

CTP Insider

A quarterly publication for the Certified Transportation Professional published by the NPTC Institute.

Summer 2026

Quarterly Highlights

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“The Culture of Safety Excellence”

FMCSA ADMINISTRATOR INVITED KEYNOTE
SPEAKER AT ORLANDO CONFERENCE

THE NPTC NATIONAL SAFETY CONFERENCE, SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 9-11, 2026, AT THE OMNI ORLANDO RESORT AT CHAMPIONS GATE,

is a value-packed two-day forum that offers expert fleet presentations, problem-solving case studies, safety-in-the-round breakout sessions, National Driver All-Star recognition, a premium-grade exhibit hall of new top products and services, and exceptional networking opportunities.

Mari Roberts, CTP, newly elected Chair, NPTC Board of Directors, SVP, NA Supply Chain COEs, says “the safety conference attendee numbers have more than doubled since I first joined NPTC in 2009. Repeat fleet and allied/supplier members are coming back year after year and are joined by many first timers. This show is one of the best things NPTC does for the membership.”



NPTC Board member and Safety Committee Chair, **Kate Mirise, CTP**, transportation manager of The Royal Group said, “This is the premier annual safety summit of the private fleet industry. We learn the latest and best proven safety management protocols, benchmarking standards, and innovative technologies. Our best take-aways from the experience are the most successful overall safety management strategies which have been put into actual practice.”

Cathy Gautreaux, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Multimodal Freight Infrastructure and Policy, Office of the Secretary, the United States Department of Transportation, is the keynote speaker at the conference, addressing the latest federal motor carrier safety laws and significant regulatory changes affecting compliance enforcement with drivers and carriers. Deputy Assistant Secretary Gautreaux formerly served over 30 years as Executive Director of the Louisiana Motor Transport Association, Deputy Administrator of FMCSA, and a fully commissioned Detective for the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office in Louisiana.



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Safety Conference Continued

Topics and speakers at the show represent the most relevant and up-to-date safety information available in the industry. The opening day of the event will feature an expert panel discussing the private fleet industry's major safety priorities and the keys to building a culture of safety excellence focused on effective driver coaching strategies, score carding driver safety performance, and maintaining high safety performance standards.

Safety-in-the-round breakout sessions are highly popular, covering subjects like driver reward and recognition, data integration strategies, building driver acceptance of active safety technologies, the ROI case for premium spec'ing of safety equipment, alternative energy vehicles, and the advantages of recruiting drivers from within the company.



Data presented from NPTC's 2026 Benchmarking Survey Report by NPTC Executive Vice President, **Tom Moore, CTP**, analyzes key performance metrics related to private safety as reported by a broad cross-section of private fleet companies representing a wide range of industries and markets. Emphasis will be made on safety practices and management protocols which explain why private fleets continue to average low Department of Transportation recordable accidents-per-million-miles—a record year after year three times safety than the overall trucking industry.

Rick Schweitzer, NPTC general counsel and government affairs representative, will present a live edition of the Washington Report, sponsored by Centerline Drivers. This legislative and regulatory update highlights safety-related issues of importance to private fleets.



A unique feature of this year's conference is a mock trial of a commercial vehicle accident conducted by NPTC Institute board member, **Doug Marcello**, shareholder, Saxton & Stump (an NPTC Five-Star member company), one of the country's leading law firms representing trucking companies in major litigation cases.



NPTC's National Driver All-Star recognition program, sponsored by International, will be held on Thursday, September 10th. More than twenty-five drivers from a wide range of private fleet member companies will be honored this year. The awards are presented to drivers who have demonstrated exemplary performance compared to their peers throughout the country. Driver performance is assessed in areas like customer service, safety records, adherence to company policies, regulatory compliance, and community service.

To become an All-Star honoree, candidates must demonstrate characteristics, skills, and attitudes that enable their private fleets to deliver exceptional service along with top safety performance and world-class operational standards.

Rave reviews were typical of last year's safety conference: *"The show had exceptional strong speakers and break-out sessions." ... "It was awesome hearing people share their stories of safety excellence." ... "This is one of the best safety-related exhibit halls in the industry." ... "Member contacts and networking are the just amazing. I can't wait to come back in 2026!"*

Register today. The National Safety Conference is designed to help your fleet stay on a winning path of safety for the long haul.

NPTC WISHES TO THANK THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS OF THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL SAFETY CONFERENCE

It's not too late to add your name to this impressive list as NPTC is still looking for sponsors of the refreshment breaks. Act now to receive the full recognition on your investment! For details, contact Serena Porter at sporter@nptc.org.

JOINT BOARD BREAKFAST

REGISTRATION DESK

NAME BADGES



NATIONAL DRIVER ALL-STAR AWARDS



NPTC 2★26

Another Great Success!

“It was a wonderful show. Typical of the NPTC culture, people were enthusiastically ‘present to win’ and happy to be part of such a great organization” said Mari Roberts, CTP, newly elected Chair, NPTC Board of Directors, and SVP, NA Supply Chain, COEs, PepsiCo.

“The annual conference gets better year after year. NPTC 2026 took us to the next level,” added Roberts who has attended nearly every annual meeting since graduating with her CTP Class in 2009 and presenting her first general session speech, the first of many to come.

