



# NATIONAL PRIVATE TRUCK COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

## ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS OF THE NATIONAL PRIVATE TRUCK COUNCIL



**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)

### PRIVATE FLEETS LEAD IN SAFETY

A self-selected sampling of 63 private fleet members of NPTC reported a combined 13.7% reduction in accident frequency in 2004 (the first year under the new Hours-of-Service rules) compared to 2003. These same companies reported a rate of .4248 accidents per million vehicle miles compared to the .763 average recordable crashes per million miles for large trucks industry-wide as reported to the FMCSA in 2001. From this comparative data, private fleets have a 45% better accident-per-million-vehicle-miles experience compared with the average experience for the rest of the trucking industry. The information was included in NPTC's Filed Comments on HOS submitted to FMCSA on March 10, 2005, which can be found under the Members Only "Legislative" section of NPTC website, [www.nptc.org](http://www.nptc.org)

### PRIVATE FLEET JUSTIFICATION PROGRAM

NPTC has begun development of a special program that will aid private fleet managers in justifying their private fleet operations based on comparisons with successful "archetypical" business models of peer-type companies and research-based private fleet benchmarking standards. The program will also be a useful tool in helping companies put together a business plan for establishing a private fleet from scratch. Details of the program will be presented to the NPTC National Advisory Board meeting on Saturday afternoon, April 23, 2005, at the Westin Hotel, Pittsburgh, preceding the Annual Conference the following day.

### DRIVER SAFETY LETTER

A new monthly publication has been added under the SAFETY tab on the NPTC website, [www.nptc.org](http://www.nptc.org). February was the first edition. The goal is to provide member companies with timely driver safety topics that can be posted as is or edited for use internally. Suggestions for content can be sent to NPTC's Director of Safety Compliance, Bob Inderbitzen, CTP, ([safetybitz@aol.com](mailto:safetybitz@aol.com)), (423) 884-3770.

### NPTC/CUMMINS, INC. FUEL ECONOMY ONLINE WORKSHOPS

Through a special joint venture arrangement, NPTC and CUMMINS, INC., will launch a series of online workshops on subjects like fuel economy and vehicle power spec'ing geared to the fleet manager. These courses are available free to NPTC fleet members. A special "white paper" on fuel economy developed will be available to NPTC members through the Council's website at [www.nptc.org](http://www.nptc.org)

### ▶ "LAST CALL FOR PITTSBURGH"—APRIL 24-26

**There is still time** to register for the Council's Annual Education Management Conference and Exhibition, which we expect to be our largest attended event in five years. Last minute walk-in registrations welcomed, although the incredible special discount \$119 room rate at the Westin Hotel will probably be sold out. Check out the NPTC website at [www.nptc.org](http://www.nptc.org) for details.

### ▶▶ 2005 PRIVATE FLEET BENCHMARKING SURVEY UPDATE

**The Final Report** of the study will be ready for sale at our Annual Conference in Pittsburgh after a special panel of private fleet managers discusses details of the Final Report. Some 200 private fleet companies completed the Survey Questionnaire—the largest response ever to an NPTC study of this kind. Cost of the Survey is \$150 for NPTC Members and \$300 for non-Members.

### ▶▶▶ NPTC BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

The recently-completed Board of Directors' election produced the following results, listed by Membership Division: Allied Small Supplier Division Board member, ROBERT S. ABBOTT (re-elected), TransForce Services Group; Heavy Duty Division Board member, JEFFREY P. JAEGER, CTP, (elected), Dean Foods Company; Medium & Light Duty Division Board member, HAIG R. DIKIJIAN, CTP, (re-elected), Verizon Logistics; Third Party Provider Division Board member, LANCE BERTRAM, CTP, (re-elected), Idealease of North America; Conference Planning Committee Chair, DEBRA A. STONE, CTP, (re-elected), McKee Foods Corporation; Legislative & Regulatory Advisory Committee Chair, RICK FOSTER (re-elected), Wal\*Mart Transportation, LLC; Membership Chair, TONY B. JOLLY, CTP, (re-elected) General Mills. A board seat for Third Party User Division was not filled.

Other members of the NPTC Board are MATTHEW W. PETERSON, CTP, Mack Leasing System, Inc., NPTC Board Chairman; HARRY J. HANEY, III, Kraft Foods, Inc., Vice Chair-Chair-Elect; MICHAEL P. PARRISH, PACCAR Leasing Company, NPTC Treasurer; MIKE BREEDEN, Cummins, Inc., Allied Large Volume Supplier Division Board Member; KEVIN CONNORS, CTP, ConAgra Foods, Inc., Medium & Light Duty Division Board Member; KEN HIGGINS, J.F. Fick, Inc., National Advisory Board Fleet Representative Board Member; JOHN HINTON, Harris Teeter, Inc., Heavy Duty Division Board Member; GARY A. KELLY, The Schwan Food Company, Heavy Duty Division Board Member; DAVID T. LAPALOMENTO, National Advisory Board Allied Representative Board Member; BILL PATTERSON, ADM Trucking, Inc., Heavy Duty Division Board Member; BRUCE J. PERKINS, CTP, Yorktowne, Inc., Chair, Safety Committee Board Member; GARY S. PUTNAM, CTP, BP, Chair, PR/Marketing Committee Board Member, and RON TARTT, CTP, Bridgestone/Firestone, Chair, NPTC Institute Board of Governors. GARY F. PETTY, NPTC President and CEO, serves as ex-officio member of the Board and RICHARD P. SCHWEITZER, Esq., serves as General Counsel to the Board.

