPS tracking TRUCK DRIVER SAFE-

Foodliner & Quest Liner have a rigorous process for selecting drivers. We take several factors into consideration when hiring to be certain that we're only employing the most qualified and prudent drivers. Some of the components we look at when making hiring decisions are:

- \* Amount of experience \* Types of trainings com-
- pleted
  - \* Driving records
  - \* Background checks

Once a driver is hired and becomes part of our team, they undergo our driver training program, regardless of their experience level. Additionally, all drivers continually receive refresher training courses pertaining to trucking safe-

Other safety programs and procedures we have in place include:

- \* Quarterly Safety Meet-
- ings
  \* Safety Incentive Pro-
- \* Comprehensive Driver Risk Assessment Tracking
- Specialized Driver

Training & Orientation CSA COMPLIANCE FOR SAFETY

We operate in compliance with Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA), an enforcement program of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) for safety compliance.

Drivers' roles under this program include:

- No speeding
- \* Conducting thorough pre-/post-trip inspections
- \* Keeping records/paperwork up to date, including:
  - o E-log signoffs
  - o Data sheets
  - o License
- o Medical certificate/

RECOGNIZING SAFE-TY PERFORMANCE

Safety is important to us. And we like to reward drivers who consistently employ safe practices.

Accolades for safe drivers include:

- \* Annual driver appreciation day events and gifts
- \* Quarterly driver incentives based on safety (includes CSA), service, and other criteria
- \* Annual safety awards \* Clean DOT inspection incentives

Truckers Against Trafficking:

We recognize the critical need to raise awareness about this important issue and take actionable steps to combat it. Truckers are integral to society and are uniquely positioned to identify and report human trafficking incidents. By equipping our drivers with the necessary knowledge and resources, we can significantly impact the efforts to stop human trafficking.

Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) is a pivotal initiative in combating human trafficking. The involvement of truckers is essential in this battle, as their vigilance and proactive actions play a vital role in rescuing victims and raising awareness.

Given their extensive travel routes across the country, truckers often encounter potential trafficking situations. They serve as vigilant observers on the road, which positions them uniquely to identify and report suspicious activities.

Truckers receive TAT training to recognize signs of trafficking, such as individuals showing fear, physical abuse, or the inability to speak freely. Through TAT's training programs, truckers learn to respond effectively to these situations and alert the author-

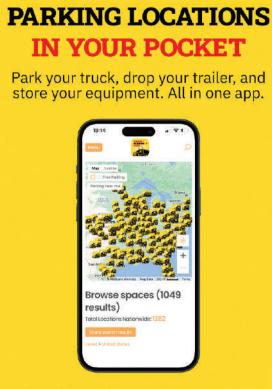
The impact of Truckers Against Trafficking is sig nificant. Their dedication has led to the identification and rescue of numerous victims. By actively participating, truckers help dismantle criminal networks and provide crucial support to survivors.

Foodliner & Quest Liner proudly supports truckers in their fight against human trafficking. As a leading transportation services provider, we understand the importance of awareness and action to combat this grave issue. We stand with truckers and organizations like TAT to foster a safer environment for all.

For more information about Foodliner and Quest Liner, please visit the respective websites. Foodliner.com and Questliner.com.



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# **2024 Ascendance Truck Centers Truck Show**

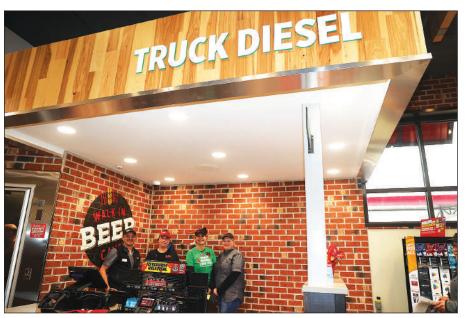




# Sheetz Opens New Location at Barkeyville, Pennsylvania Just Off I-80 Exit 29



Sheetz employees cut the ribbon during the Grand Opening Ceremony at the Barkeyville, PA location.



Left to right: Emmett Maine, Cheryl McKinnis, Lauren Kocher, and Sheetz Barkeyville Manager Jackie Parton. More photos can be found online at www.movinout.com - All Photos by Pam Pollock -



Joe Lipps, 12 year OTR driver for Denmandale Farms fuels his truck at the new Sheetz Barkeyville location. (SEF) for semi-trucks as

By Pam Pollock, Editor BARKEYVILLE, PA.... Sheetz held a Grand Opening Ceremony on December 19, 2024, at their newest location in Barkevville. Pennsylvania. (address is 5775 State Route 8, Harrisville, PA 16038.) The new Sheetz is centrally lo-

cated just off I-80 Exit 29,

on State Route 8 and has

4 high flow diesel lanes

well as gasoline fuel pumps for cars and EV charging stations. Additionally, the Barkeyville Sheetz has parking

spaces for 31 trucks. The spacious interior of the convenience store offers plenty of seating for patrons to enjoy food from the prepared foods court. There's also a well-stocked cooler with grab and go

food. Jackie Parton is the General Manager of the Barkeyville Sheetz.