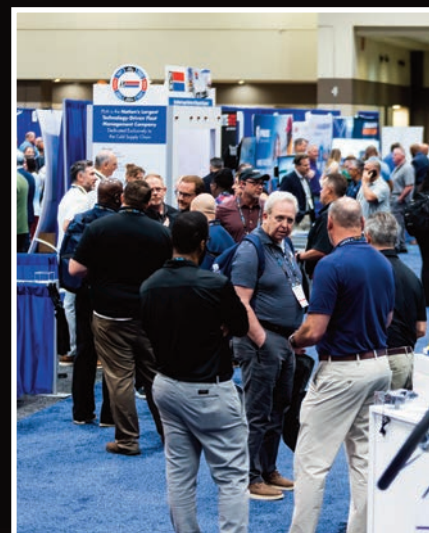


Other officers elected and present were NPTC Board Vice-Chair, **Tim Eckhardt, CTP**, Senior Director of Safety, DOT Transportation; NPTC Board Treasurer and Chair, NPTC Institute Board of Governors, **Mike Schwersenska, CTP**, Vice President for Transportation, Brakebush Transportation, Inc., and NPTC Board Secretary and Chair, NPTC Membership Committee, **John Gillenwater, CTP**, VP of Operations and Chief Safety Officer, HC Transport.

The opening general session began with Tenstreet-sponsored **KEYNOTE SPEAKER Ken Vieth**, President and Senior Analyst of ACT Research, the leading data research firm in the trucking industry. The final general session opened with the preliminary presentation of the **2026 NPTC BENCHMARKING SURVEY REPORT**, sponsored by Penske Truck Leasing and Tenstreet, presented by Author and General Editor, **Tom Moore, CTP**, NPTC Executive Vice President.

This was followed by *FleetOwner Magazine's* **TOP 500 PRIVATE FLEETS OF THE YEAR AWARDS**, sponsored by Descartes (a new NPTC Five-Star member company), which was presented to NPTC Member companies: Large-Sized Fleet of the Year **Circle K/Fuel South Express**, Medium-Sized Fleet of the Year **ProVia Logistics**, and Small-Sized Fleet of the Year **Ross Transportation Services, Inc.**

Continued on next page



Compliance... a primer for all Private Fleet Professionals

Edwin P. Beardon, CTP
Transportation Compliance Business Partner
Clean Harbors Environmental Services
Norwell, MA



Annual Conference Continued

The conference registered just under 1,000 total attendees, featured 154 exhibitors and two dozen sponsors, honored 121 Graduates of the CTP Class of 2026, and welcomed more than 150 first-time attendees.

GENEROUS SPONSOR SUPPORT

Sponsors from twenty-eight member companies supported various activities during the conference. [Click here to see the full list of NPTC 2026 sponsors.](#)

Special thanks goes out the [Allied Committee for the Trucking Industry \(ACT 1\)](#) which again generously sponsored the Gala Reception on opening night.

PREMIER INDUSTRY EXHIBITION

Thank you to the 154 exhibitors who made the exhibit hall a success this year! We'd also like to thank **Penske Truck Leasing**, **Samsara**, and **Motive** for sponsoring the Exhibit Hall receptions on Saturday and Sunday.

Already more than 100 exhibitors have confirmed their booths for NPTC 2027. Booth spaces are going fast! [Click here to view the 2027 Exhibit Floorplan](#) and email sporter@nptc.org to reserve your booth now!

UNPARALLELED EDUCATION AND NETWORKING

The NPTC 2026 program was packed with information on the latest and best ideas in private fleet management. The event offered 23 educational workshops with 35+ speakers from private fleet companies.

The **BEST PRACTICES ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS**, with breakfast sponsored by **Cummins**, offered 36 discussion topics over two days.



THANK YOU to Our NPTC 2026 Speakers!

Kelly Abers, CTP, *General Manager, Clean Harbors, Inc.*
Shana Barton-Nielsen, CTP, *Director, Logistics Support, CRH Americas Products, Inc.*
Ron Bates, CTP, *Area Manager, Trucking Operations, Packaging Corp. of America*
Richard Bishop, *Principal, Bishop Consulting*
Dean Bushey, *Director of Programs, North American Council for Freight Efficiency*
Kristine Caruso, CTP, *Senior Director, Fleet Management, R.B. Stewart Petroleum Products, Inc.*
Eric Cook, CTP, *Senior Area Manager, HC Transport, Inc.*
Micha Cox, CTP, *Area Manager Fleet Operations OTR, Standard Logistics Transportation*
Randy Davis, CTP, *Private Fleet Manager, Kroger Company*
Brooke English, CTP, *Director of Truck Fleet Safety, The QUIKRETE Companies*
Chris Fada, CTP, *Vice President, Ross Transportation Services*
Charlie Feters, CTP, *Vice President, National Logistics, Clean Harbors, Inc.*
John Gillenwater, CTP, *VP, Fleet Operations & CSO, HC Transport, Inc.*
Norlene Gray, CTP, *Manager of Safety & HR, Brakebush Transportation, Inc.*
Jennifer Hedrick, *President and CEO, Women in Trucking Association*
Ellen Ingram, CTP, *Vice President, Human Resources & Safety, America's Service Line, LLC*
Randy Maddox, CTP, *Sr. Category Manager, Mining, Amrize*
Pamela Martin, CTP, *Claims & Litigation Manager, MedTrans LLC*
Darryl McCabe, CTP, *Sr. Manager, Transportation Efficiency, PepsiCo*
Mike McHorse, *Industry Engagement Director, North American Council for Freight Efficiency*
Patrick McHugh, CTP, *Senior Logistics Manager, Tillamook County Creamery Association*
Kate Mirise, CTP, *Central Ohio Logistics Manager, The Royal Group*
Tom Moore, CTP, *Executive Vice President, National Private Truck Council*
Andrew O'Leary, CTP, *Director, Fleet Equipment & Maintenance, The QUIKRETE Companies*
Herbert Osborne, CTP, *Senior Area Manager, HC Transport, Inc.*
Gary Petty, *President & CEO, National Private Truck Council*
Edwin Reardon, CTP, *Transportation Compliance Business Partner, Clean Harbors, Inc.*

