UTAH TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2026



CELEBRATING SAFETY AND LEADERSHIP
2026 UTA PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION & SAFETY AWARDS

NEARLY 150 DRIVERS SHOWCASE SAFETY AND SKILL
2026 UTAH TRUCK DRIVING CHAMIONSHIP

DRIVING THE INDUSTRY FORWARD
2026 UTA MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE & TRUCK EXPO

UTAH TRUCKING

UTAH'S VOICE IN TRUCKING

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Utah's Voice in Trucking

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President's Message

As we enter the final months of 2026, I want to share some of the exciting work happening within the Utah Trucking Association, along with a few challenges facing our industry that deserve our attention.

When I began my term as President, I shared two primary goals: reconnecting with our "why" as an association and growing our membership. I still believe our association's strength comes from the people and businesses we represent. Our responsibility is to advocate for our industry, provide meaningful value to our members, and ensure that Utah's trucking community has a strong voice in the decisions that affect our future.

Strengthening Our Association

One of our priorities over the past several months has been to take a closer look at how our association operates and identify opportunities to strengthen our foundation for the future. I'm pleased to share that we have completed updating our bylaws to better reflect today's business environment and the evolving needs of our membership. As part of this effort, we also reviewed our organizational structure, committees, and leadership responsibilities to ensure we operate effectively and position the association for continued success.

While updating bylaws and reviewing organizational structures may not always be the most exciting work, they are essential to building a strong, effective association. Strong organizations don't happen by accident. They require thoughtful leadership, accountability, collaboration, and a willingness to adapt. I'm proud of the work our leadership team has accomplished and appreciate the time and commitment everyone has contributed to this process. These improvements provide a stronger foundation as we continue reconnecting with our "why," growing our membership, and ensuring the Utah Trucking Association remains a valuable resource and powerful voice for our industry.

I'm also excited to share that planning for our 2027 Annual Convention and Trucking Expo is already approximately 98% complete! I want to give a special shout-out and thank you to our Convention Committee, led by our 1st Vice President, **Mark Lawver of Stokes Trucking**.

Mark and the entire committee have done an outstanding job bringing everything together, dedicating countless hours of planning, coordination, and hard work to ensure another successful event.

Our annual convention is one of the best opportunities to bring our industry together, strengthen relationships, recognize accomplishments, and showcase trucking's tremendous contributions to Utah's economy. Events like this don't happen without people willing to step up and make a difference. I truly appreciate Mark's leadership and the efforts of everyone serving on the committee. I'm looking forward to another outstanding convention and the opportunity to celebrate our industry together!

Legislative Advocacy — We Need Your Voice

As we prepare for the 2027 Utah Legislative Session, I want to bring an important issue to everyone's attention.

During the 2026 legislative session, UTA joined with the broader business community in opposing SB 211, Tort Amendments. Although the bill did not pass, there is concern that similar legislation could be introduced again in 2027.

At the heart of this issue is how civil lawsuits calculate medical damages. The proposed legislation would have limited defendants' ability to present evidence of the actual amounts paid for medical treatment, including negotiated insurance rates, discounts, and adjustments.

For trucking companies, this is significant. We operate in an industry with substantial liability exposure, and commercial auto insurance remains one of our most challenging expenses. When evaluating claims, we believe the actual economic cost of medical care should be considered rather than relying solely on an original billed amount that may never have been paid or owed.

Following the Utah Supreme Court's 2025 decision in Gardner v. Norman, this issue has become particularly relevant. The decision supported using the amount actually required to satisfy medical expenses when determining past medical economic damages.

Our association is gathering real-world examples of how this decision has affected trucking companies, including claim settlements, insurance reserves, litigation costs, and liability exposure.

We need your help.

If your company has experienced a claim where actual medical costs affected the outcome, or if your insurance provider, broker, or claims administrator has information demonstrating the financial impact, I encourage you to share that information with UTA Executive Director Rick.

We are not looking for confidential claimant information. Examples can be anonymous. We need credible numbers and real experiences that help legislators understand how these decisions affect our industry.

This is a perfect example of why our association matters. Individually, we may have limited influence, but collectively, we can provide a powerful and informed voice on issues that directly impact our businesses.

Global Uncertainty and the Rising Cost of Diesel

Beyond the legislative challenges here at home, our industry continues to feel the effects of an increasingly uncertain geopolitical environment.

The ongoing conflict in the Middle East and disruptions to energy shipments through the Strait of Hormuz have created significant volatility in global oil markets. For those of us in trucking, these events aren't just headlines from halfway around the world. They directly affect the cost of moving freight, maintaining equipment, and operating our businesses.

Diesel prices have become an especially difficult challenge. Rising fuel costs put tremendous pressure on operating margins, especially for smaller fleets and carriers that may not be able to absorb sudden increases or quickly adjust fuel surcharges.

And fuel is only part of the equation. Higher energy costs can affect manufacturing, agriculture, consumer spending, and ultimately freight demand. When our customers face higher costs and economic uncertainty, those pressures eventually reach the transportation industry.

Many of us are asking: When will we see some relief?

There are reasons to be cautiously optimistic about longer-term improvements as global energy production and shipping routes recover. However, continued geopolitical tensions, limited diesel inventories, and seasonal demand suggest we should prepare for elevated prices and near-term volatility.

As business leaders, we cannot control global conflicts or energy markets, but we can control how we respond. Managing costs, maintaining operational discipline, strengthening customer relationships, and planning for uncertainty will remain critical.

This is another area where our association can provide value by sharing information, advocating for sound policies, and helping members navigate an increasingly complicated business environment.

Moving Forward Together

Throughout my career, both in business and coaching, I've believed that leadership is about helping others become the best version of themselves. That philosophy carries directly into how I view my responsibility as President of the Utah Trucking Association. Accountability, Leadership, People, Honesty, and Adaptability are values that have guided me for years. They remind me that our responsibility isn't simply to talk about challenges, but to take action, support one another, and continually look for ways to improve.

I want our members to feel that this is their association. Your ideas, concerns, participation, and willingness to get involved are what will determine our success.

As we prepare for 2027, I encourage each of you to stay engaged, share your perspectives, and help us introduce new companies and industry partners to the benefits of UTA membership. The stronger our membership, the stronger our voice.

I often remind myself of a quote from John Quincy Adams:

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader."

That is the type of leadership I hope we continue to build throughout our association.

