

Arkansas Trucking Association
Maintenance & Technology Council Meeting
07/08/08

Welcome

I'd like to call the 47th meeting of the Arkansas Trucking Association's Maintenance and Technology Council to order at this time. This is your council and I encourage your involvement and hope everyone takes away some benefit for your time invested.

Housekeeping

- Point out emergency exits
- Informal Meeting format, feel free to use the facilities as needed and point out location
- Out of courtesy to others, please turn off or put on silent cell phones and pagers, if you need to make a call step out of the room
- Participation is encouraged but please be recognized then stand and state your name
- Robert's Rules of Order, as revised will govern Proceedings

Safety message

In keeping with the tradition started by our first Chairman Mr. Carl Tapp we will watch a short video on Safety. (Put on safety glasses.)

http://www.safetyvideosnow.com/High_impact_eye_protection_safety_video_p/19004a.htm Follow the link to view the video. At the end of the day we must lead by example. If you put on your safety glasses when walking around your shops you will be surprised to see how quickly they start showing up on the faces of your employees.

Introductions

First we would like to thank Mr. Mike Hurley of Michelin tires who spoke to us about the fuel saving and advantages of using wide based single tires

Today we have the top technicians of the state here with us to go over how the championship went for them and how we as a council can improve on the contest here are the technicians on the panel today:

Truck Techs:

George Russell from MHC Kenworth, Grand Champion and 1st place Work Order

Ryan Deleon from Cal-Ark, 1st place Air Conditioning

Derek Castle from Diamond International, 1st place Engines and at this time would like to present his plaque and prizes

Chad Pinkley from Truck Centers of AR, 1st place Service Information

Matt Patrick from Truck Centers of AR, 1st place Drive Train

Cal Dee Parmain from J.B. Hunt Transport, 1st place Tires and Steering & Suspension

Trailer Techs:

Robert Brister of J.B. Hunt Transport, Trailer Tech Grand Champion - 1st in Air Systems & Brakes, Electrical, PMI and Suspension

Larry Montgomery of CalArk International, Trailer Tech Grand Champion Runner-up - Top Score on Written Exam

Now I would like for us to do self-introductions.

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Reading of the minutes of the last meeting dated

The minutes were published on the web site after our last meeting in Rogers. May we have a motion to approve those minutes? Is there a second?

Reports of Standing Committees

Mr. Mike Jeffress will give us report on the wrecker committee. Mike Jeffress reported that the wrecker committee had restructured and that he was now chair. Mike also reported that due to concerns over anti-trust issues the original idea of creating a blacklist of unscrupulous vendors had been scrapped in favor of a recommended best practices document to be distributed to the vendors as well as to the State Police.

Mike Jeffress also delivered the TAG report.

Claudio Garcia a TMC member and member of the PTDC gave an update on the upcoming Fall TMC meeting in Nashville, TN. Details from Claudio's report and more information may be found on the following website;

<http://www.truckline.com/NR/rdonlyres/64375976-A3D4-497D-A343-2AF436EBF7E1/0/08FallMtgPromoWEB.pdf>

Mr. Kenneth Calhoun will give us report on membership and annual dot inspection committees. The Membership Committee met last week via conference call, sort of... and e-mail. We have restructured our committee and elected a new Chairman. Mr. Dean Green of McKee Foods has accepted the responsibility of heading up our group and you can look forward to some new membership enhancing activities soon. Unfortunately our previous idea of printed brochures seems to have died a slow painful death at the publisher's office.

As for the Annual Inspection program, I spoke last week with Mr. Steve Keppler of CVSA and that initiative is still alive and well. Mr. Keppler and company are working on an inspection training and certification program of their own. Their program starts off with web based training as a prerequisite to the instructor led training which is then followed by the trainee doing actual vehicle inspections under the scrutiny of the trainer. The idea behind the program is to lend credibility to the inspector certification in the eyes of the highway enforcement officers (something that is sorely lacking today according to Mr. Keppler) at the end of the program the inspector would be authorized to affix a Gold Check decal to the vehicle that passed inspection. The version we have asked for proposals on would be branded by the Arkansas Trucking Association's Maintenance & Technology Council and would meet the first two criteria. Furthermore participants would have the option of completing the Gold Check program if they so desired. More will follow when the proposal has been submitted.

Chairman's discussion

Today's Chairman's discussion will focus on the gentlemen seated at the table in front and their thoughts on the competition. To start off I would like for each of you to tell us

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what you liked best about the competition and then where we might improve for next year before passing the microphone to the next person.

Each of the contestants said that the competition experience was a positive one and made the following suggestions for improvement:

1. We would like to view the area after the competition rather than waiting in a room for the scores to be tabulated.
2. We would like to see more variety in the types of trailers used in the competition.
3. The small rooms inside need more privacy as contestants could hear each others responses during the competition.
4. We would like to see what was missed so that the competition had more educational value.
5. We would like to see older trucks used so that there were more issues to detect.
6. We would like to see more defects in the trailer competition cracked rails for example.

At this point the audience was allowed to ask questions of the contest winners they were:

Q. Would you be satisfied with having scores provided rather than having the defects identified since we use some defects from one year to the next?

A. I suppose but we would still like to get more educational value.

Q. Would an evening training session the day before the competition be of interest to the group? This would be similar to the training fair held in conjunction with TMC's Super Tech competition.

A. Yes.

New Business/Old Business

Is there any other old business we need to address today? None noted.

Is there any other new business from the audience at this time?

Mr. Dannie Hughes was recognized and addressed the issue of non genuine fifth wheel rebuild kits making it into the marketplace that are failing and causing potentially dangerous situations. Mr. Hughes showed a brochure identifying the failed part which may be found at the following web site.

<http://www.fifthwheel.com/techinfo/non-gen%20parts%20advisory.pdf>

Is there any further new business from the floor?

Thank presenters

We want to thank the panel for all their information they have presented to us today.

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At this time if there is no further business I would entertain a motion that we adjourn to lunch. Said motion was offered, seconded and passed.

Dismissal