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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.



NPTC NATIONAL SAFETY CONFERENCE

NPTC will hold the 2021 National Safety Conference September 8-10 at the Omni Championsgate Hotel in Orlando, Fla. This program offers a unique format of presentations, discussions with key government officials, problem-solving workshops, expert panels, and networking opportunities. It provides attendees with insights into and implementable solutions for strategic safety and security issues that face today's private fleets.

Topics and speakers have been carefully chosen and represent the most relevant and current safety information available in the industry today. The entire program includes concise yet comprehensive information that is solution-centered and supplemented by extensive networking opportunities with speakers

CTP CLASS OF 2021

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. The CTP program is sponsored by J. J. Keller & Associates.

Since the CTP designation was first introduced in 1993, more than 1,400 fleet and transportation professionals have earned the right to add CTP after their name. CTPs are raising industry standards, which in turn is increasing the respect and the prestige of the private fleet trucking profession.

and guests alike. This value-focused approach helps attendees find just the right combination of safety ideas best suited for adaptation at their own companies and more than justifies in multiple terms the cost of time and money to participate.

The National Safety Conference also features a special ceremony and luncheon presentation of our annual National Driver All-Star Awards, which are co-sponsored by NPTC and International Truck/Navistar. This annual awards program recognizes private fleet truck drivers who have demonstrated high performance standards against their peer drivers throughout the country based on customer service, safety, adherence to company standards, regulatory compliance, and community service.

"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, which oversees the program. *FleetOwner* sponsored the CTP Top Graduate Award. The year's top graduate is Amanda Lung, CTP, SC Fleet senior manager at Pepsi Beverages Company,

FOUR INDUCTED INTO DRIVER HALL OF FAME

Four drivers, who have collectively driven for more than 167 years while racking up more than 19 million miles of service, have been inducted into the NPTC/Omnitracs LLC Driver Hall of Fame.

Following are this year's Driver Hall of Fame inductees:

- **Michael Gray Baity, Unif 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 four million miles without a chargeable accident or a moving violation. In the 26 years he has been with KeHE, he has racked up 2.6 million of those miles.

- **Augustin Tamayo, Shaw Transport Inc.**—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 moving violation.

- **Luther (Junior) Weaver, Mohawk Carpet Transportation of Georgia LLC**—Weaver started his driving career in 1968 and has driven 7.4 million miles without an accident or a moving violation of any kind. Of the more than 52 years he has spent behind the wheel, 29 have been with Mohawk, where he has racked up almost half of his accident-free mileage.

NPTC /TRANSFORCE GROUP LEADERSHIP AWARDS

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

"Private fleets play a critical role in our national transportation infrastructure, and the professionals who support this sector demonstrate their commitments to safety, efficiency and productivity every day," stated NPTC President Gary Petty. "We are honored to acknowledge the efforts of these outstanding professionals who have made significant contributions to NPTC, their profession, and the private trucking community."

The Council's top award, the Dan Smith Lifetime Achievement Award, goes to **Matt Peterson, CTP** (for 2021), and to **Robert Boyich, CTP** (for 2021), retired principal and executive vice president of CPC Logistics Inc. Peterson has been actively engaged with NPTC for nearly three decades. His voice and actions speak to the commitment and tremendous educational value that this organization (NPTC) brings our private fleet industry. 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. Peterson attended the Private

Fleet Management Institute and earned his CTP designation in 1999.

Boyich began his career in transportation in 1978 with Western Manufacturers Service. He soon purchased that company and formed Energy Personnel, later selling them both to CPC Logistics and began a 28-year career with the company. Boyich has served as a four-time member of the Board of Directors and earned his CTP designation, graduating as the Top Graduate. He also served on the NPTC Board of Governors as a Five-Star member from 2007 to 2021 when he retired from CPC Logistics. Recognized as the Private Fleet Executive of the Year is **David Barth, CTP**, transportation area manager, Wegmans Food Markets.

Jeff Bronson, senior director of transportation at ADICA Trucking Company is honored as the NPTC Private Fleet Manager of the Year.

Named as the Private Fleet Safety Professional of the Year is **Duane Woods, CTP**, senior director of transportation operations at Albertsons Companies. Woods started with Safeway Stores in 1991.

Chris Fada, CTP, general manager, Ross Transportation Services, receives the NPTC Excellence in Membership Award (Fleet).

Rosemary Schaffer, CTP, director of nonprofit business at Penske Truck Leasing, receives the NPTC Excellence in Membership Award (Allied).

The Allied Member of the Year is presented to **TransForce Group**, a leading workforce solutions company in the U.S. and a long-standing member of NPTC.

NPTC FLEET SAFETY AWARDS

More than 20 private fleets that have demonstrated continued improvement and dedication in elevating their safety performance year over year have been honored by receiving the NPTC/Omnitracs LLC Fleet Safety Awards, according to an announcement from Gary Petty, NPTC president and CEO.

"The NPTC/Omnitracs LLC Fleet Safety Awards recognize NPTC mem-

ber companies that work to make safety a priority in their private fleets' operations," said Scott Duvall, CTP, Chair of the NPTC Safety Committee and regional supervisor of driver operations at Medline Industries Inc. "These annual Fleet Safety Awards in particular recognize companies with the lowest ratio of accidents per million miles for the past year."

coming events...

Mark your calendars now for the following upcoming events:

- **June 30**—Deadline for NPTC National Driver All-Star Application
- **Aug. 1**—2021 NPTC Benchmarking Report
- **Sept. 8-10**—National Safety Conference, Orlando, Fla.
- **Oct. 1**—2022 CTP eligibility
- **Nov. 15**—2022 CTP exam applications

NPTC/J. J. KELLER WEBCASTS

NPTC and J. J. Keller & Associates, Inc. webcasts, which are free for all NPTC members, are scheduled to resume with two webcasts on September 29 and October 27. You can register for future NPTC & J. J. Keller & Associates, Inc. partnership webcasts at www.jjkeller.com/nptc.

NATIONAL DRIVER ALL-STARS

Applications for NPTC's National Driver All-Stars program are now available. This unique program, co-sponsored by International Trucks/Navistar, Inc., is designed to recognize private fleet drivers for meeting high performance standards in the fields of customer service, safety and compliance. It provides a way to recognize private fleet drivers for delivering the high levels of customer service with which private fleets distinguish themselves.

Applicants must be a regularly employed, full-time company or leased driver and actively driving for the 12-month period beginning June 1, 2020, through May 31, 2021.