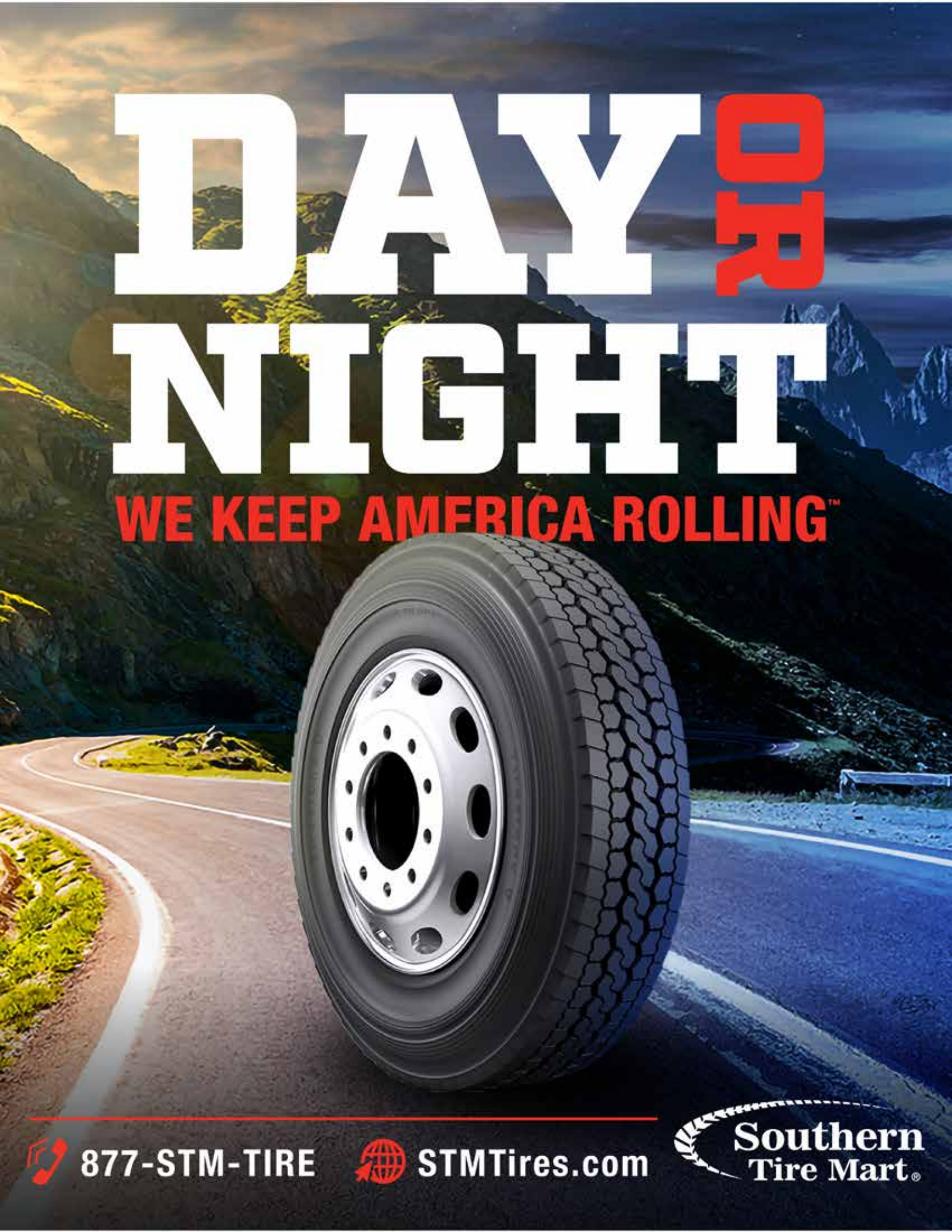
Thank you for your continued support and for everything you do to keep Utah and America moving. I am excited about the direction we are heading and what we can accomplish together.

Work Hard. Help Others. Keep Going.

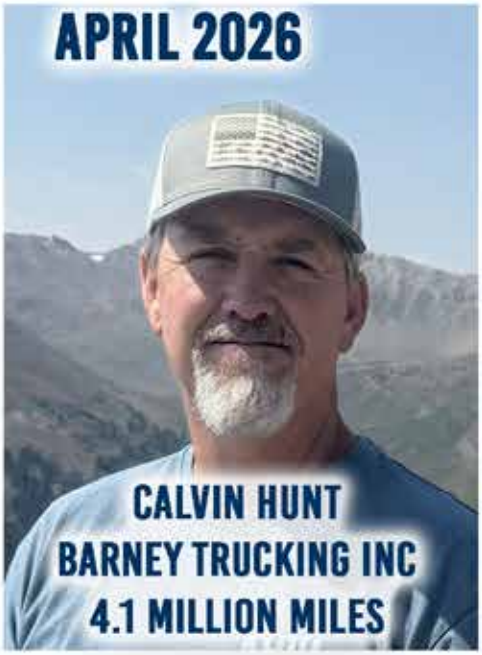
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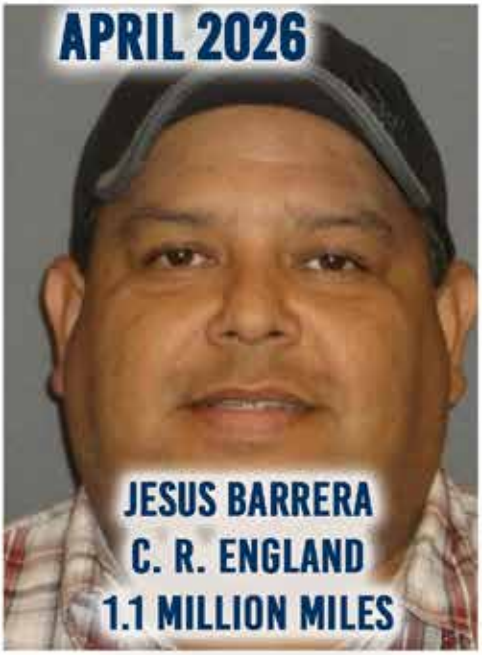
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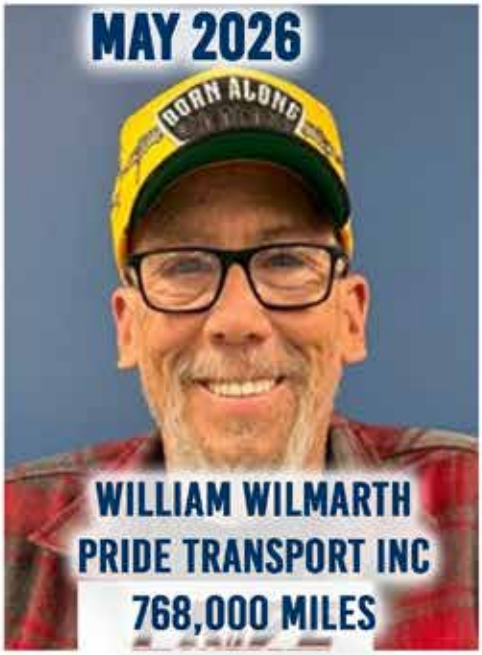
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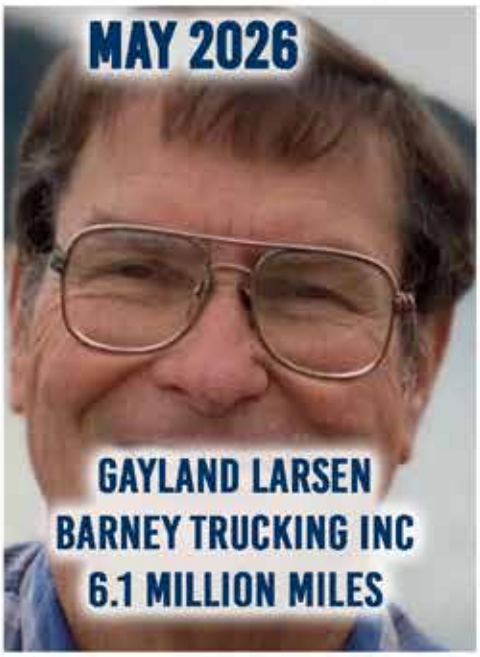

