

## NATIONAL PRIVATE TRUCK COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



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

### WEBINAR FOCUS ON DRIVER COACHING

J. J. Keller and the National Private Truck Council (NPTC) recently teamed up to deliver a well-received and informative webcast on sleep apnea. The webcast featured an inside look at Wal-Mart Transportation's newly instituted sleep apnea program.

To date, we have delivered more than 20 hot topics on the agenda ranging from regulatory compliance to risk management and people management. All are available for downloading at [www.jjkeller.com/nptcinfo](http://www.jjkeller.com/nptcinfo).

Our final webcast for 2011, which is free to all NPTC members, will be held Wednesday, October 12, and will focus on driver discipline and coaching. Registration is open to all NPTC members free of charge. For more information, to register, or to download a previous webcast, visit [www.jjkeller.com/nptcinfo](http://www.jjkeller.com/nptcinfo).

### NATIONAL DRIVER ALL STARS

Nineteen NPTC fleet members submitted applications for NPTC's National Driver All-Stars program. This unique program is designed to recognize NPTC private fleet drivers for meeting high performance standards in the fields of customer service, safety and compliance. It will recognize the top drivers of NPTC fleet member companies based on how they perform against their own internal customer service metrics. This program provides a way to recognize private fleet drivers who have delivered the high levels of customer service with which private fleets distinguish themselves. Winners will be announced this month and will be recognized at the National Safety Conference.

## 2011 NATIONAL SAFETY CONFERENCE

The National Private Truck Council (NPTC) will hold its eighth annual National Safety Conference next month on September 15-16 at the Hyatt Dulles in Herndon, VA, near Dulles International Airport, just outside of Washington, D.C.

"Private fleets have worked hard to earn a reputation for unsurpassed safety excellence," said Randy Perry, fleet safety manager for Frito-Lay Inc. and chair of the NPTC Safety Committee. "According to the preliminary results from NPTC's 2011 Benchmarking Survey, private fleets continue to achieve an accident rate lower than that registered by the trucking industry as a whole. Such strong performance can be attributed to building a culture of operational excellence, forged through continuous learning, training and best practices. One outstanding opportunity to enhance safety performance will occur at the National Safety Conference."

This year's safety conference has been designed to optimize return-on-investment for all attendees, according to Perry. This highly acclaimed conference features a unique format of presentations, discussions with key government representatives, expert panels, and leading safety advocates and practitioners—all designed to provide attendees with insights into implementing strategic safety programs and lowering the cost of risk.

The program features three keynote addresses:

- Gov. Bill Graves, president and CEO of the American Trucking Assns.
- Greer Woodruff, senior vice president of safety and security, J.B. Hunt Transport Inc.
- Dan Murray, vice president, research, American Transportation Research Institute

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, supplemented by extensive networking opportunities with speakers 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.

Following are just some of the topics that will be discussed at this year's conference: the role of technology; creating a culture of safety; enhancing your BASIC performance; driver training and development; driver retention, rewards and recognition; sleep apnea; hair follicle testing; and behavioral safety.

To learn more about the conference and to register, visit [www.nptc.org](http://www.nptc.org).

# coming events...

Mark your calendars now and reserve your space at the following upcoming events:

## NATIONAL SAFETY CONFERENCE

September 15-16, 2011 — Dulles, VA

## CTP ELIGIBILITY APPLICATIONS DUE

October 1, 2011

## CTP EXAM APPLICATIONS DUE

November 15, 2011

## PRIVATE FLEET MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

January 14-18, 2012 — Jacksonville, FL

## NPTC SETS FALL BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

The fall meetings of the NPTC boards and committees are scheduled for **Wednesday, September 14, 2011**, at the Hyatt Dulles Hotel, 2300 Dulles Corner Blvd., Herndon, VA, in conjunction with the National Safety Conference.

- 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.** NPTC Board of Directors
- 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.** National Advisory Board
- 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.** Lunch on your own
- 1:00 - 3:15 p.m. Concurrent Committee Meetings:**  
Annual conference planning; legislative & regulatory advisory; PR/marketing; membership committee; and safety
- 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.** NPTC Institute Board of Governors
- 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.** Networking Reception, sponsored by Idealease of North America

## CTP CLASS OF 2012 NOW FORMING

Candidates for the Certified Transportation Professional® (CTP) program are encouraged to register now for the Class of 2012. The eligibility application deadline is October 1, 2011.

Since 1993, more than 800 transportation professionals have earned the right to use the CTP® designation after their names. To learn more about the CTP® program, visit [www.nptc.org](http://www.nptc.org), or contact Kristen Todd at [ktodd@nptc.org](mailto:ktodd@nptc.org) or 703-838-8841.

## NPTC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETS IN INDIANA

Earlier this summer, more than 30 members of the NPTC Safety Committee traveled to Westfield, IN, just north of Indianapolis, to visit the world-class headquarters of IMMI®, an industry leader in advanced safety systems.

In a tour of the facilities, attendees learned that the vast majority of heavy trucks on the road today are equipped with seat belts and bunk restraints produced by IMMI. The company previewed its products, programs and technology designed to increase seat belt usage through enhanced comfort and ongoing driver education.

At IMMI's Center for Advanced Product Evaluation® (CAPE), a crash-test laboratory on the IMMI campus, meeting attendees witnessed several tests specifically focused on commercial driver safety, including a rollover test of a Class 8 tractor and a frontal crash test, also using a Class 8 tractor.

## NPTC ESTABLISHES TASK FORCE ON SLEEP APNEA

NPTC has established a task force on sleep apnea. Comprised of a representative group of fleet and allied members, the task force was established to help provide private fleet members with educational information about this subject by creating a heightened state of awareness as to why sleep apnea should command management attention and action; to identify and recommend (where appropriate) best practices and standards in managing a sleep apnea program for drivers without NPTC actually endorsing or promoting the programs and services of any allied/supplier members; and to potentially help shape FMCSA regulations on sleep apnea by sharing with the agency the successful programs voluntarily put in place by private fleet companies.

Untreated sleep apnea of truck drivers presents a new challenge for private motor carrier management. FMCSA recently posted non-binding recommendations regarding commercial drivers and sleep apnea, yet formal regulations are not expected from the agency for several months or even years.

In the absence of such regulations, perhaps in fear that doing something may be worse than doing nothing, most private fleets (according to NPTC's survey) have elected the latter course. The result is a situation in which many exceptionally safe private fleets, acting in good faith and reasonably believing they are operating within current FMCSA regulatory requirements and their own company HR policies, dispatch otherwise safe drivers with an unknown but perhaps treatable health impairment that might pose a safety risk for their companies and a health risk to the drivers themselves.

Because of this potential risk, however, some NPTC fleet member companies are not waiting for the FMCSA to issue regulations. They are implementing sleep apnea protocols and management programs now or are in the process of doing so. In addition, a few large for-hire carriers have implemented such programs on large pools of drivers. The experience of these companies may also provide optional models for private fleets to consider.

The task force has held its initial meeting and is in the process of defining and collecting information on the subject. If you are interested in participating, or if you have any questions or need any further information, contact Tom Moore at 703-838-8898 or [tmoore@nptc.org](mailto:tmoore@nptc.org).