In honor of this grand opening, Sheetz donated \$2,500 to the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, which distributes 48 million meals annually. Customers attending the grand opening were encouraged to donate a non-perishable food item to the nonprofit. Those who donated received a Sheetz branded thermal bag.

Sheetz also made a second donation of \$2,500 to the Special Olympics of Pennsylvania. A proud supporter of the Special Olympics for over 30 years, Sheetz also extends its support to the organization through product donations and event volunteers.





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# **STORE INFO:**

- 4 TRUCK LANES
- DEF IN ALL LANES
- OVERNIGHT PARKING
- ATM
- PET-FRIENDLY





# **STORE ADDRESS:**

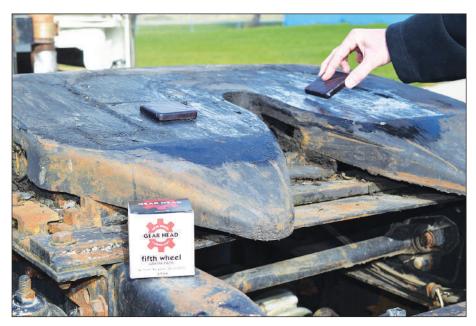
- 6 WEDGETOWN RD., BLOOMSBURG, PA 17815
- I-80 EXIT 232

- **How long have you been with Sheetz?** This February, it will be 8 years for me here at Sheetz!
- 2. What's your favorite off-menu item? The Sheetz cookies are unbeatable! The original trashcan cookie and now the new son of a trashcan are definitely a staple in my house.
- 3. What do you love the most about Sheetz? The best parts about working for Sheetz are the connections that I have made. I have worked with many great people that have taught me so many lifelong skills. As a store manager, I have the ability to develop the employees around me and hopefully share skills that they can take for the rest of their lives.
- What do truckerz love the most about Sheetz? Truckers want easy in and out access to our lots, a clean environment, hassle free fuel pumps, clean restrooms, and a smiling face that's greets them. We have all that, and some!
- 5. What loyalty program offers do you see truckerz redeem the most?

The coffeez for truckers are always a big hit! Truckers love coffee! During the summer, truckers were always grabbing the free 24 pack waters! It keeps them stocked up for those long trips. But by far our best hit has been the Sheetz trucker hats. The promotion ended months ago and I still see truckers rocking the hat.

STORE 769 - DANIEL M.S ANSWERS

# Gear Head Fifth Wheel Lubricant Pads: Save Time, Save Money, Save The Mess





continued from page 1

plastic pouches to interfere with the Fifth Wheel locking mechanism or empty grease tubes to dispose of. Gear Head Fifth Wheel Grease Pads are also environmentally friendly since they are made primarily

age truck using about 20 pounds of Fifth Wheel Grease per year, Gear Head Fifth Wheel Grease Pads will help reduce the truck's carbon footprint as well. No more grease tubes, grease gun or plastic a small box of grease pads to store in your truck. Save time, save money, and save the mess!

Since its introduction in 2022, Gear Head Fifth Wheel Grease Pads has grown to 40 distributors nationwide and the company plans to add additional distributors in the near future. Gear Head also offers free shipping in the lower 48 states as well as bulk pricing. The company also has other products designed for agriculture, marine, commercial transportation, bike and chain lubricant, and gun lubricant.

Here's what Gear Head Fifth Wheel Lubricant customers are saying about the product:

Larry Hanson, Parts

Manager at Crossroads Truck Repair, a subsidiary of Hofmann Trucking, Jamestown, North Dakota said, "We started using Gear Head Fifth Wheel Lubricant Pads in July 2024 and have converted our entire fleet to using the product and distributing it from our four locations as well. Our drivers like the convenience and we no longer have issues with the grease pouches plugging the Fifth Wheel jaws or littering our parking lot. The front of our Fifth Wheel plates are much cleaner. We have been very happy with Gear Head Fifth Wheel Lubricant Pads and are saving some money while using them." Founded in 1999, Hofmann Trucking operates tankers and pneumatic trailers with locations in Jamestown, Tioga, and Fargo, North Dakota and Douglas, Wyoming.

Kevin Whitehead is VP of Operations for RNG (Renewable Natural Gas) Transportation based in Bardstown, Kentucky. The company provides transportation direct from the farm to methane renewable gas plants and then also delivers the processed methane gas to customers. Kevin said, "I talked with the folks at Fifth Wheel Grease Pads at the 2022 Mid-America Trucking Show and got a sample to try. Since I run an occasional load myself, I tried it out and I have to say, I personally love it and all of our drivers like it! It [the grease pad] is very clean. We aren't getting bags in our Fifth Wheel Jaws anymore and no grit on the Fifth Wheel either." The folks at RNG Transportation like Gear Head Fifth Wheel Pads so well they use them on all of their 32 trucks.