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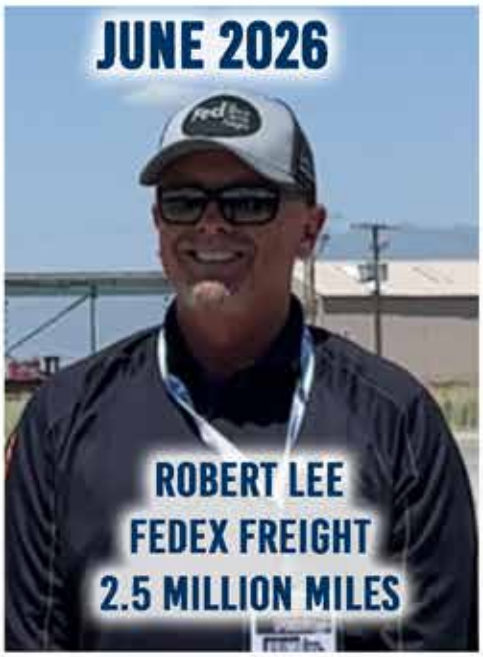
UTAH TRUCKING ASSOCIATION
DRIVER OF THE MONTH











UTAH SAFETY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Meet the Driver Recruiter of 2030:

How AI Will Change the Way Fleets Hire Drivers



A truck driver finishes his day at 10:30 p.m., parks for the night and starts scrolling social media on his phone.

He sees an ad that catches his attention and submits his information.

Today, what happens next depends heavily on the fleet. Maybe a recruiter calls the next morning. Maybe someone sends a text two days later. Maybe the lead lands in an applicant tracking system and waits in a queue.

By the time someone reaches him, he may already have spoken with three other carriers.

Now imagine the same situation in 2030.

Within seconds, the driver receives a personalized response. An AI recruiting assistant asks when he would like to talk, answers basic questions about the position and begins gathering information about his experience, endorsements, home-time expectations and preferred routes.

When the conversation ends, a human recruiter receives a summary:

Qualified CDL-A driver. Four years of OTR experience. Interested in regional work. Home-time expectations align with the position. Available tomorrow at 2:30 p.m.

The recruiter is no longer starting with a name and phone number.

The recruiter is starting with a conversation worth having.

That is where artificial intelligence could have its biggest impact on driver recruiting over the next several years.

The Recruiter Who Never Clocks Out

One of AI's most valuable advantages may have very little to do with intelligence.

It is availability.

Traditional recruiting departments operate largely during business hours. Truck drivers do not.

Drivers work nights, weekends, early mornings and irregular schedules. The moment a driver has time to explore another job may be the exact moment when a recruiting department is closed.

AI changes that.

An automated recruiting assistant can acknowledge a candidate immediately, begin a text conversation, answer frequently asked questions and schedule the next step without requiring a recruiter to be available around the clock.

That does not mean fleets should start calling drivers at midnight. It means recruiting can become responsive on the driver's schedule instead of the recruiter's.

In an industry where multiple carriers may be competing for the same experienced driver, shortening the time between "I'm interested" and "I'm talking to someone" could become a significant competitive advantage.

In driver recruiting, speed matters because interest has a short shelf life. A driver who takes the time to respond at 10:30 p.m. is signaling that the opportunity is relevant now, not necessarily tomorrow afternoon.

The first carrier to respond will not always win. But the carrier that waits two days to respond may never get the opportunity to compete.

From More Leads to Better Opportunities

Truck driver recruiting has traditionally focused heavily on lead volume.

How many leads did the campaign generate? What was the cost per lead? How many applications came through a job board or social media campaign?

Those numbers matter, but they do not answer the question that matters most:

How many qualified drivers did we actually speak with?

A fleet can generate hundreds of leads and still struggle to fill seats if recruiters spend most of their time chasing candidates who do not meet the company's requirements.

AI could help change that equation.

Future recruiting systems could begin organizing candidate information almost immediately. Does the driver have the correct license? Enough experience? The necessary endorsements? Is the driver located in an area that works for the fleet? Do home-time expectations align with the position? The goal is not simply to identify more leads. It is to identify the drivers who are qualified, reachable, interested and aligned with the position.

Instead of manually uncovering every piece of information through repeated calls, recruiters could receive a clearer picture before they ever pick up the phone.

The recruiting department of the future may spend less time asking, "Who should I call?" and more time asking, "Which qualified driver should I call first?"

The End of the Endless Call List

Anyone who has recruited drivers knows the routine.

Call. No answer. Leave voicemail. Send text. Move to the next candidate.

Repeat.

That work is necessary, but it is not necessarily the best use of a skilled recruiter's time.

AI could increasingly handle many of those repetitive activities. Automated systems can initiate follow-up, recognize when a candidate responds, collect basic information and alert a recruiter when human involvement becomes valuable.

That changes the recruiter's role.

Instead of spending most of the day trying to create conversations, recruiters can spend more of the day actually having conversations.

That may be the most important promise of AI in recruiting.

Not replacing recruiters.

Giving recruiters more opportunities to recruit.

Far More Personal Recruiting

AI could also allow fleets to personalize the candidate experience at a scale that has historically been difficult to achieve.

Two drivers may look at the same job very differently.

One may care most about home time. Another may prioritize equipment. Another may want predictable lanes. Someone else may simply be unhappy with how they are treated at their current company.

In the past, those differences were usually discovered only after a recruiter had a conversation with the driver.

Increasingly, technology can help identify those priorities earlier.

A driver focused on home time could receive information specifically addressing home time. Someone interested in equipment could receive details about the fleet. A candidate who says, "I'm interested, but I'm not ready to move for another month," could enter a long-term nurturing process rather than disappearing from the recruiting pipeline.

Instead of every candidate receiving the same automated messages, the recruiting journey could become more adaptive.

AI Will Make Human Recruiters More Important

The biggest question surrounding AI is often whether it will replace people.

In driver recruiting, the more useful question is which parts of the job actually require a person.

Does a recruiter need to manually send every interview reminder? Probably not.

Does a recruiter need to personally enter notes from every initial conversation? Maybe not.

But persuading a driver to leave a carrier where he has worked for six years is different.

So is discussing concerns about home time, explaining the realities of an operation, overcoming objections or building enough trust that a driver believes what the company is telling him.

Those are human conversations.

The irony is that the more transactional work AI removes, the more important strong recruiters become.

The recruiter of 2030 could spend less time acting as a database administrator and more time serving as a salesperson, relationship builder and closer.



AI Will Not Fix a Bad Recruiting Process

There is also a major warning for fleets eager to adopt AI.

Automation magnifies processes.

If a recruiting process is strong, AI can make it faster and more scalable.

If the process is poor, AI can make those problems faster and more scalable too.

A fleet should not automate confusion, slow communication or unrealistic job expectations. If the job advertisement says one thing, the recruiter says another and operations delivers something else, AI will not solve the problem. It will simply help more drivers encounter it sooner.Technology cannot compensate for misleading job information, poor communication, unrealistic expectations or an employment opportunity drivers simply do not want.

