**PeopleNet manager, Joey Wood, graduates at top of CTP class**

One of the highlights of the National Private Truck Council Annual Education Management Conference and Exhibition is always the recognition of those who have successfully completed the rigorous Certified Transportation Professional (CTP) training and certification program. This year’s conference in Cincinnati, OH, was no exception.

Sixty-nine graduates received their certification—a record number for a single class. Gary Petty, NPTC president and CEO and Tom Moore, NPTC senior vice president, education presented the plaques to the graduates who attended the conference.

[Fleet Owner](http://www.fleetowner.com/), which sponsors the Top CTP Graduate Award, was also on hand to help honor Joey Wood, platinum customer manager for [PeopleNet](http://www.peoplenetonline.com) and the CTP top Graduate for 2012. He received a crystal eagle as a symbol of his achievement.

Wood, who joined PeopleNet in 2009, says that he did not expect to graduate at the top of his class, but that he is proud of the CTP certification. “Training is valued pretty highly at this organization,” he said. “When they asked me if I wanted to participate in the CTP program, I said ‘yes;’ [it was a great opportunity].”

Back in January, Wood began working toward his certification by attending the annual CTP training program offered by the NPTC Institute. After that, he settled down to a month of studying and practicing—especially for the case study portion of the certification test.

According to Wood, his wife and two children (an eight year-old girl and a five year-old boy) were very understanding when he had to study at home in the evenings. “My family was very supportive,” he says. “They all understood what I had to do.”

Fellow PeopleNet employees who had already earned the certification were also a huge help, he notes. “We had people right here at the company that I could talk with about the test,” Wood says. “That made a big difference.”

“I am not an advertiser when it comes to this stuff; I don’t like to be boastful,” he adds.” In fact, when they e-mailed me to say I was the top graduate, I wrote back asking ‘Are you sure you got the right person?’ I was just hoping to pass the test the first time so that I did not have to retake it again in March.”

Still, Wood is proud to wear the CTP pin. “The training is valued by PeopleNet and its customers,” he says. “Those CTP initials really mean something. They give you more credibility.”

NPTC considers the CTP designation to be “the pinnacle of excellence among private fleet practitioners and one of the most rigorous standards obtainable within the transportation industry. Certification is the recognition of achievement and experience, a validation of management skills, a demonstration of commitment to the transportation industry and a vehicle for continuing education.”

By Wendy Leavitt, **Director, Editorial & Market Development, Fleet Owner**

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