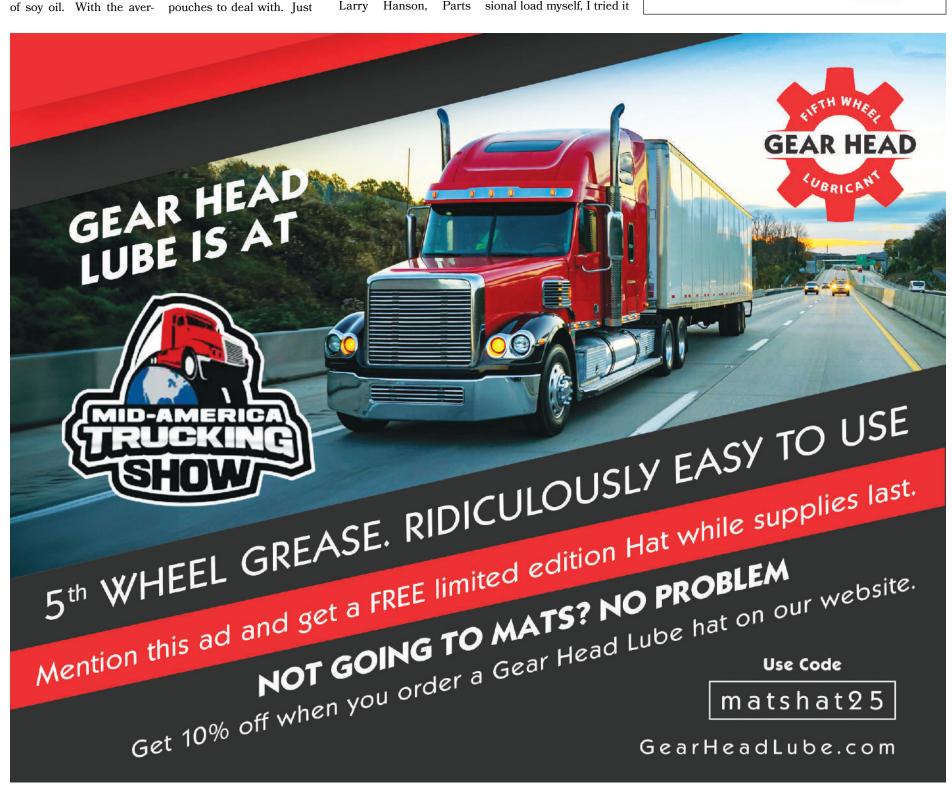
Mike Elliott, Technical Maintenance Operations Manager for Ruan remarked, "At Ruan, we examine each aspect of our business to identify opportunities to implement more sustainable practices. The use of soy-based fifth wheel pads is one such example. These pads are very effective, easy to use, and affordable. And as a product listed on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's

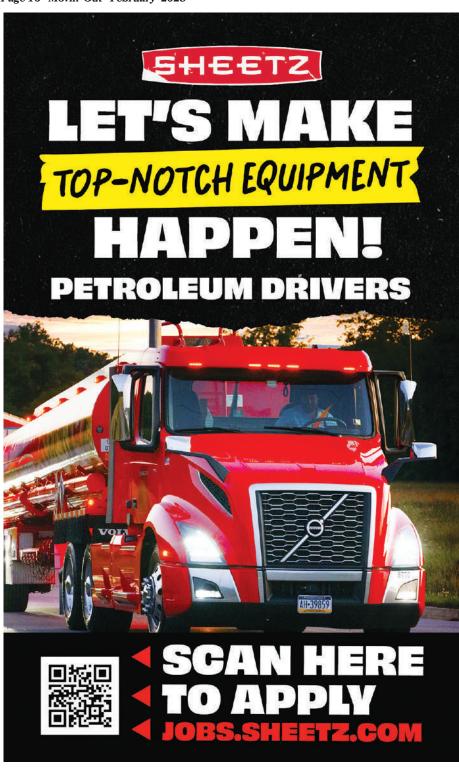
Certified Biobased Product program, they are better for the environment. We look forward to expanding our usage of this product across the fleet in the fu-

If you are tired of the mess of grease guns or pouches, give Gear Head Fifth Wheel Lubricant Pads a try. You can see the product for yourself at the Mid-America Trucking Show this March 27-29, booth #38023 in the South Wing of the Kentucky Fair and Expo Center.

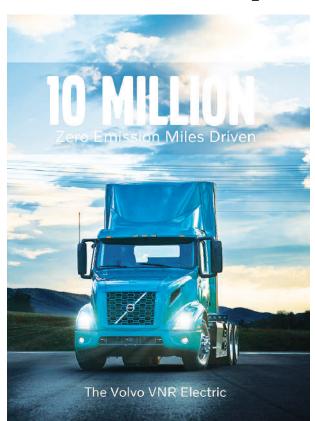
You can also order online at www.gearheadlube.com or call them at 319-280-7772. Gear Head Fifth Wheel Lubricant Pads are made in the USA from American grown soy beans.