And once every fleet has access to similar AI tools, technology itself will stop being the differentiator.



The differentiators will still be home time, equipment, compensation, freight, culture, reputation and how drivers are treated.

AI may raise the standard for recruiting responsiveness, but fleets will still have to answer the same fundamental question:

Why should this driver choose us?

The Recruiter of 2030 Is Still a Recruiter

By 2030, artificial intelligence will likely play a much larger role in sourcing, communication, qualification, scheduling and follow-up.

But processing an applicant is not the same as recruiting a person.

Changing carriers can affect a driver's income, family, schedule and quality of life. Those decisions involve trust.

The most effective future recruiting model will likely combine both technology and people.

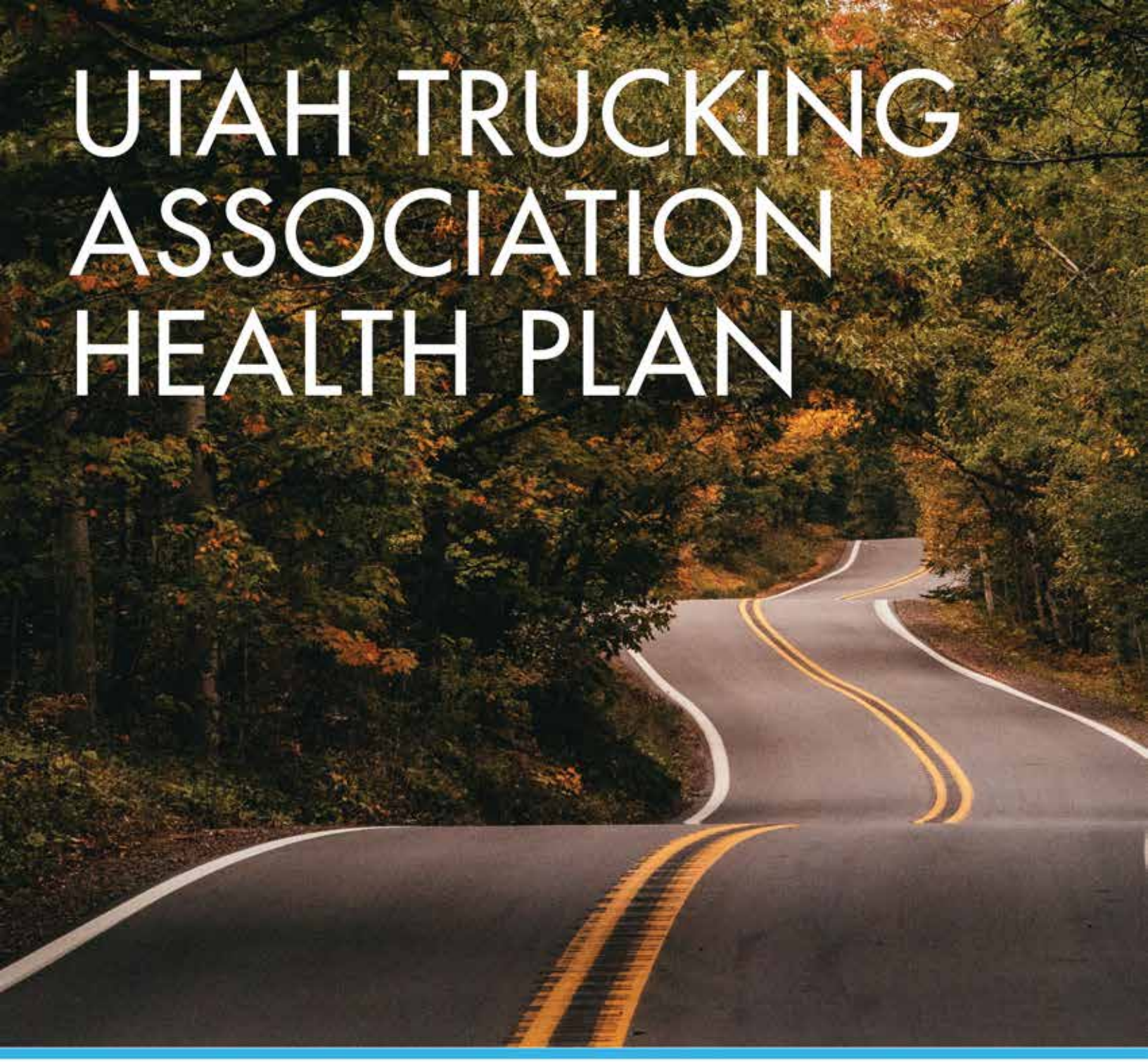
AI will handle more of the repetitive work surrounding the recruiting process.

Human recruiters will focus on the moments where judgment, persuasion and relationships matter most.

The driver recruiter of 2030 may have an AI assistant working beside them every hour of the day.

But when a qualified driver finally asks, "Why should I come drive for you?" the answer will be human.

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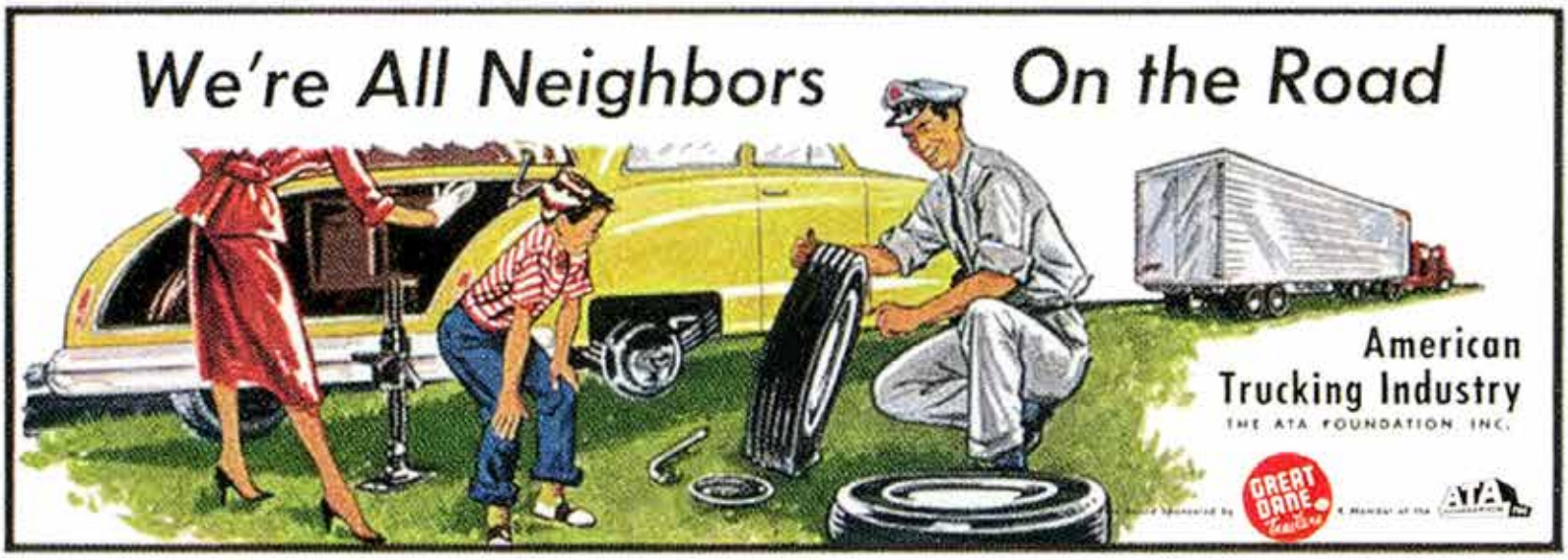
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2026 UTA SPORTING CLAY TOURNAMENT

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KICKS OFF MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE



THE UTAH TRUCKING ASSOCIATION KICKED OFF ITS 2026 MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE & TRUCKING EXPO WITH A BANG

106 shooters gathered in Hurricane, Utah, on May 6 for the annual UTA Sporting Clay Tournament.