John Robbins, CTP, *Sr. Director, Fleet Operations, Standard Logistics Transportation*
Mike Roeth, *Executive Director, North American Council for Freight Efficiency*
Nicole Schubring, CTP, *Director of Productivity & Strategy, America's Service Line, LLC*
Richard, Schweitzer, *General Counsel/Gov't Affairs, National Private Truck Council*
Leah Shaver, *President & CEO, The National Transportation Institute*
Craig Stout, *Sr. Manager Talent Acquisition - Operations, KeHE Distributors, LLC*
Ken Vieth, *President & Senior Analyst, ACT Research Co., LLC*
Andrea Ward, CTP, *Delivery Logistics Coordinator, SE Region, Mondelez International LLC*
Ben Wilkens, *Cybersecurity Principal Engineer, National Motor Freight Traffic Association*
Heather Williquette, CTP, *Operations Manager, America's Service Line, LLC*





CTPPROFILE

BY GARY PETTY
PRESIDENT AND CEO
NATIONAL PRIVATE TRUCK COUNCIL



Carlton Huffman, CTP
SVP of Transportation and Logistics
Prime-Source Building Products

Sponsored by



Blueprint for Best in Class

Continuous improvement through a disciplined process

CARLTON HUFFMAN, CTP, SVP OF TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS AT PRIME-SOURCE BUILDING PRODUCTS, who turned a chance introduction to logistics into a private-fleet playbook, didn't arrive at Auburn University with a road map. A Southern kid with broad academic interests and a passion for athletics, he enrolled undecided and worked his way through school for a small, local household-goods moving company. A professor from Auburn's newly formed Department of Supply Chain Management hired that mover and encouraged Huffman to explore the field. He found his calling, earning a B.S. in Business and Logistics Management in 2001.

What began as hands-on work evolved into a 25-year career focused on enterprise-wide logistics transformation for manufacturing and distribution networks. Over time, his responsibilities broadened to include fleet strategy, carrier management, distribution center operations, and cross-functional integration. His path ran through private fleets, dedicated carriers, 3PLs, and warehousing—in roles that exposed him to mergers and acquisitions, network redesign, and the operational trade-offs that determine cost, service, and safety. Professional development and talent pipelines are central to Huffman's approach.

He attended the National Private Truck Council's Private Fleet Management Institute (PFMI) and earned his Certified Transportation Professional (CTP) designation in 2011. Those credentials plus earning an MBA and two other professional certifications reflect both classroom learning and a practical appetite for continuous improvements that he has sought to replicate across his teams.

Huffman joined Prime-Source Building Products (PSBP) in 2023 as the company's senior vice president of transportation and logistics, with responsibility for transitioning the company's dedicated-carrier network to a private fleet while scaling service nationally.

Huffman enhanced PSBP's private fleet through scheduling, trailer staging, localized routing nuances, and seasonal demand,

all of which require coordinated systems and disciplined execution. To meet those demands, he built a full leadership bench while integrating training pathways such as PFMI and CTP to raise organizational baseline competencies. The performance improvements made under Huffman's tenure are noteworthy because they reflect both strategic choices and operational discipline. Two themes underpin those results. First, the decision to operate a private fleet was not treated as an endpoint but as a platform for disciplined

process and continuous improvement, allowing PSBP to control service quality while optimizing cost to serve. Second, people and training mattered: By formalizing development pathways and promoting from within, Huffman created institutional knowledge that translated analytical strategy into consistent operational performance.

His career underscores a practical lesson for companies weighing private fleet ownership: Success depends less on ownership itself and more on disciplined network design, contract strategy, technology deployment, and people development. When those elements align and are executed with rigor, a private fleet can shift from a cost center to a strategic advantage—delivering higher service, lower variability, and a stronger platform for growth.

Looking ahead, Huffman is focused on embedding continuous improvement into PSBP's operating model. That includes further leveraging telematics and TMS integrations to enable dynamic routing, expanding predictive maintenance to reduce downtime, and continuing to refine trailer pools and staging to minimize detention and dwell. He is also committed to leaders and the talent pipeline—expanding PFMI and CTP participation, mentoring aspiring leaders, and building cross-functional rotations that expose logistics staff to procurement, sales, and operations planning.

"The CTP program is a key component of our success and has given us a pathway to skills, knowledge, benchmarking, and networking within the NPTC culture—a foundation in building the fleet from the ground up to great success," Huffman said.

Success depends less on ownership itself and more on disciplined network design, contract strategy, technology deployment, and people development."

NPTC Elects 2026 Board Leaders

MARI ROBERTS, CTP, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, NORTH AMERICA SUPPLY CHAIN COES FOR PEPSICO, was elected Chair of the

NPTC Board of Directors at the group's Annual Management Conference and Exhibition May 9-11, 2026, in Orlando. She replaces outgoing Board Chair **David Barth, CTP**, Transportation Safety Manager, Wegmans Food Markets, Inc. Also elected as NPTC officers were:

Vice Chair/Chair Elect – Tim Eckhardt, CTP, Director of Safety, Dot Transportation, Inc.

Board Treasurer – Mike Schwersenska, CTP, Vice President, Brakebush Transportation, Inc.

Board Secretary – John Gillenwater, CTP, Vice President, Fleet Operations and CSO, HC Transport, Inc.

The newly elected members seated on the Board of Directors were: **Christine Catarino**, Marketing Director, E.A. Dion, Inc.; **Pat McHugh, CTP**, Senior Logistics Manager, Tillamook County Creamery Association; and **Jeff Wright**, Corporate Vice President of Transportation, The QUIKRETE Companies.



They join existing board members: **Todd Berger, CTP**, Director of Sales, PACCAR Leasing Company; **Chris Fada, CTP**, Vice President, Ross Transportation Services; **Charlie Feters, CTP**, Vice President, National Logistics, Clean Harbors, Inc.; **Robert Mann**, Vice President, Government Sales & Diamond Logic Builder, International Motors, LLC; **Cassie Michelson, CTP**, Sr. Transportation Manager, Packaging Corporation of America; **Kate Mirise, CTP**, Central Ohio Logistics Manager, The Royal Group; **Jill Quinn**, President, Centerline Drivers, LLC; **John Robbins, CTP**, Sr. Director, Fleet Operations, Standard Logistics Transportation; **Steven Roberts, CTP**, Manager, Fleet Operations, Deseret Transportation; and **Gene Tierney, CTP**, Director of Transportation Operations, Albertsons Companies.