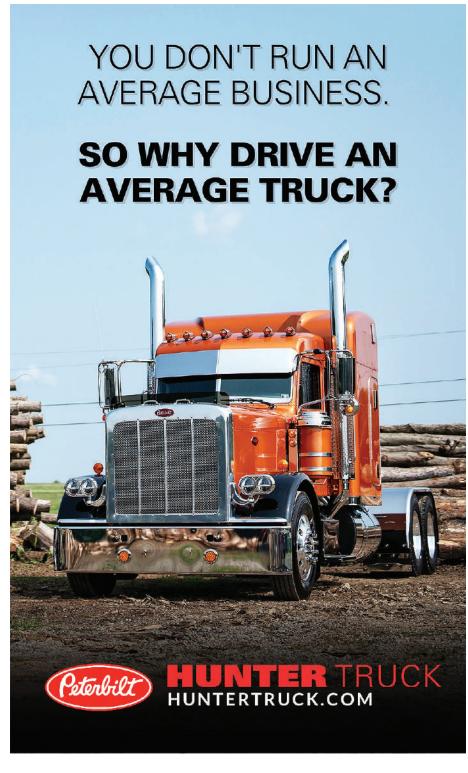
# Volvo VNR Electric Surpasses 10 Million Zero-Tailpipe Emission Miles in Customer Operations



Volvo Trucks North America is proud to announce that its Class 8 leading Volvo VNR Electric model has surpassed 10 million miles of zero-tailpipe emissions in customer operations since commercial orders began in December 2020. This significant milestone underscores the company's unwavering commitment to advancing sustainable transportation and innovation. Nearly 600 Volvo VNR Electric trucks are now operating across the United States and Canada by fleets of all sizes, ranging from single trucks with an owner-operator to fleets of over 100 battery-electric trucks. Customers operating Volvo VNR Electric trucks are collectively driving more than 200,000 miles per week and showcasing the vehicle's reliability in realand efficiency world applications. This illustrates milestone Volvo Trucks' impact in

electrifying heavy-duty transport and reinforces the effectiveness of the Volvo VNR Electric's advanced features - such as its powerful electric driveline, near-silent operation and multiple battery pack configurations to allow customers to tailor the range to their application. The Volvo VNR Electric is representative of a total transportation solution ecosystem which has led Volvo Trucks North America to the market leading position and customers to their operational success.

Volvo Trucks prepared its national dealer network to support customers with the commercial deployment of Class 8 battery-electric trucks through a comprehensive electromobility ecosystem. The Volvo Trucks Certified EV Dealership network now has 69 dealer locations across 28 states and four Canadian provinces, all of which have completed in-depth training program requirements. These dealerships work closely with customers throughout their electrification journey and continue to provide post-deployment support through the Gold Service Contract.





# OOIDA Sends Letter Of Support For Sean Duffy As Secretary Of U.S. Department Of Transportation

Dear Chairman Cruz and Ranking Member Cantwell:

The Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association (OOIDA) is the largest trade association representing the views of small-business truckers and professional truck drivers. We have approximately 150,000 members located in all fifty states that collectively own and operate more than 240,000 individual heavy-duty trucks.

We are writing to express our strong support for Sean Duffy to be confirmed to serve as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). Mr. Duffy's previous support for small-business truckers indicates to us that he will bring the right perspective to the role and work to ensure that DOT's actions reflect the priorities of America's professional drivers.

During his time as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Mr. Duffy demonstrated his interest in addressing regulatory burdens affecting small-business truckers. He signed a letter to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration expressing his support for an OOIDA petition that would have provided relief to small-business truckers from the controversial Electronic Logging Device (ELD) mandate. This was a common-sense petition that would have addressed the most burdensome regulation ever issued for the

trucking industry.

With this request, Mr. Duffy recognized that regulations should not be one-size-fits-all, and more importantly, that Congress and federal regulators should provide relief to small businesses when regulations have significant costs with little to no benefits.

We believe this is the appropriate regulatory approach for the Secretary and DOT. Trucking is one of the most heavily regulated industries in America. While compliance with regulations has never been higher, many of these policies have not improved highway safety or efficiency. These ineffective rules have driven up costs for small-business truckers, pushing many safe and experienced operators out of the industry. It is absolutely critical that the Secretary recognize it is not just mega carriers, with huge back offices, support staff, and operating capital, that must comply with these regulations. A significant portion of our members are single-truck motor carriers, and the trucking industry more broadly is overwhelmingly made up of small businesses. About 50% of registered motor carriers operate a single truck, and 85% of carriers operate 6 trucks or fewer.

The men and women operating these small carriers are not only driving truck and managing the day-to-day operations of their business, they must also ensure they are compliant with all federal, state, and local regulations. If confirmed, we believe that Mr. Duffy would guide the Department in reviewing overreaching regulations that do nothing to improve safety and make it more difficult for small-business truckers to thrive.

Since his nomination, Mr. Duffy's team has reached out to us to better understand the needs of small-business truckers and professional drivers. On too many issues, our members' viewpoint is disregarded in favor of larger carriers seeking to maximize their bottom line or "safety advocates" with little experience in driving truck. We appreciate that

Mr. Duffy and his team have solicited our input because, in order for any trucking or transportation policy to be successful, it must have the buy-in from those who will have to comply with the rules.