The tournament has become a favorite tradition surrounding the Management Conference, giving UTA members and industry partners an opportunity to enjoy some friendly competition, connect with one another, and spend a day outdoors before the conference officially got underway.

This year, teams took on a challenging 200-shot sporting clay course, putting their shooting skills to the test throughout the day. After the final shots were fired and scores were tallied, Francis Trucking came out on top. The winning team consisted of Justin Francis, Hayden Francis, Shane Francis, and Kaden Francis. Congratulations to the Francis Trucking team on an outstanding performance!

The competition didn't end with the team event. Following the sporting clay course, individual shooters had another opportunity to test their skills during the always-entertaining Annie Oakley Shootout, providing a fun finish to a great day of shooting and camaraderie.

UTA would like to extend a special thank-you to North American Trailer, this year's Title Sponsor. Their support went well beyond sponsorship, as they helped plan the tournament and provided the awards for the event. Their continued involvement and support helped make this year's tournament a success.

We would also like to thank Stokes Trucking and Francis Trucking for sponsoring the ammunition for this year's tournament. A special thank-you also goes to Purcell Tire and Jackson Group Peterbilt for sponsoring refreshments and traveling around the course throughout the day to keep teams supplied with snacks and drinks.

Additional thanks go to Beehive Insurance Agency, Regence BlueCross BlueShield, WCF Insurance, and Parke Cox Trucking for their sponsorship and support. Events like this would not be possible without the companies and individuals who continue to support the Utah Trucking Association and Utah's trucking industry.

WITH 106 SHOOTERS, PLENTY OF FRIENDLY COMPETITION, AND A GREAT GROUP OF UTA MEMBERS AND PARTNERS, THE 2026 SPORTING CLAY TOURNAMENT WAS A FANTASTIC WAY TO KICK OFF THIS YEAR'S MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE & TRUCKING EXPO.





Mark your calendars for 2027! The UTA Sporting Clay Tournament will return to Hurricane, Utah, on Friday, May 7, 2027. We look forward to another great tournament and hope to see everyone back on the course!



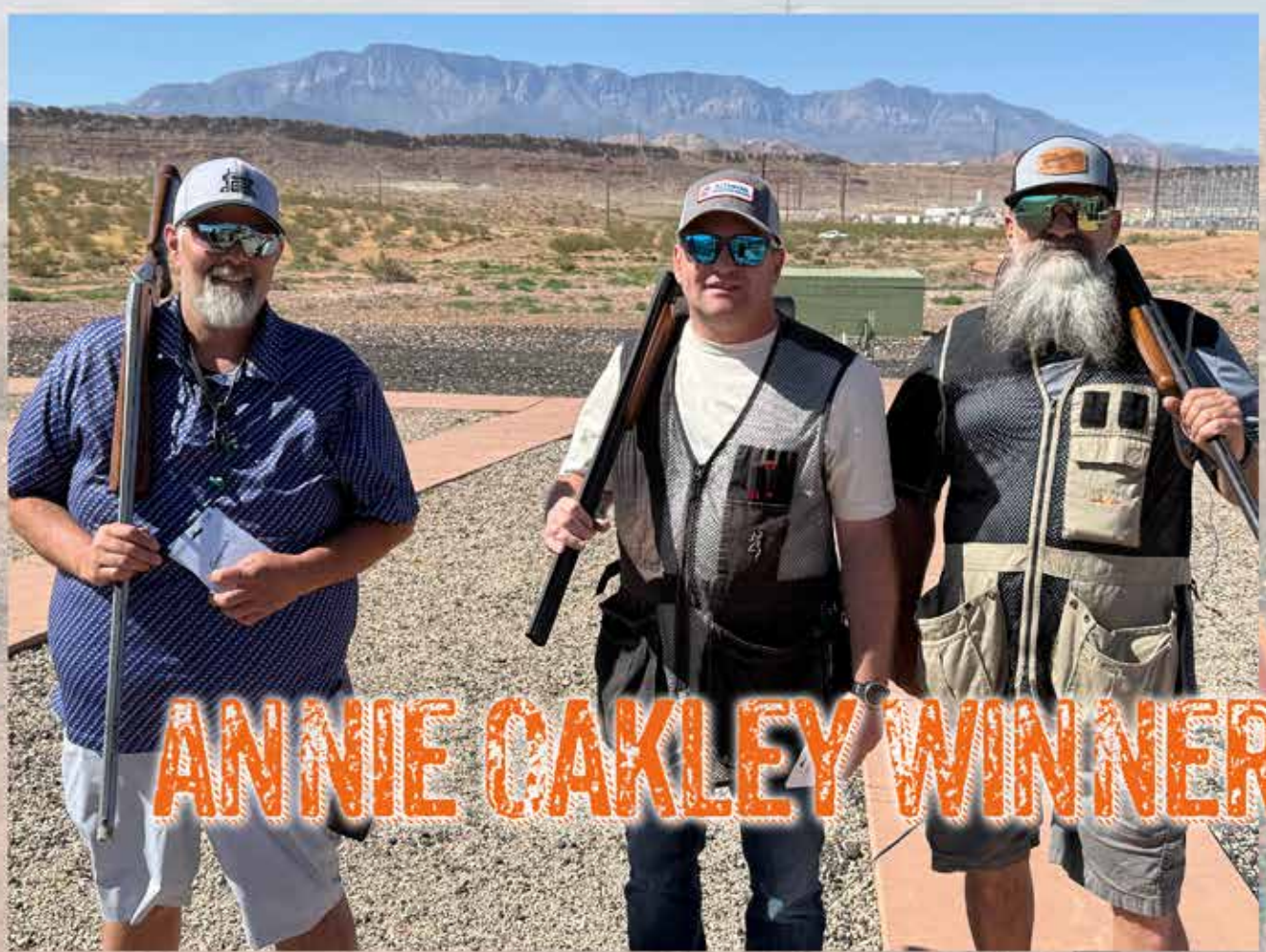
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2026 UTA Management Conference & Trucking Expo Brings More Than 430 Industry Professionals to St. George

The Utah Trucking Association welcomed more than 430 attendees to St. George for the 2026 Management Conference & Trucking Expo, bringing together trucking professionals, industry partners, vendors, speakers, and friends for several days of education, networking, entertainment, and celebration.

Held at the Dixie Center in St. George, this year's conference enjoyed beautiful Southern Utah weather and a tremendous turnout. The Truck Expo was packed with displays featuring 40 exhibit booths, 14 tractor spaces, and 9 trailer spaces, giving vendors the opportunity to showcase the latest products, equipment, technology, and services available to the trucking industry.