In the News



Cassie Michelson, CTP, has been named Senior Transportation Manager for Packaging Corporation of America.



Annie Steckroth, CTP, has been named Director Business Development | Dedicated for Schneider National.

At its meeting on May 8th, the **NPTC Institute Board of Governors** elected the following individuals to the Board:



Bailey Stephenson, CTP, Sr. Fleet Territory Manager-North Central, Alcoa Wheels



Jim White, Director – Sales, US Cargo, Kinedyne LLC

NPTC/E.A. DION PRESENT PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS



Sponsored by

Dion

AT ITS ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE IN ORLANDO, MAY 9-11, 2026, the National Private Truck Council and award program sponsor, **E.A. Dion**, recognized five private fleet professionals and two Allied members for their impressive contributions to the private fleet community. "For thirty-six years, these Professional Leadership Awards have honored individuals and companies which have positively impacted NPTC and the industry," stated **Gary Petty**, NPTC President and CEO. "We extend our thanks and appreciation to the 2026 award winners and to our sponsor, E.A. Dion."



The Council's top award, the **DAN SMITH LIFE-TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**, was presented to **David Barth, CTP**, Transportation Safety Manager, Wegmans Food Markets, Inc. With more than 38 years of experience in the transportation, warehousing and distribution industry, David has worked in various capacities at Wegmans Food Markets, Inc. for the last 22 years. Prior to his current role, David held the position of Transportation Operations Area Manager for Wegmans Retail Service Center in Pottsville, PA where he oversaw Wegmans' private fleet as well as Wegmans' dedicated third party carriers. David is a member of the Transportation Association of New York as well as the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association. An active member of NPTC since 2009, David participates on the council's Benchmarking Steering Committee. In 2017 David was elected to NPTC Board of Directors, and in 2020 David was elected to serve as Board Secretary, Board Vice Chair/Chair Elect in 2022, and Board Chair in 2024.



The **PRIVATE FLEET EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR** went to **Tim Eckhardt, CTP**, Senior Director of Safety DOT Transportation, Inc. He began his career with Dot Transportation in 2012 as a Sr. Transportation Manager and moved into the Director of Safety role in 2019. In his current position, Tim and his team are responsible for overseeing D.O.T. Compliance, Driver Training, Accidents & Claims Management, and Dot's in-house driver training schools. Today, the fleet consists of more than 2,000 full-time drivers in the United States and Canada. Tim has a B.S. from Eastern Illinois University and an MBA from William Woods University. He earned his CTP certification in 2018 and proudly holds a class A CDL. Tim serves as Vice Chair-Chair Elect of the NPTC Board of Directors, and previously served as Board Secretary and Chair of the NPTC Safety Committee.



Receiving the **PRIVATE FLEET MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD** was **Ellen Ingram, CTP**, Vice President, Human Resources & Safety, America's Service Line, LLC, a top company for women to work in transportation and the private fleet for American Foods Group, one of the nation's largest beef processors. Ellen started her career in operations with Hormel Foods Corporation before moving into Human Resources and Safety. Ellen now leads fleet and employee safety, talent acquisition, employee relations, benefits, leadership development, and payroll with her current company. As a Certified Transportation Professional, Ellen serves on the National Private Truck Council Board of Governors and is a content facilitator for the NPTC Private Fleet Management Institute. In addition, Ellen is an active SHRM-Senior Certified Professional and a member of Women in Trucking.



Kate Mirise, CTP, Central Ohio Logistics Manager for the Royal Group, was named the **PRIVATE FLEET SAFETY PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR**. In her current role, Kate oversees transportation operations across three manufacturing plants and an offsite warehouse. She plays a key role in dispatch, compliance, and logistics for the company's private fleet, which serves Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana and Michigan. Kate's transportation career began in 2002 at her family's towing company, where she managed dispatch and operated the impound lot. In 2015, she joined The Royal Group, a leading manufacturer of packaging solutions-from corrugated boxes to foam molding-starting as a receptionist before advancing into logistics management. In April 2022, Kate earned her CTP designation. Kate is an active member of the PFMI faculty.



Jeffrey Eisaman, CTP, Director of Transportation, Sheetz/CLI Transport received the **EXCELLENCE IN MEMBERSHIP AWARD – FLEET**. Jeff joined Sheetz Inc./ CLI Transport in 2013, and is now the Director of Transportation. Prior to that he had served as Operations Manager for Schneider National Carriers for 14 years. He is a retired Deputy Game Warden with the Pennsylvania Game Commission, a U.S. Army Veteran, a Certified Firearms Instructor and a Distinguished Military Graduate of the U.S. Army ROTC at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He earned his CTP designation in 2020. Jeff has served for many years as a Faculty Member of the PFMI and as speaker at NPTC conferences and workshops.

Continued on next page



NPTC 2026 Professional Leadership Award Recipients are pictured (from left to right) Ellen Ingram, CTP, Jeff Eisaman, CTP, Kate Mirise, CTP, Chris Silver, CTP, PrePass, David Barth, CTP, Wegmans Food Markets, and Tim Eckhardt, CTP, Dot Transportation.



Chris Silver, CTP, Chief Marketing Officer for PrePass was named as the recipient of the **EXCELLENCE IN MEMBERSHIP AWARD – ALLIED**. In her current position, Chris leads the company's market strategy, brand development, communications, and customer engagement initiatives. With more than 30 years of marketing leadership experience, including almost 20 years in the trucking and transportation industry, she brings a deep understanding of the operational, regulatory, and human dynamics that define the industry. At PrePass, she has played a key role in advancing solutions that improve safety, efficiency, and the overall driver experience, while shaping a brand voice that resonates across fleets, drivers, and industry partners. She holds a bachelor's degree in communications from Boston College and an MBA from the University of California, Irvine.