We are also encouraged that Mr. Duffy has received bipartisan support among Senators for his confirmation. OOIDA focuses on policies that will improve the lives and working conditions of the men and women who make their living behind the wheel. These policies do not fall neatly along partisan lines, and we believe that the Secretary should fairly consider policies and proposals regardless of any apparent partisan implications.

Given his demonstrated interest in issues affecting small-business truckers

and professional drivers and outreach to better understand these issues, we believe that Mr. Duffy is well-suited to serve as DOT Secretary and ask that you vote to advance his nomi-

nation.
Thank you,
Todd Spencer
President & CEO
Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Associa-





# Now more than ever, trust matters in freight



OOIDA officially endorses the Truckstop Load Board for its carrier-first technology and enhanced security features.

Announcing a partnership driven by trust:

# OOIDA + TRUCKSTOP

OOIDA's 50 years of advocacy on behalf of owner-operators, coupled with Truckstop's three decades of delivering carrier-first business solutions and fraud-fighting expertise, make for a perfect match—aligning on trust so independent owner-operators can run their businesses with speed and confidence.



OOIDA members enjoy exclusive savings on the Truckstop Load Board.\*

\*Promo code valid for new Truckstop customers who are registered and current OOIDA members with active FMCSA authority. Offer valid for online purchase only.

VISIT US AT M.A.T.S. BOOTH #20035

# A Likely Story - "Stopping For Lunch"

### By Roger Clark

Not many miles from our humble abode is Newell's Truckstop, a Newton, Kansas waystation built in 1940. Originally a single brick building on old highway 81, the founders relocated in 1981 to exit 31 on I-135. Featuring a motel, café, travel store, and service garage, it was generating ten million dollars a year by 1996.

ever goes unpunished, no great business ever goes as planned.

The family sold it to Pilot/Flying J in 2021, the café quickly became a ghost of its former self, and the travel store switched inventories from truck parts and work clothes to plastic spoons and stuffed animals. We've seen this process repeat itself over

But just as no good deed and over across the fruited plain these past twenty vears

> But it got me to thinking. Oh, I know, that's a problem most days, but the subject is lunch and receipts are the evidence. You can stop at the Dixie, located in Mclean, Illinois, and still get a hefty breakfast without a second mortgage. Located alongside I-55 at exit 145, The Dixie has been leaving

the light on since 1928.

Founded by J.P. Walters and John Geske along the original Route 66, they wanted truckers to know it was a safe place to get a great meal. Even after 66 bit the dust, the restaurant and truckstop became a working museum dedicated to the American trucker. Considered the oldest truckstop in the U.S., it was purchased in 2012 by the Road Ranger chain. While that diminished its historical significance, the Dixie Café still serves drivers every day.

Breezewood, Pennsylvania at intersection of I-70 and I-76, there's a TA truckstop with terrible parking, endless walking, and difficult egress, but the café still has pretty good food. There's plenty of fast-food joints within a block or two, but you'd be on a walker before you get to your order.

It's where I got my lights punched out, avoiding a potentially worse beating, but just know I could sympathize with the Snowman before he met up with Bandit. Then I drove my load of auto parts to Wisconsin without my glasses. Even God wouldn't exhale until

I was sitting in the exam chair of a Madison optometrist.

Truckstop cafes Bakersfield, Fargo, and Bloomsbury went downhill after Conoco and British Petroleum bought them out, but those in the province of Ontario, Ringold, Georgia, and Bloomington, Illinois actually got better. While I can acknowledge that the restaurant business is flakier than real estate rentals, there's no logical explanation for a parking lot filled with a hundred trucks and a café sitting empty.

Well, maybe there is an explanation, because a growing number of drivers rely on junk-I mean, fast-food and most OTR rigs have fridges and microwaves. In addition, there's a growing number of drivers going months without human interaction. It's the same gaunt look of isolated gamers. Maybe they're one and the same!

Back in Newton. Kansas, the iconic Newell's truckstop has gone through more plastic surgery than Kardashian clan. There's nowhere to park this time of night, no place to eat, and nothing to do, but the coffee bar has six flavors of cappuccino. What more could you ask? Well, I'd look for a cup of plain ol' coffee, but in the spirit of PFJ's everywhere, that urn is empty!

## **Montgomery Logistics Names Dunn Express** Company As 2024 Q3 Carrier Of The Quarter

Montgomery Logistics, a full-service logistics provider, recently recognized Dunn Express, LCC of Olive Branch, Miss., as its 2024 Carrier of the Quarter for

Montgomery Logistics created the Carrier of the Quarter awards to celebrate outstanding carriers for their ongoing excellence and reliable partnership.

Dunn Express co-owners Kevin Dunn and Carlos Gautreaux expressed their gratitude for the recognition and highlighted the importance of the partnership with Montgomery Logistics.

