

# FIRST IN SAFETY



## Orlando to Host NPTC's National Safety Conference: Sept. 8-10

**National Driver All-Stars  
Honored in  
Recognition Ceremony**



by Gary Petty  
President and CEO  
National Private Truck Council

**T**HE NATIONAL SAFETY CONFERENCE 2021 RETURNS TO THE OMNI ORLANDO RESORT IN CHAMPIONSGATE, FLORIDA, as the National Private Truck Council's annual forum on private fleet safety best practices and policies. The event will be held September 8-10, 2021, and expects to draw nearly 300 private fleet safety professionals from a wide and diversified spectrum of fleet practitioners and exhibitor/suppliers.

Attendees are encouraged to register now and make lodging and travel arrangements early as capacity is expected to be "sold out" soon. Beginning at 1:00 p.m., Wednesday afternoon, September 8th and concluding at 11:45 a.m. on Friday, September 10th, **the program promises to deliver insights, resources, and leading safety management protocols that will help fleets enhance their safety programs.**

Upgrading the conference to a new, premium-level resort-business meeting venue and expanding the program to a full two days proved big winners when first held in Orlando in 2019. 2021 promises to be even better.

Once again the event offers a **unique exhibit opportunity** where exhibit networking will take place during meals. We expect a full sell-out so email Serena Porter at [sporter@nptc.org](mailto:sporter@nptc.org) to reserve your space today!

The core purpose of the conference is to provide attendees with state-of-industry management resources, new ideas, upgraded operational practices, and a unique business network of contacts to help private fleets build even stronger safety cultures within their companies. With the planning assistance of the Council's Safety Committee, the schedule features a series of **general session keynote presentations, networking breakouts, and safety-in-the-round discussions led by a faculty of some of the private fleet industry's leading safety practitioner experts.**



"Over two intense days," says **Mike Schwersenska, CTP**, NPTC Board Chair, Director of Transportation/Logistics for Brakebush Transportation, Inc., "we have packed a wide range of insightful, invaluable takeaway information which fleets can put into practice on day one when they return to work. It happens every year for me!"

**Tim Eckhardt, CTP**, newly appointed Chair of NPTC's Safety Committee and Director of Safety, Dot Transportation, Inc., says, "The safety conference is just a great venue to learn and network with safety experts who really are on the leading edge of best practices and innovation. My expectations are exceeded every year I attend."



Examples of topics presented are: lessons learned from impact of COVID-19 on safety and operations; safely managing the aging driver workforce; how to mitigate liability for shippers and private fleets: are you prepared?; roundtable discussions on driver shortage and driver screening; best practices of driver training, personal conveyance; distracted driving policies; working with third parties to improve safety compliance; data-informed decision making, and how to implement a new safety incentive program.

Other breakout sessions will discuss Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse; workers' compensation reduction strategies, enhancing driver engagement in an age of active safety technology, and the enhanced safety factor in accelerated tractor replacement cycles.

Two top federal safety officials will address the conference: Mike Graham, Member, National Transportation Safety Board, and Meera Joshi, Deputy Administrator, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (invited). Leading truck accident attorneys will address safety-practices-as-a-defense in lawsuits, and Rick Schweitzer, NPTC General Counsel will present his special monthly Washington Report update on the latest legislative and regulatory affairs affecting private fleet trucking, sponsored by **TransForce Group**.

As has been the case for the past ten years, **International Truck/Navistar** will sponsor the **NPTC National Driver All-Stars Recognition Ceremony and Luncheon** from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 9, 2021. Nearly two dozen winning drivers for 2021 from individual NPTC member companies (and winners from 2020 as well) will be honored for their exceptional performance in safety, regulatory compliance, and customer service.

NPTC's block of rooms at the Omni Orlando Resort Championsgate is rapidly selling out fast at a special rate of \$180 per night. Please note that this rate is also available to NPTC guests staying two nights over the weekend following the conference. For further details about the conference, see [www.nptc.org](http://www.nptc.org).