Rental Leasing Logistics

Penske Truck Leasing was named the **ALLIED MEMBER OF THE YEAR**. Penske is a leading provider of innovative transportation solutions, solutions from Penske include full-service truck leasing, fleet maintenance, truck rentals, used trucks, and a comprehensive array of technologies to keep the world. Penske is a platinum-level sponsor of the Annual Conference and a representative on the NPTC Institute Board of Governors. The company also is a sponsor of the Benchmarking Survey Report, encourages participation in the CTP program, and exhibits at the NPTC Annual Conference.

A Note of Thanks

by **ELLEN INGRAM, CTP**, 2026 PRIVATE FLEET MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD winner, Vice President, HR & Safety, America's Service Line, LLC., and board member, NPTC Institute Board of Governors.

Thank you Gary and thank you to the NPTC Staff and Board Members for this honor. I am humbled to receive this award. Congratulations to those of you honored this weekend and to those graduating with your CTP today.

I have been in transportation and logistics for nearly 1/3 of my career. Very shortly after joining America's Service Line to structure a Human Resources Department, our leader provided me the opportunity to attend NPTC's annual conference. Very clearly, I recognized an association full of industry elites who shared knowledge freely and enthusiastically. Soon after gaining my CTP a year later, I was welcomed to train at PFMI, sharing my passion as an HR and Safety professional with many of you sitting here today. It is not always that HR and Safety professionals are welcome at the table, and I credit Gary Petty and namely, Tom Moore, for recognizing I practice my profession differently than most. That is, engage people while mitigating risk.

This work through NPTC is rarely about individual effort, but rather collaboration and persistence. How fortunate we all are to work for fleets and leaders who support us being here today. I am grateful to Scott Willert and Greg Gmeinder for supporting my involvement in NPTC over the years and for their leadership and camaraderie. Thank you to my peers, several who are here today, for sharing these events together and challeng-

ing me to be a consummate professional while encouraging me not to take myself too seriously. I am surrounded by a special team of HR and Safety professionals who take care of business, our workforce, and move the needle forward each day, while showing care and having fun. The culture and business success at America's Service Line is a team sport, and I truly serve as a business partner to the Company and our workforce. My husband, Tony, and our children, Noah and Dori, are my constant support. Through their grace and love, they provide me with the sanctuary needed to approach my work and our workforce each day. I am blessed and extremely grateful.

To those of you graduating with your CTP today: have the courage to network, be curious, and consider new approaches others at NPTC offer you. Make your mark and get involved!

Thank you.



NPTC ANNOUNCES 2026 FLEET SAFETY AWARDS

TWELVE PRIVATE FLEETS WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT AND DEDICATION in elevating their safety performance year over year have been honored by receiving the **NPTC Fleet Safety Awards**, sponsored by International Motors and Centerline Drivers. The recognition took place in conjunction with the NPTC Annual Education Management Conference and Exhibition, which was held May 9-11, 2026, in Orlando, Florida.

“The Fleet Safety Awards recognize NPTC member companies that work to make safety a priority in their private fleet operations,” said **Kate Mirise, CTP**, Chair of the NPTC Safety Committee and Central Ohio Logistics Manager for The Royal Group. “These annual fleet safety awards in particular recognize companies with the lowest ratio of accidents per million miles for the past year.”



This year’s winners (based on safety performance achieved in 2025) are:

REGIONAL *(all other fleets, including long-haul)*

First Place: Clinton’s Ditch Coop Co., Inc.
Second Place: America’s Service Line, LLC
Third Place: SWTO, LLC | SEI Fuel

LOCAL *(fleets whose vehicles deliver in a local market regardless of size)*

First Place: TargetStores
Second Place: Composites One LLC
Third Place: Cohen Transport / Recycling

MIXED SMALL *(Fewer than 100 vehicles)*

First Place: RedGuard
Second Place: Chobani LLC
Third Place: Johnsonville Trucking LLC

MIXED LARGE *(more than 100 vehicles)*

First Place: Contract Transportation Systems/
The Sherwin-Williams Co.
Second Place: ADM Trucking, Inc.
Third Place: Vantive Healthcare

Also recognized, were those fleets with outstanding and/or improved safety records based upon their crash rates.

WINNERS OF THE GOLD SEAL, awarded to fleets with a terminal that experienced ZERO crashes in 2025, include:

- Clopay Transportation Company
- Hillyard, Inc.
- Interstate Batteries
- Marathon Petroleum Company LP

WINNERS OF THE SILVER SEAL, presented to those companies with a terminal that reduced its vehicle crash rates by 40% or more compared to the previous year, were:

- Marathon Petroleum Company LP
- New South Express, Inc.
- Pitney Bowes Inc.

THE BRONZE SEAL RECOGNITION is presented to companies with a terminal that reduced its vehicle crash rates by 20% to 39% from the previous year. The winners of the Bronze Seal are:

- Contract Transportation Systems/Sherwin-Williams Co.
- Marathon Petroleum Company LP
- New South Express, Inc.



NPTC HONORS

121 CERTIFIED TRANSPORTATION PROFESSIONALS® (CTP)



ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-ONE 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 May 9-11, 2026, in Orlando, FL.

Since the CTP designation was first introduced in 1993, more than 1,900 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.

"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 **Mike Schwersenska, CTP**, Vice President, Brakebush Transportation, LLC, NPTC Treasurer 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," he added.