"We are honored to be recognized as Carrier of the Quarter. It is truly a privilege to work alongside professionals of the caliber at Montgomery, and this acknowledgment means so much to our entire team. Our experience with Montgomery Logistics has been nothing short of exceptional. Your honesty, fairness, and extensive expertise have made every interaction smooth and highly productive. In an industry where trust and communication are paramount, you continue to set the standard for excellence. Thank you for this recognition and for the opportunity to partner with such an outstanding organization. We greatly value our collaboration and look forward to many more successful endeavors

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# **Truck World Hubbard Installs New Diesel Pumps**



### **By Steve Pollock**

HUBBARD, OH.... Truck World, located at Exit 234 on I-80, the last Eastbound Exit in Ohio, is in the process of upgrading their remaining ten diesel pumps. Half of the pumps were upgraded when Truck World resurfaced their parking lot just seven years ago. These pumps remain open while the new pumps are being installed.

The new diesel pumps will offer high speed fu-

eling along with DEF pumps. They will also provide a shorter transaction time.

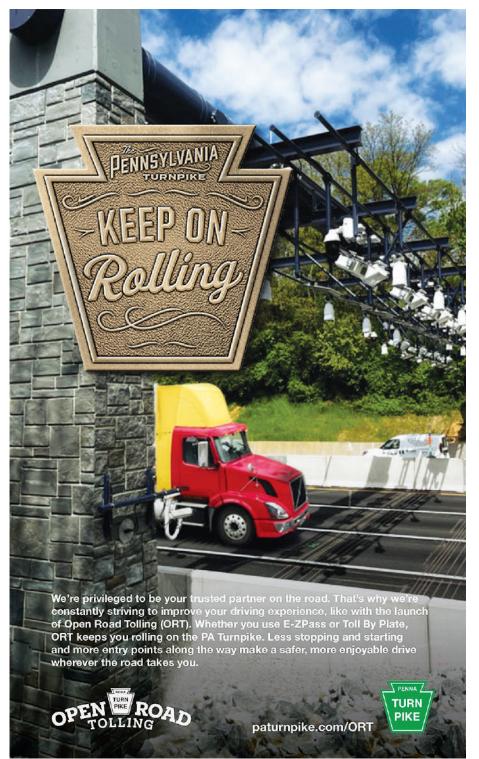
be remodeling the fuel including a full service counter and plans to restaurant, hot dog completely remodel the shop, Burger King and showers and drivers Dunkin' Donuts, a trucklounge in 2025.

er Barry Adkins stated, vice, Blue Beacon Truck "Truck World is committed to continually Watch for details in fuimprove our facilities to ture editions of Movin' enhance our services for our customers convenience."

Truck World is an independently owned full service truckstop. The Truck World complex Truck World will also has a variety of services, ers C-store, truck repairs, Fuel Center Manag- tires, Thermo King Ser-Wash, and much more. Out.







# Missouri Truck Driver Donates \$5,000 to Domestic Violence Shelter



### Dee Sova, 2nd fromleft

Washington, DC... —Dee Sova, a professional truck driver with Prime Inc., donated \$5,000 to Harmony House, an organization that provides shelter and support services to domestic violence survivors in Springfield, Missouri.

Sova recently received the 2024 Trucking Cares Foundation's John Lex Premier Achievement Award, which was accompanied by a \$5,000 check to be given in her name to a charity of her choice.

"In October, I had the honor of receiving the John Lex Premier Achievement Award. Having known John Lex and the outstanding person, mentor and captain he was on America's Road Team, I was shocked to hear ATA President & CEO Chris Spear announce me as the winner," said Dee Sova. To be a part of John's legacy is one of the proudest moments

and accomplishments of my trucking career. I'm thankful to everyone who nominated me for this prestigious award. "Harmony House was my charity of choice because of the outstanding work that they do in the greater Springfield community and in the State of Missouri," Sova continued. "Helping victims of domestic violence, which includes men, women and children, is vital here. Not only have they provided shelter and a safe haven for these victims, but numerous other services. They've partnered with law enforcement and community groups to provide assistance to families in need."

In recognition of the honoree's generosity of time and money, TCF makes a \$5,000 donation to a 501(c) (3) charity designated by the recipient.

Sova was recognized for

her countless contributions to trucking as well as her commitment to mentoring other women in the industry. In addition to being a professional truck driver for Prime. Inc., she serves as a Captain of America's Road Team, an elite group of truck drivers who represent the trucking industry's message of safety, essentiality and professionalism. In 2017, she received Prime's Highway Diamond of the Year award, and she is a member of Prime's Driver Advisory Board. She is the founder of Trucking Divas Rock, an online community for female truck drivers. She has held several leadership positions with Mothers Against Drunk Driving. She also serves as a speaker for Women In Motion, an organization dedicated to growing the number of women in the trucking industry. She is a role model to all.



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# **Trucking Industry Expresses Strong** Support for Zeldin to Lead EPA

Washington, DC... In advance of the confirmation hearing of former Representative Lee Zeldin to serve as the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, American Trucking Associations President & CEO Chris Spear sent a letter to the Senate Environment & Public Works Committee to express strong support for his nomination.