The success of the conference was also made possible by the incredible support of 30 sponsoring companies. UTA is grateful for the continued involvement of our sponsors, exhibitors, and industry partners who help make this event possible year after year.

Getting the Conference Underway

Activities began Wednesday, May 6, with setup day at the Dixie Center. Tractors and trailers rolled into place, exhibitors prepared their displays, and attendees began arriving to pick up their registration packets and get ready for the days ahead.

Meanwhile, 106 shooters made their way to Hurricane, Utah, for the 2026 UTA Sporting Clay Tournament, providing a fun and competitive way to kick off the conference.

That evening, everyone came together to officially open the convention with a Dutch oven dinner and opening ceremony, followed by one of the conference's most popular traditions—Casino Night.

Attendees tried their luck at blackjack, Texas Hold'em, roulette, and craps tables, competing to collect as many raffle tickets as possible for a chance to take home some great prizes. The evening offered plenty of friendly competition while giving attendees a relaxed setting to reconnect with old friends and make new industry connections.







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The Truck Expo Opens

Following the morning session, the doors opened to the 2026 Truck Expo.

With all 40 exhibit booths, 14 tractor spaces, and 9 trailer spaces filled, attendees had plenty to see as they made their way through the expo. Vendors did an outstanding job showcasing their companies, products, equipment, and services while celebrating the industry we all work to support.

This year's conference also introduced Vendor Bingo, giving attendees a little extra incentive to explore the show floor, meet exhibitors, and learn more about participating companies. Completed bingo cards gave attendees a chance to win even more prizes later in the conference.

While the expo was underway, attendees also had opportunities to participate in additional activities and breakout sessions. The UTA Bingo Extravaganza, sponsored by King Farms Trucking, once again proved to be a popular event, offering another opportunity for attendees to socialize, have some fun, and compete for prizes.

Between Casino Night, Vendor Bingo, the Bingo Extravaganza, and other drawings throughout the conference, there certainly wasn't a shortage of opportunities to go home a winner!

Education, Recognition & Industry Insight

Thursday morning started bright and early with breakfast before attendees gathered for the conference's general session.

UTA was pleased to welcome Jesse Elison, Deputy Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), as the morning's featured speaker.

Following the presentation, UTA turned its attention to recognizing several individuals for their contributions to the association and Utah's trucking industry. The morning awards presentation included the Distinguished Service Awards, Safety Supervisor of the Year Award, President's Award, and David R. Free Award.

The recognition provided an opportunity to celebrate individuals whose service, leadership, safety efforts, and dedication continue to make a difference within Utah's trucking community.





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Learning From Industry Experts

After the expo hall wrapped up, attendees could choose from three breakout sessions featuring experts covering topics relevant to today's trucking industry.

This year's presenters included Rebecca Brewster, President and COO of the American Transportation Research Institute (ATRI); Marshall Lindsey with the Materials Science & Engineering Institute at the University of Missouri; and Tyler Sumner, Founder and CEO of Link-X, along with Jonathan Brems, Vice President of Product at Link-X Fleet Solutions.

These sessions provided attendees with additional opportunities to learn about research, technology, innovation, and other developments affecting trucking operations today and into the future.

Following the breakout sessions, members of the Utah Trucking Association Board of Directors gathered for the association's mid-year Board Meeting.











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Another Successful Year in St. George

The 2026 Management Conference & Trucking Expo once again demonstrated what makes the Utah trucking community special. With more than 430 people in attendance, a packed exhibit hall, dozens of sponsors, outstanding speakers, educational opportunities, industry recognition, and plenty of time to network and have some fun, this year's conference was one to remember.

Events of this size simply wouldn't happen without the support of many people.

The Utah Trucking Association would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of our speakers, sponsors, vendors, exhibitors, volunteers, members, and attendees who helped make the 2026 Management Conference & Trucking Expo such a success. Whether you presented from the stage, displayed equipment on the expo floor, sponsored an event, volunteered your time, or simply came to participate, your support made a difference.

We are already looking forward to doing it all again next year!

The 2027 Utah Trucking Association Management Conference & Trucking Expo will return to St. George, Utah, May 5–7, 2027.

Mark your calendars, and we'll see you in Southern Utah!