Each year, *FleetOwner* magazine sponsors the CTP Top Graduate Award. This year's Top Graduate is **Stacy Liscomb, CTP, PepsiCo.**

The following individuals represent the CTP Class of 2025:

Kelly Abers, CTP, Clean Harbors, Inc.
Ronald Allen, CTP, G&J Pepsi-Cola Bottlers, Inc.
Jesus Arias, CTP, PepsiCo
Melissa Armstrong, CTP, Dollar General Corporation
Najee Bagley, CTP, Standard Logistics Transportation
Jonathan L. Baldwin, CTP, Tendit Group
Brian Barnes, CTP, Mondelez International LLC
Meghan Barton, CTP, Wolf Home Products
Brian Beecher, CTP, LSP Transport, LLC
Teri Berschneider, CTP, Tyler Technologies
Lexanna Bohan, CTP, Dot Transportation, Inc.
Mario Bravo Jr., CTP, New Castle Building Products
Jeffery Burkhardt, CTP, Ancora Training
Roger Bustamante, CTP, The QUIKRETE Companies
Jenni Calhoun, CTP, Reliance, Inc.
Tim Capps, CTP, Vac2Go
Dammon Carnes, CTP
Kristine Caruso, CTP, R.B. Stewart Petroleum Products, Inc.
Robert Carver, CTP, CVS Health



Continued on next page

Graduates Continued

Jhuniar Castano, CTP, New Castle Building Products
Eric Chamberlin, CTP, WinCo Foods
Christy Joy Choice, CTP, Tenstreet
Caitlin Clinton, CTP, Fleet Advantage
Eric M. Cook, CTP, HC Transport, Inc.
Allegra Correale, CTP, Sheetz / CLI Transport
Randy Davis, CTP, Kroger Company
Adrian De La Rosa, CTP, Wolf Home Products
Jessica DiLallo, CTP, Mohawk Industries, Inc.
Mark Dixon, CTP, The QUIKRETE Companies
Shelly Dye, CTP, ProVia Logistics LLC
Nikeva L. Ervin, CTP, Albertsons Companies
Ronald Flanery, CTP, G&J Pepsi-Cola Bottlers, Inc.
Thomas Friedberg, CTP, WinCo Foods
Leticia Gaskins, CTP, CRH Americas Products, Inc.
Mike Gilley, CTP, Sheetz / CLI Transport
Jacob W. Glenn, CTP, CVS Health
Ty Hamsher, CTP, ProVia Logistics LLC
Shanta R Harris, CTP, CVS Health
Sherri A Harris, CTP, CVS Health
Earl Heard III, CTP, Walmart Transportation LLC
Ryan Heil, CTP, Magnus Technologies
Clayton Henady, CTP, Bob Evans Transportation Co.
Kevin Herculson, CTP, Wolf Home Products
Lance Hickey, CTP, Kinedyne, LLC
Jason Hillier, CTP, Clasen Quality Chocolate
Travis Hobart, CTP, ProVia Logistics LLC
Kevin Houseman, CTP, Mondelez International LLC
Zaheer Iqbal, CTP, Tyler Technologies
Edward Johannes, CTP, Platform Science
Jonathon Jones, CTP, Wolf Home Products
Kyle B. Jones, CTP, Stevens Transport
Kathy M Jones, CTP, Koppers Inc.
Derek Jones, CTP, Wheels
Ronald I. Jordan, Jr., CTP, The Home Depot, Inc.
Devyn LaSean King, CTP, Mondelez International LLC
Thomas King, CTP, Wolf Home Products
Tracey Contreras Kretch, CTP, PrePass
Chris Lackey, CTP, Merchants Distributors, LLC
Patrick Lagodny, CTP, Thermo King of Denver
Cynthia Lambert, CTP, Apple Moving
Brittany Michelle Lawson, CTP, CVS Health
Nolita Lashanda Lawton, CTP, CVS Health
Stacy Liscomb, CTP, PepsiCo
Leticia Lopez de Victoria, CTP, Brakebush Transportation, Inc.
Samuel Marcotte, CTP, Bob Evans Transportation Co.
Trey Martin, CTP, Platform Science
Guadalupe Martinez Jr., CTP, Performance Food Group
Nathan Massey, CTP, Liberty Tire Recycling
Seth Patrick McCool, CTP, Ingles Markets Inc.
Cam McGill, CTP, Uptake
Wendy McNally, CTP, Reid Petroleum LLC
Kurt Melange, CTP, PepsiCo

Douglas A Metheny, CTP
Jessica Mobley, CTP, Vac2Go
Mike Napoliello, CTP, TLG Leasing, Inc.
Timothy Neubauer, CTP, Wolf Home Products
Christopher Nichols, CTP, PACCAR Leasing Company
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Kimberly Ostman, CTP, Uptake
Amanda Perkins, CTP, Dairy Farmers of America, Inc.
Danny Pinkston, CTP, WinCo Foods
Ross Quesada, CTP, Wolf Home Products
Katie Reffke, CTP, America's Service Line, LLC
Glenn K. Reynolds, CTP, Builders FirstSource
Gary Ricard, CTP, Mondelez International, LLC
Reed Richards, CTP, Pitlik & Wick
Ryan Romp, CTP, Cohen Transport / Recycling
Jessica Roskop, CTP, Fencing Supply Group
Thomas Russell, CTP, Pedigree Technologies
Lisa Rysavy, CTP, PrePass
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FOUR INDUCTED INTO DRIVER HALL OF FAME

FOUR DRIVERS, WHO COLLECTIVELY HAVE DRIVEN FOR MORE THAN 152 YEARS WHILE RACKING UP NEARLY 15 MILLION MILES OF SERVICE without a chargeable accident, injury or moving violation, have been inducted into the NPTC Driver Hall of Fame sponsored by **International Motors** and **Centerline Drivers**. The recognition took place in conjunction with the **NPTC Annual Education Management Conference and Exhibition**, which was held May 9-11 in Orlando, FL.