"While representing New York's 1st Congressional district, Rep. Zeldin brought a commonsense mindset to the House of Representatives," Spear wrote. "He listened to advocates on all sides of environmental issues and worked with his colleagues as part of the Climate Solutions Caucus and Conservative Climate Caucus on proactive, constructive and results-driven approaches to key issues. This dedication to collaboration is exactly what is needed from an EPA Administrator."

By supporting EPA's Greenhouse Gas Phase 1 & 2 regulations, participating in EPA's voluntary Smart-Way program, and other collaborative efforts, America's trucking industry has made tremendous strides to reduce emissions. In fact, it would take 60 of today's trucks to emit what just one truck did in 1988. Rather than building on this successful partnership, however, EPA has in recent years set the trucking industry up for failure by imposing unworkable mandates on unrealistic

"America's truckers deserve an EPA leader who productively will work with industry to set federal emissions standards that are achievable and do not risk disrupting our supply chains," Spear wrote. fortunately, the current EPA failed to meet those thresholds and instead consistently conceded its federal responsibilities to the California Air Resources Board, creating a patchwork of state mandates and timelines for emissions reduction and forced electrification of heavy-duty trucking. We believe that under Rep. Zeldin's leadership, the EPA can restore common sense to environmental policies, providing a national roadmap that is both ambi-



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# Something to Think About - New Year's Resolution '25

### by: Mike McGough

As the new year approached, he began thinking about possible resolutions. He considered the perennial favorites-some weight loss, improving personal finances, reducing stress and anxiety, making more time for family and friends, and engaging in a new activity. With varying degrees of success, he had tried all of them.

Reflecting on past resolutions he realized they were all about him-his health, his finances, his emotional wellbeing, his relationships, his life style. For the coming year, he decided to change that focus. He'd look to see how his actions and his words might improve his piece of the world and enhance the lives of people with whom he shared it.

He liked that resolution as a strategic goal, but he needed a tactical action plan to make it happen. During some research, he found what he needed. It was a book on personal leadership insights with suggestions for making them actionable. It offered one for every day of the year. He settled on ten. He made copies of his list and put them places where he'd see them every day. He wanted to keep the process purposeful, focused, and doable. The combination of a simple insight with an equally simple suggestion for action suited him well.

Here is his initial list:

1. Like you, most of the people you'll encounter each day are doing the best they can to make it through their day. Give them the space they need and a measure of tolerance. When you do, you'll likely be surprised how much more space and tolerance others will show you, as you try to make it through your day.

2. Stop lying or at least cut back! Every time you lie, particularly if you do so for some self-serving, deceitful, or hurtful purposes, think of it like adding a brick to a wall between you and others. Truthfulness adds bricks to a bridge of trust between you and others. Whether your words build bridges or walls is up to you.

3. When you're with

someone, try really being with them. Life is full of both internal and external distractions that interrupt your ability to focus on and make the most of interpersonal time. When distractions intrude on your relationships, recognize and acknowledge them, then commit to reconnecting when they've passed.

4. View your daily, casual interactions as opportunities to enrich the lives of others and yours at the same time. Greeting someone with a smile, holding a door, waving someone on at an intersection, or a kind compliment, can change the tone and temper of a person's day. At the same time, such exchanges can brighten your day as well.

5. Show deference to everyone irrespective of their station in life. Feeling superior based on your accomplishments, possessions, position, education, or other such measures diminishes you. Allowing any sense of superiority to affect how you treat others lessens you even further.

6. Forgive someone, set

them free, and enjoy the peace you'll discover. Forgive yourself, set yourself free, and enjoy the peace you'll discover.

7. Don't assume that you can understand how others express their free will. Free will plays out differently in everyone. Assuming that you know what motivates the thoughts, words, and actions of others can destroy interpersonal understanding. It's also condescendingly rude. You're not a mind reader; don't try to act like one.

8. If what you're about to say or write is rational, has some beneficial purpose, and is true, at least to your

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proceed. If it doesn't or isn't, by all means have the good sense to pause and enjoy a little quiet time. Nobody's every thought must, should, or deserves to be shared.

9. Give freely without expectations that your benevolence will be repaid. If you offer help and assistance in the hope of being repaid, you'll often be disappointed. If you offer aid and comfort without the thought of repayment, doing so can be its own rich reward, regardless of whether you're ever thanked or not.

10. Grow your awareness and sensitivity of in the life of someone you love and care about. When you do, you make it personal, and you open your mind and your heart to the plight of others. Therein lies the essence of empathy-an understanding and appreciation of others.

