

## NPTC announces National Safety Conference

More than 800 private fleet professional practitioners and supplier/vendor partners participated in this year's Annual Education Management Conference and Exhibition held live and in person this past June in Cincinnati.

This event was the largest in-person trade association meeting in the trucking industry since the spring of 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic began and the first conference to be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, since the start of this year. The conference was a great success, and

everyone seemed relieved and thankful to be meeting again with NPTC friends and colleagues.

Following on the success of that meeting, NPTC is pleased to announce the 2021 National Safety Conference has been scheduled for Sept. 8-10 at the Omni Championsgate Resort in Orlando, Florida. The program of keynote speakers, presentations, group break-out discussions, and networking opportunities kicks off on Sept. 8 at 1 p.m. The sessions promise to provide attendees

with a wide range of take-home value: the latest information, resources, and best practices.

A highlight of the event will be the 2020/2021 National Driver All-Stars Recognition Ceremony. The conference will also feature an exhibit hall with more than 30 exhibitors showcasing their safety-related products and resources.

Attendees are encouraged to register and make travel arrangements early as we are expecting record attendance and a sold-out event.

## Four inducted into Driver Hall of Fame

Four drivers, who collectively had driven for more than 167 years while racking up more than 19.8 million miles of service without a chargeable accident, have been inducted into the NPTC Driver Hall of Fame sponsored by Omnitracs. The recognition took place June 14 in conjunction with the NPTC Annual Education Management Conference and Exhibition held in Cincinnati. This year's Driver Hall of Fame inductees are:

- Michael Gray Baity, Unifi Manufacturing Inc.: In 35 years behind the wheel, Baity has accumulated 3.2 million miles of safe driving without a single accident or moving violation.
- Michael Hetrick, KeHE Distributors: Hetrick started his driving career 37 years ago and has been with KeHE for the last 26 years. He has driven a total of 4 million miles without a chargeable accident or moving violation.
- Agustín Tamayo, Shaw Transport Inc.:



NPTC President and CEO Gary Petty (right) and Ayrón McLochlin, VP of sales, Omnitracs (left) congratulate NPTC/OMNITRACS Driver Hall of Fame inductees Mike Hetrick (second from left), Mike Baity (center), and Luther Weaver (second from right). Photo: Dan Leebetter/NPTC

Tamayo has been a professional truck driver for 43 years, the last 36 of those years have been with Shaw. In his career, he has accumulated 5.2 million miles of safe driving, 4.3 million for Shaw without a chargeable accident or violation.

- Luther Weaver, Mohawk Carpet Transportation of Georgia: Weaver began driving in 1968 and has driven 7.4 million miles without an accident or violation. Of the 52 years he has spent behind the wheel, 29 have been with Mohawk.

## NPTC honors 39 certified transportation professionals

Thirty-nine transportation professionals have achieved the prestigious designation of Certified Transportation Professional (CTP) by the NPTC Institute, the educational and professional certification arm of the National Private Truck Council (NPTC). The CTP program is sponsored by J.J. Keller & Associates Inc. The graduation ceremony took place in conjunction with the NPTC Annual Education Management Conference and Exhibition June 13-15 in Cincinnati.

Since the CTP designation was first introduced in 1993, nearly 1,500 fleet and transportation professionals have earned the right to add CTP after their name. CTPs are raising industry standards and, in turn, increasing the respect and prestige of the fleet and transportation profession.



CTP Graduating Class of 2021 Photo: Dan Leebetter/NPTC

"These new Certified Transportation Professionals have demonstrated the knowledge and ability to understand complex operational and regulatory issues, identify and evaluate potential costs and savings, and develop systems and practices that best meet their company's transportation needs and objectives," said Mari Roberts, CTP, senior director of transportation at Frito-Lay Inc. and chair of the NPTC Institute Board of

Governors that oversees the program. "The CTP designation is a benchmark of excellence earned by a special few but available to any fleet or transportation specialist willing to make the necessary commitment of dedicated effort."

Each year, *FleetOwner* sponsors the CTP Top Graduate Award. This year's Top Graduate was Amanda Lung, CTP, SC Fleet Senior Manager, Pepsi Beverages Company.

## NPTC/TransForce Group leadership awards

The National Private Truck Council and TransForce Group Inc., award program sponsor, recognized nine private fleet professionals for their impressive contributions to the private fleet community. Since 1990, the NPTC Professional Leadership Awards have recognized those individuals who have positively impacted NPTC, their profession, and the private trucking community.

The Council's top award, the Dan Smith Lifetime Achievement Award (2020), was presented to Matt Peterson, CTP, vice president, Florida Kenworth. Peterson has been actively engaged with NPTC for nearly three decades. His voice and actions speak to the commitment and tremendous educational value that NPTC brings to the private fleet industry.

Staying involved, learning from his peers, and building industry relationships has been his way to engage others to actively participate in NPTC. He has

attended the NPTC Annual Conference for 25-plus consecutive years and served as chair of the NPTC Board of Directors for two years. He is the only representative from an allied/supplier company in the history of the Council to serve as chairman of NPTC's Board.

Bob Boyich, CTP, retired executive vice president, CPC Logistics Inc., received this year's Dan Smith Lifetime Achievement Award. Recognizing the value that NPTC brings to fleet and allied members alike, Boyich has dedicated almost four decades of activity to the success of the Council as a speaker, exhibitor, sponsor, committee member, and Board Member.

- Other award recipients included:
- Private Fleet Executive of the Year Award: David Barth, CTP, transportation area manager, Wegmans Food Markets
  - Private Fleet Manager of the Year Award: Jeff Bronson, senior director of

- transportation, ADICA Trucking LLC
- Private Fleet Safety Professional of the Year: Duane Woods, CTP, senior director of transportation operations, Albertsons Companies
- NPTC Excellence in Membership Award (Fleet): Chris Fada, CTP, general manager, Ross Transportation Services Inc.
- NPTC Excellence in Membership Award (Allied): Rosemary Schaffer, CTP, director of nonprofit business, Penske Truck Leasing Company
- Allied Member of the Year Award: TransForce Group
- NPTC Excellence in Backhauling Award: Frito-Lay Inc.



By Gary Petty, president and CEO of the National Private Truck Council. His column appears monthly in *FleetOwner*. The council's website is [www.nptc.org](http://www.nptc.org).