The drivers are from NPTC member companies and have met the minimum qualifications of 20 years, three million miles or 50,000 hours of driving without a preventable accident. Many of the drivers have far exceeded these qualifications and are known for having made significant contributions to their industry and their communities. Since its inception in 1987, [160 drivers](#) have been installed in the Driver Hall of Fame.

This year's NPTC Driver Hall of Fame inductees are:



Robert Baity Unifi Manufacturing, Inc., Yadkinville, NC

Robert began his driving career in 1976 on his family farm in Yadkin County, N.C. There, he learned to drive a 10-speed, single-axle truck hauling corn, soybeans, and hay. He has more than 48 years of combined driving experience, including time with other companies before joining Unifi. In that time, he has accumulated 3.6 million miles without a chargeable accident, injury or moving violation. In his 13 years with Unifi, he has racked up more than 900,000 accident-free miles.

Throughout his career, Robert has operated a variety of equipment and hauled multiple types of products. His experience and professionalism have made him a valued driver in Unifi's Transportation Department where he runs about 400 miles a day hauling general freight in and out of the company's Yadkinville, NC terminal.



Matthew Dosland John Deere assigned by CPC Logistics, Davenport, IA

In 30 years behind the wheel, Matthew has driven 3.25 million miles without a chargeable accident, injury, or moving violation. He started his driving career with Dundee Trucking in Oxford Junction, IA., in 1996. The following year, he joined Hainstock Trucking in Lost Nation, IA., before joining CPC Logistics as a driver for John Deere Shared Services two years later.

As a driver for Deere, he hauls equipment parts in over-the-road applications throughout the Midwest. The job requires him to drive in all-weather conditions, including winter snow and ice, spring storms, and tornado weather. During his time with CPC Logistics, he has achieved three million miles of those safe driving miles. As a result of his dedication, he has earned one-, two-, and three-million-mile safe driver awards from CPC and was named an NPTC National All-Star Driver in 2018.



2026 NPTC Driver Hall of Fame inductees are (from left to right) Eddie McAllister, Shaw Industries Group, Inc.; Matthew Dosland, John Deere Shared Services, assigned by CPC Logistics, Inc.; Robert Baity, Unifi Manufacturing; and Paul Ramirez, Circle K / Fuel South Express.



Eddie McAllister Shaw Industries Group, Inc., Dalton, GA

In 39 years behind the wheel, Eddie has driven 4.2 million miles without an accident, an injury, or a moving violation. Eddie started his driving career with Shaw as a spotter. After earning his CDL, he moved into a driving position. He has driven day cabs and sleeper trucks and has pulled various trailers (with and without lift gates) and pulled bulk and liquid tankers. Part of his time at Shaw he was an OTR driver and more recently he has delivered yarn, carpet rolls, and flooring products to retail locations throughout the North Georgia and Southern Tennessee.

He works up to 60 hours a week. These deliveries can involve unloading freight using a winch, forklift or pallet jack depending on the specific freight and customer requirements. He utilizes defensive driving and his years of on road experience to ensure safe, uneventful, and stress-free trips.



Paul Ramirez Circle K / Fuel South Express, Columbus, IN

Paul began his professional driving career in 1991, and in those 35 years he has racked up 3.5 million miles without an accident, injury, or moving violation. Paul began his driving career in the military in 1991, honorably serving in the U.S. Army for four years, where he developed a strong work ethic, discipline, and sense of responsibility. In 1996 he joined National Freight as a driver, a position he held for four years until he joined Road Runner.

In 2004, he joined Benito Petroleum which was subsequently acquired by Circle K/Fuel South Express. He has built a reputation as a dependable and safety-focused fuel hauler. His current position with Circle K involves hauling flammable liquid petroleum products such as gasoline, diesel, and ethanol blends across Midwest routes, requiring year-round operation in varying and often challenging weather conditions including snow, ice, and extreme cold, heavy rain, and high winds. NPTC/Idealsafe Safety Seminars Scheduled

NPTC/IDEALEASE Safety Seminars Scheduled

IDEALEASE AND NPTC HAVE ANNOUNCED THE FALL SERIES OF SAFETY SEMINARS designed to provide private fleet professionals with the tools they need to comply with federal and state regulations, hours of service (drivers' daily logs), drug and alcohol testing rules, vehicle maintenance and inspection, accident record-keeping, and driver qualifications.

The seminar will also discuss new and proposed regulatory changes and how to enhance your safety program above and beyond regulation requirements. The one-day seminar is valued at \$395.00 per person, and is offered at no cost to all NPTC members.

This fall's lineup includes the following locations:

Sep 15	DePere, WI
Sep 17	Southfield, MI
Sep 22	Midway, KY
Sep 24	Chattanooga, TN
Sep 29	Glendale Heights, IL
Oct 08	Oxnard, CA
Oct 20	Nashville, TN
Oct 22	Atlanta, GA
Nov 10	Linthicum Heights, MD

[Click here for more information or to register.](#)

2026 BENCHMARKING SURVEY UPDATE



LATER THIS MONTH, NPTC WILL RELEASE ITS 2026 BENCHMARKING SURVEY REPORT, which is sponsored by Penske Truck Leasing and TEN-STREET. The report will examine a number of key operational, performance issues and is designed to validate private fleet performance based on comparative peer data; to

identify areas of improvement and opportunity; and to highlight significant trends affecting private fleet practitioners.

The benchmarking survey delves into key operational areas such as safety, technology, driver turnover, compensation, operational costs, equipment and maintenance to identify key trends and best practices.

This year's *Benchmarking Survey Report* will underscore the value of the private fleet community as it continues to enhance its control over the corporate supply chain.

NATIONAL DRIVER ALL-STARS

NPTC IS STILL ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL DRIVER ALL-STAR AWARDS. The program recognizes those 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. Established in 2009, the National Driver All-Star Awards Program is co-sponsored by NPTC, International Motors, LLC, and Centerline Drivers, LLC.