# COMING EVENTS

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

**April 24-26, 2005**—NPTC Annual Education Management Conference & Exhibition, Westin Hotel and David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA

## SPECIAL NPTC MEETINGS

**Saturday, April 23rd**, Westin Hotel, Pittsburgh  
 9:30 a.m. to Noon NPTC Institute Board of Governors  
 1:00 – 3:30 pm NPTC Board of Directors  
 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. National Advisory Board (Discussion of Private Fleet Justification Program)  
 4:30 – 6:00 pm PR/Marketing Committee  
 5:00 - 6:00 pm Planning Committee  
 Sunday, April 24th Westin Hotel Pittsburgh  
 7:30 – 9:00 am Membership Committee  
 7:30 – 9:00 am Safety & Legislative/Regulatory Committees—Joint Meeting  
 2:45 – 4:30 Membership Division Meetings

## 2005 NPTC/IDEALEASE SAFETY COMPLIANCE SEMINARS

**April 4th**—  
Dallas, TX

**April 13th**—  
Marshfield, WI

**April 14th**—  
Hyattsville, MD

**April 20th**—  
Milwaukee, WI

**May 3rd**—  
North Las Vegas, NV

**May 5th**—  
Aurora, Colo

**May 12th**—  
Cleveland, OH

**May 19th**—  
Tampa, Fla

**May 26th**—  
Liverpool, NY

**June 2nd**—  
Cincinnati, OH

**June 16th**—  
Charleston, SC

**June 23rd**—  
Youngstown, OH

**June 30th**—  
Peoria, Ill

**July 7th**—  
Grand Junction, CO

**July 14th**—  
Davenport, IA

**July 21st**—  
Iron Mountain

**July 28th**—  
Decatur, Ill

See [www.nptc.org](http://www.nptc.org)  
or call Corey Keane  
at (847) 304-3208  
for details

## NPTC FALL MEETINGS

**NPTC Board Retreat, Dulles, Virginia September 13, 2005**  
**NPTC Board & Committee Meetings, Dulles, Virginia, September 14-15**  
**NPTC NATIONAL SAFETY CONFERENCE, Hyatt Dulles Hotel, Dulles, Virginia September 15-16, 2005**

## NPTC FILES HOS COMMENTS

**In comments filed before the FMCSA, NPTC** supports the “current” HOS rules as originally set forth in 2003 with one exception—additional flexibility in the 14-hour daily on-duty limit. NPTC believes that the 14-hour limit...has had another unintended result that creates a disincentive to operate commercial motor vehicles safely. Under the prior rules, a driver could extend the daily on-duty limit by taking a break during the day. Although this created a longer overall workday, the driver could accumulate significant rest during the day and finish a trip or task without fatigue due to the break.

Under the new rules, the 14-hour limit may not be extended by taking a rest break during the day. NPTC is concerned that this inflexible 14-hour limit will contribute to a perception among drivers that the must “hurry” throughout the day in order to stay within the rules, giving drivers incentive to speed, for example. If a driver gets sleepy during the day, carriers typically had a policy allowing or directing the driver to pull off the road and take a break or nap. The 14-hour rule acts as a deadline that discourages such actions and drivers may feel forced to continue driving instead of stopping.

NPTC supports an amendment that would allow drivers to extend the 14-hour daily on-duty limit up to two additional hours by taking a break (and recording it as off-duty time) during the workday. The FMCSA has already recognized that driver safety will not be irreparably harmed by driving past the 14-hours window as the agency has allowed drivers in local distribution operations to use an additional two hours on duty time once a week. NPTC does not intend this exception to create a regular 16-hour workday, but instead to allow drivers to take a break during the day when circumstances require.

## FIVE STAR MEMBERSHIP REACHES RECORD NUMBER

**A RECORD NUMBER OF NPTC MEMBERS HAVE** joined the ranks of Charter Membership in the NPTC Five Star Membership Program. In addition to paying their regular membership dues, the companies also contribute \$5,000 annually to the NPTC Institute in support of NPTC's education, training and certification programs. The companies which have joined to-date are: ALCOA WHEEL PRODUCTS; BRIDGE-STONE/FIRESTONE; CUMMINS; DTF TRUCKING; FIRST FLEET CORPORATION; IDEALEASE OF NORTH AMERICA; INTERNATIONAL TRUCK & ENGINE; J.J. KELLER & ASSOCIATES; MACK TRUCKS; MICHELIN NORTH AMERICA; PENSKE TRUCK LEASING; PEOPLELEASE; PEOPLETNET; RYDER SYSTEM; THE SCHWAN FOOD COMPANY; USIS/DAC SERVICES; VERIZON LOGISTICS; VOLVO TRUCKS NORTH AMERICA; WAL\*MART TRANSPORTATION, LLC; and XATA CORPORATION. For information on becoming a Five Star Member, contact Gary Petty, NPTC President and CEO at (703) 683-1300, ext. 221 and check out the FIVE STAR MEMBER LOGO at [www.nptc.org](http://www.nptc.org).

## CTP GRADUATION

Over 30 private fleet professionals successfully passed their Certified Transportation Professional (CTP) examinations in February and March and are eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies to be held at the opening general session of the NPTC Annual Conference, Sunday, April 24, 2005, in Pittsburgh, PA. Graduates will receive a diploma certificate, a certification plaque, a CTP lapel pin and membership card at the ceremony. Over 450 private fleet professionals have received the CTP certification.