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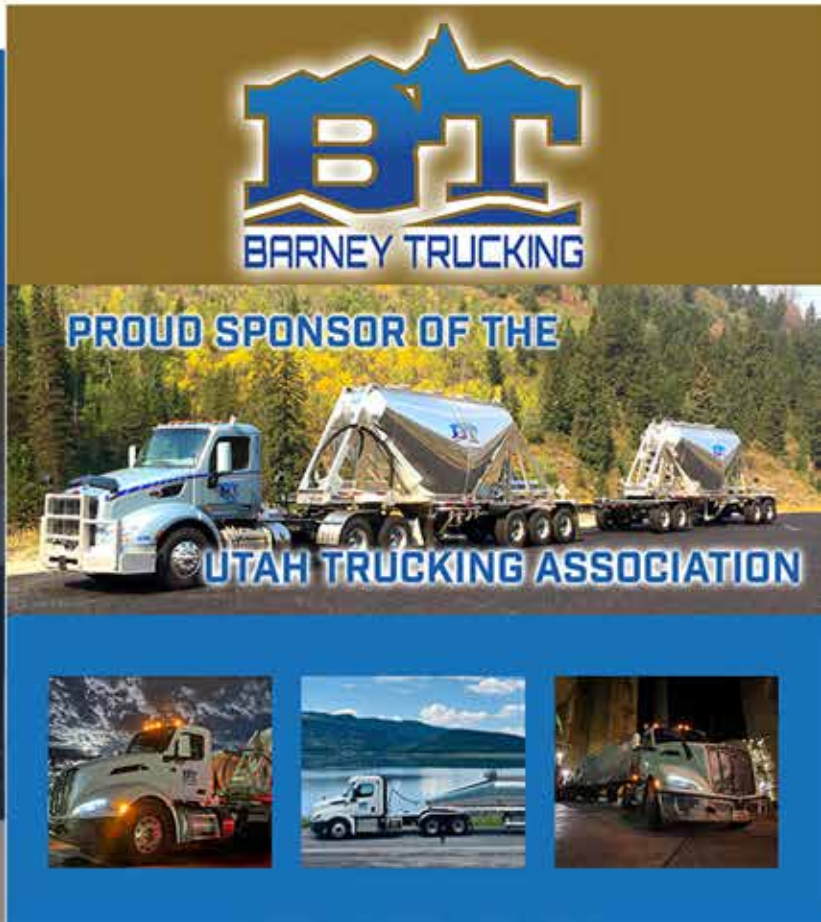
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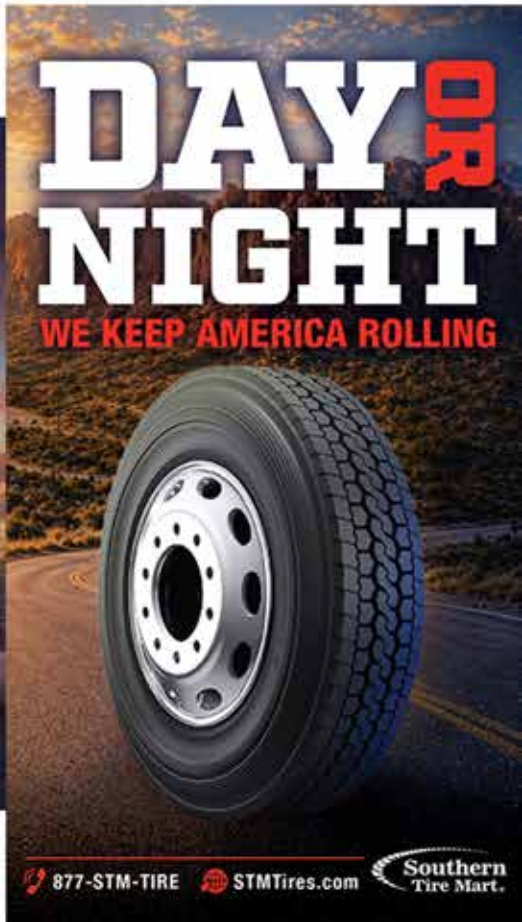
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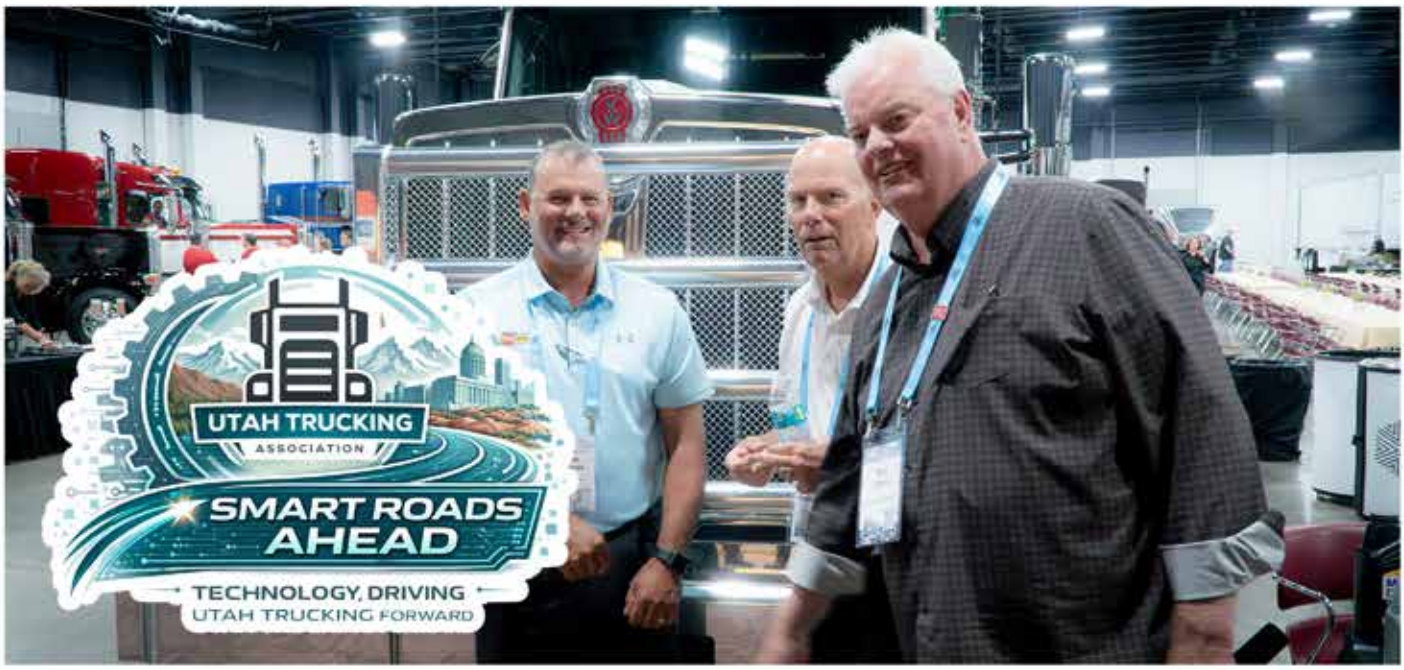

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CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

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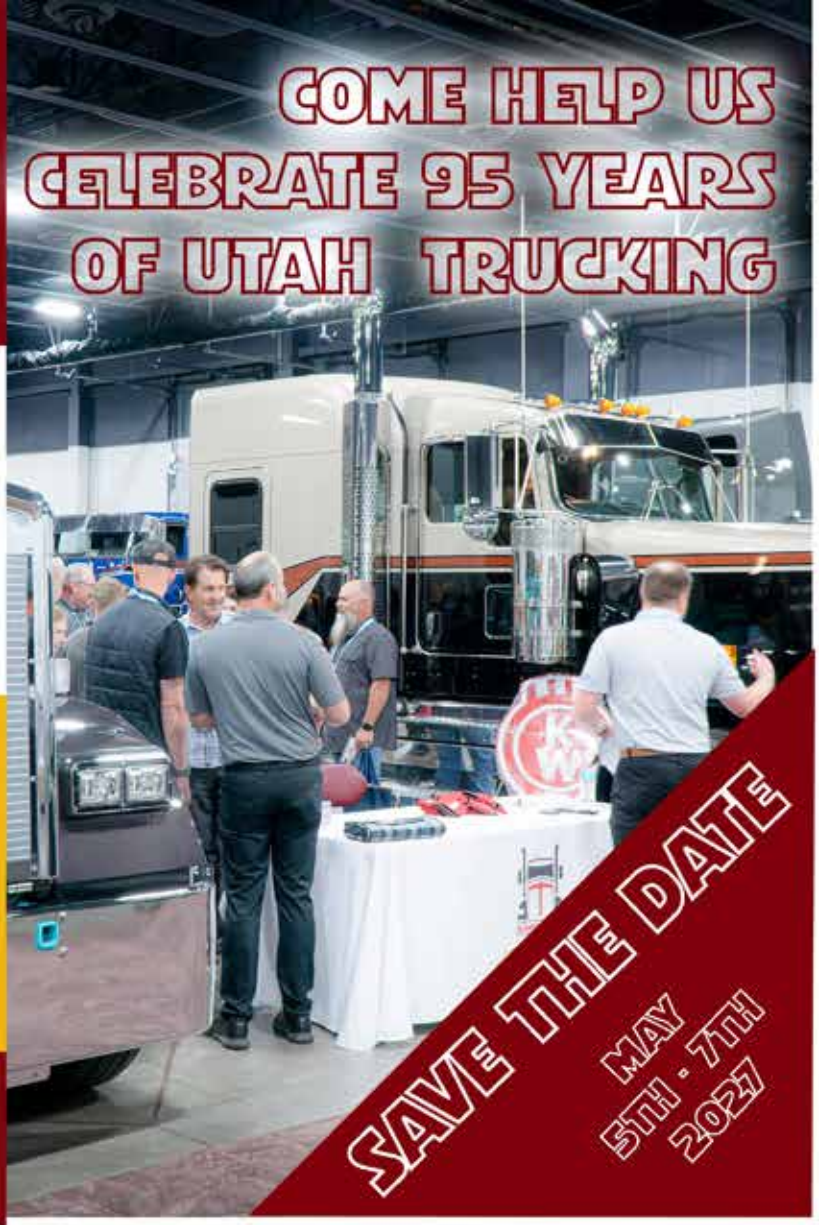




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Celebrating Safety and Leadership

2026 UTA President's Reception & Safety Awards

The Utah Trucking Association brought its 2026 Management Conference and Trucking Expo to a celebratory close on Thursday, May 7, with the President's Reception and Safety Awards Ceremony. The evening provided an opportunity to recognize the companies and individuals whose commitment to safety, leadership, and service continues to strengthen Utah's trucking industry.