He had a great year! What he experienced was revealing, empowering, and transforming. As you start another new year, you may want to consider his model. Offering a little boost to someone could make their life a little brighter, a little easier, a little kinder, and a little more fulfilling. At the same time, it makes the



March 27-29 - Mid-America Trucking Show-Kentucky Fair and Expo Center, Louisville, KY. For more info visit

April 25-29 - 75 Chrome Shop's 27th Annual Big Rig Truck Show -. 75 Chrome Shop, I-75 Exit 329 & SR 44, Wildwood, FL. Light Show, Food, Fun, Entertainment. Contestants from all over the USA will be competing for 75 Chrome Shop's "Prime Time" Trophy and The People's Choice Award. For more info visit www.75chromeshop.com/truck-show

May 2-3 - Midwest Pride In Your Ride Truck & Tractor Show - Tri-State Raceway, Earlville, IA. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society. For more info call 563-580-8200 or 563-608-5564 or visit www.midwestpri-

May 3-4- Truck Meet At The Crossroads - The Crossroads Shopping Plaza, 31716 Old Eighty Seven, California, MO. Hosted by Horse & Buggy Accessories. Non-Judged Truck Show, Supper and Light Show, Church Service For more info, call 573-796-1927. Email: Karen@horseandbuggychrome.com, Webiste: www.horseandbuggy-

May 10 - 36th 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

June 5-8 - 22nd Annual Wheel Jam Truck Show - "Memories of Scot" - South Dakota State Fairgrounds, 43118th St. SW, Huron, SD. Show N Shine, Awards, Jake Brake Competition. For more info visit www.wheeljamtruckshow.com

June 5-7, 2025 - American Truck Historical Society National Convention and Truck Show - Alliant Energy Center, 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way, Madison, WI 53713. More details will be released in upcoming months.

June 27-29 - Kuhnle Bros. Semi Stampede - Kuhnle Motorsports, 8233 Sidley Rd., Thompson, Ohio. Ohio's only "Quebec -Style" Uphill, Semi Truck Drag Racing! For more info, visit www.kuhnlemotorsports.com/semistampede

July 10-12 - 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/

August 1-3 - 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

September 20 - 5th Annual DMF Cancer Benefit Truck Show and Truck Pull - Portage County Fairgrounds, Rt. 44 Randolph, Ohio.

September 25-27, 2025 - Guilty By Association Truck Show - 4 State Trucks, 4579 Highway 43 South, Joplin,  $MO.\ Truck\ Convoy\ for\ Special\ Olympics, Food\ Vendors.\ Sponsored\ by\ 4\ State\ Trucks,\ OOIDA,\ and\ Joplin\ 4\ Petro.\ For\ No.\ Truck\ Convoy\ for\ Special\ Olympics,\ Food\ Vendors.\ Sponsored\ by\ 4\ State\ Trucks,\ OOIDA,\ and\ Joplin\ 4\ Petro.\ For\ No.\ Truck\ Convoy\ for\ Special\ Olympics,\ Food\ Vendors.\ Sponsored\ by\ 4\ State\ Trucks,\ OOIDA,\ and\ Joplin\ 4\ Petro.\ For\ No.\ Truck\ Convoy\ for\ Special\ Olympics,\ Food\ Vendors.\ Sponsored\ by\ 4\ State\ Trucks,\ OOIDA,\ and\ Joplin\ 4\ Petro.\ For\ No.\ Truck\ Convoy\ for\ Special\ Olympics,\ Food\ Vendors.\ Sponsored\ by\ 4\ State\ Trucks,\ OOIDA,\ and\ Joplin\ 4\ Petro.\ For\ No.\ Sponsored\ Barbara \ Barbara \$ more info visit www.chromeshopmafia.com

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# Babler Trucking: Owner - Kevin Babler Driver - Nathan Sigafus





**By Robert Conrad** In the trucking industry today there are quite a

few working show trucks, but sometimes there is that one truck that raises

the bar for the competition to reach! Truck 31, a mind-blowing 2024 Peterbilt 389X, is that truck we are talking about - especially with its matching flatbed trailer. It was proudly shown by Babler Trucking in the 2024 Pride & Polish competition at MATS.

Babler Trucking is a Wisconsin-based fleet featuring 19 trucks in all, and it was founded by owner Kevin Babler back in 2012. Nathan Sigafus is the dedicated driver of Truck 31. and he says he's been driving for Kevin Babler since getting his CDL back in 2018 when he turned 19! Nate does local/regional food grade tanker work, along with flatbed work hauling snow & ice equipment.

The mint green cab is accented perfectly by the peach frame and the colors flow right onto the spread axle flatbed that features full fenders, a custom nameplate & polished boxes, and fully polished side rails. Sperry Polishing gets credit for always keeping the fleet looking top shelf.



Nate says that EC Truck Builders did the frame work & fabricated the deck plate, and Andrew Barnes painted the trailer to match the cab. Brittnea from LadyLines Pinstriping, worked her magic in finishing things off just before the 2024 Mid-America Truck Show. The cab features an air ride front end, polished drop visor,

painted single fenders, and

a "clean" roofline.

Nate says he's made a lot of good friends in his short time trucking & he thanks Kevin for giving him such a great opportunity to succeed and drive such a cool truck. Movin' Out salutes both Kevin Babler & driver Nathan Sigafus, by making them our choice for the February Working Show Truck of the Month.



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