Applications are made available mid-May each year with a **July 9 deadline**. Applicants selected as Driver All-Stars are recognized at the National Safety Conference in Orlando each September.

2026 DRIVER ALL-STARS APPLICATION

[Click here to download an outline of the information needed for each applicant.](#) Applications must be submitted using this on-line form.



CTP CLASS OF 2027 NOW FORMING

CANDIDATES FOR THE CERTIFIED TRANSPORTATION PROFESSIONAL® (CTP) PROGRAM ARE ENCOURAGED TO REGISTER for their places in the Class of 2027. The Eligibility Application for the 2027 CTP Exam will be available beginning September 2, 2026. Deadline: Application and fee is due by December 1, 2026 – no exceptions. <https://www.nptc.org/get-certified/1-apply/> The CTP program is sponsored by J. J. Keller & Associates.



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By earning the CTP designation, you join a group of transportation professionals who have made a commitment to the private fleet industry, to an ongoing pursuit of career advancement, and to continuing enhancement of their knowledge and skills. Top management will readily identify you as a professional with the experience and knowledge to direct and administer a private fleet, traffic, or transportation operation.

To learn more about the CTP® program, visit www.nptc.org, or contact Kristen Todd at ktodd@nptc.org or (703) 838-8841.

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 Beth Mars, CTP, Transportation Director, PepsiCo
 Ian McGriff, Vice President, Marketing & Business Dev., ACT Research Co.
 Patrick McHugh, CTP, Senior Logistics Manager, Tillamook County Creamery
 Cassie Michelsen, CTP, Transportation Manager, Packaging Corp. of America
 Beth Potratz, President & CEO, Drive My Way, Inc.
 Adam Putzer, CTP, National Sales Director, CPC Logistics, Inc.
 Mario Sanchez-Lara, General Manager, N.A. Private Carriers, Cummins Inc.
 Brandon Shaw, Fleet Operations Director, Procter & Gamble Company
 Chris Silver, Chief Marketing Officer, PrePass
 Bailey Stephenson, CTP, Sr. Fleet Territory Mgr., N. Central, Alcoa Wheels
 Gregg Stohler, CTP, V.P., Leasing & Rental Sales, Mack Leasing System
 Don Taylor, Director, Fleet Safety & Compliance, Reliance, Inc.
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 Luke Wachtel, SVP, Transportation & Logistics, Platform Science
 Barry Weis, Director of Sales & Support, Blue Beacon Truck Wash
 Mary Weisensel, CTP, Logistics Manager, Walgreen Oshkosh, Inc.
 Don White, CTP, VP, Refrigerated Strategy & Solutions, TEN
 Jim White, Director - Sales, US Cargo, Kinedyne LLC
 Stephen White, AVP, Enterprise Sales, Geotab USA, Inc.
 Bryon Wiebold, CTP, Industry Relations, Tenstreet
 Jeff Wright, Corporate VP, Transportation, The QUIKRETE Companies

Lindsay Belanger, Dir., Marketing, RMT-NA, Descartes Systems, (a new NPTC Five-Star member company) – Board Nomination Pending

The NPTC Institute, officially the Institute for Truck Transportation Management, is the nonprofit education and certification affiliate of the National Private Truck Council.

NPTC/J. J. KELLER & ASSOCIATES, INC. WEBCAST UPDATE

MORE THAN 1,000 PEOPLE HAVE REGISTERED TO ATTEND the first four webcasts sponsored jointly by NPTC and J. J. Keller & Associates, Inc. We would like to thank the following featured fleet speakers for sharing their insights and experience so far this year:

MARCH – Training Provider Registry

Eric Cook CTP, Sr. Area Manager, HC Transport Inc.

APRIL – Non-Domiciled Drivers and English

Language Proficiency

Ellen Ingram, VP of HR and Safety, America's Service Line, LLC; and

Katie Reffke, CTP, Sr. Human Resources Manager, America's Service Line, LLC

MAY – Driver Qualification Files

Brooke English, CTP, Director of Truck Fleet Safety, The Quikrete Companies

JUNE – Driver Medical Qualification

Robbie Clark, CTP, Associate Attorney, Dot Transportation, Inc., and

Mark Winters, CTP, Driver Trainer Coordinator, Dot Transportation, Inc.



Eric Cook, CTP



Ellen Ingram, CTP



Katie Reffke, CTP



Brooke English, CTP



Robbie Clark, CTP



Mark Winters, CTP

Mark your calendar now for future webcasts as follows:

JULY 22 – Hours of Service and ELD Exemptions

AUGUST 26 – Driver Screening Protocols

SEPTEMBER 16 – Driver Training

OCTOBER 21 – Drug and Alcohol Testing (*Emphasis on Oral Fluid Testing*)

The webcasts are free to all NPTC members and registration information, as well as an archive of past presentations is available at www.jjkeller.com/nptcinfo.

COMING EVENTS:

2026 NATIONAL SAFETY CONFERENCE

September 9-11, 2026, Orlando, FL

CTP EXAM PREPARATION WORKSHOP

January 15, 2027 Orlando, FL

2027 PRIVATE FLEET MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

January 16-20, 2027 Orlando, FL

2027 CTP EXAMINATION

February 13, 2027

2027 ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

May 6-8, 2027, Orlando, FL

[Click here](#) for a complete list of future NPTC events.

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- **Lunch and snacks** provided daily
- **Ongoing resources** that provide regulatory news, information and expert help as needed



Curriculum Highlights

Day 1: FMCSR Foundations — Interpretations, DOT registration, Safety Management Cycle

Day 2: Driver Qualification & Drug Testing — DQ files, Clearinghouse requirements, audit exposure

Day 3: Hours-of-Service Rules — ELDs, log audits, falsification prevention

Day 4: Vehicles & Hazmat — Maintenance programs, DVIRs, cargo securement

Day 5: Enforcement & Exam Prep — Audit strategies, CSA scoring, corrective action plans

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