Conducted by UTA President Adam Lindsay, the evening capped off several days of educational sessions, industry networking, exhibits, and events. Members, sponsors, exhibitors, guests, and industry leaders gathered together one final time to celebrate another successful conference and recognize outstanding achievement throughout the association.

UTA extends a special thank you to Kenworth Sales Company for sponsoring the President's Reception and helping provide a relaxed setting where attendees could enjoy hors d'oeuvres and spend additional time visiting with customers, colleagues, friends, and family.

A major focus of the evening was the annual Safety Awards Ceremony, sponsored by Great West, an Old Dominion company. Safety remains one of the core values of the trucking industry, and the awards provided an opportunity to recognize carriers and operations that demonstrated exceptional performance both in the workplace and on the highway.





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Excellence in Workplace Safety Awards

The Excellence in Workplace Safety Awards recognize companies and individual operations that demonstrated outstanding workplace safety performance based on incident ratios relative to employee hours worked.

Platinum

Parke Cox Trucking
Iowa Tanklines Inc.
Stokes Trucking
Savage Services – Roosevelt
Savage Services – North Salt Lake
Savage Services – American Fork
Walmart Transportation
Barney Trucking Inc.
Fife Trucking
Airgas USA LLC

Gold

LW Miller TDSI Logan

Silver

Savage Services Coal Services
Pride Transportation
Maverick Logistics

Bronze

Holiday Trucking
LW Miller TDSI Tremonton
LW Miller Truck and Trailer Repair
Brady Trucking

Congratulations to each of these companies and operations for their continued dedication to creating safe workplaces for their employees.








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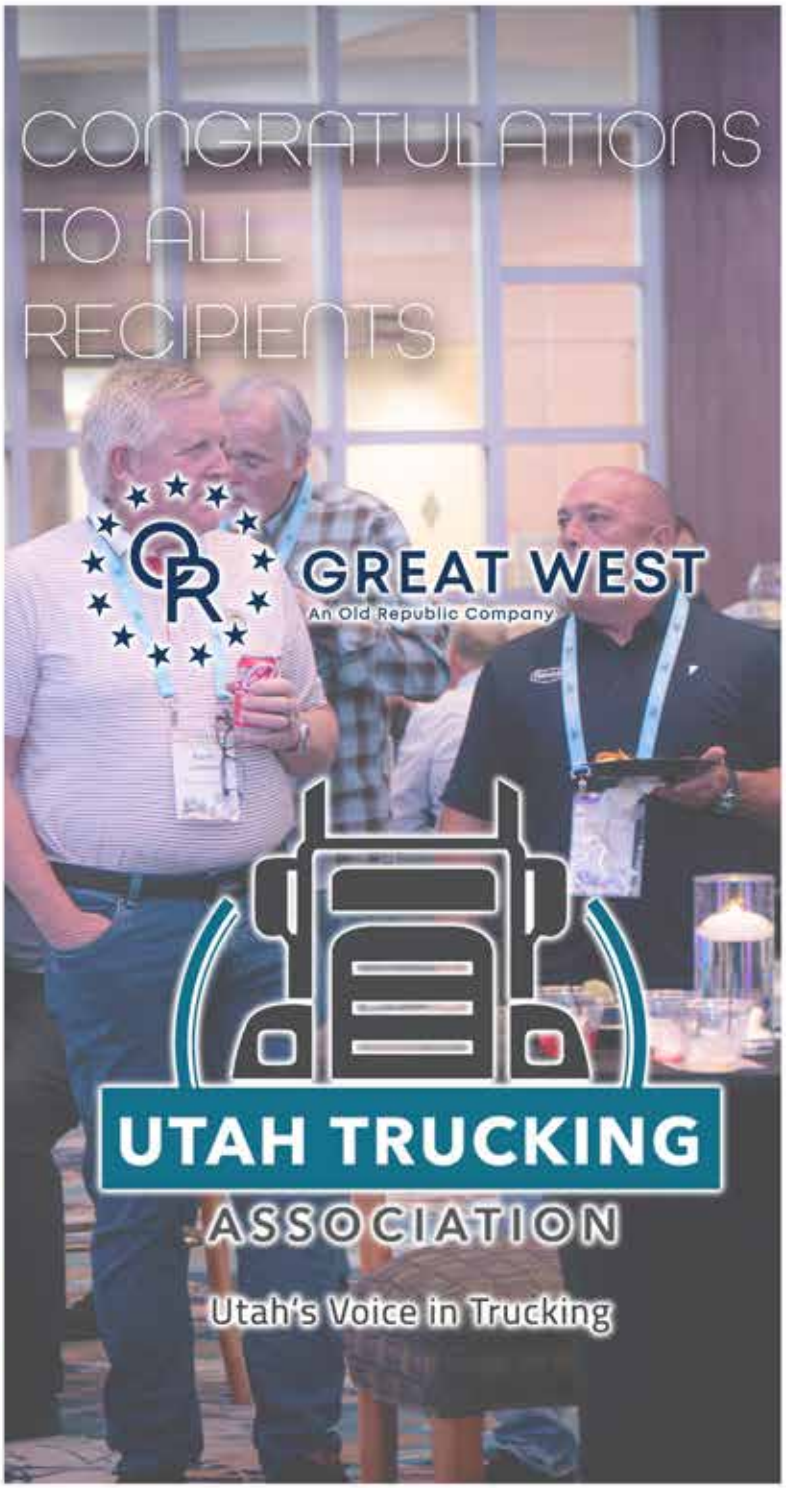

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Outstanding Safety Performance Awards

The Outstanding Safety Performance Awards recognize motor carriers for exceptional highway safety performance, professionalism, and commitment to protecting Utah's roadways. Awards were presented according to carrier classification and annual mileage.

Gold

Reed Hurst Trucking, Inc. — Tank Truck,
5–10 Million Miles
Holiday Trucking LLC — Tank Truck,
1–2.5 Million Miles
Parke Cox Trucking Co. Inc. — TLC Carrier,
5–10 Million Miles
Iowa Tanklines Inc. — Tank Truck,
2.5–5 Million Miles
Diversified Transfer and Storage — LTL Carrier,
Up to 1 Million Miles
Stokes Trucking — TLC Carrier,
5–10 Million Miles
Charlie's Produce — Private Carrier/Towing,
10+ Million Miles
Pride Transport — TLC Carrier,
10+ Million Miles
Maverik Logistics — Tank Truck,
10+ Million Miles
Deseret Transportation — Private Carrier/Towing,
2.5–5 Million Miles
Old Dominion Freight Line Inc. — LTL Carrier,
10+ Million Miles
Walmart Transportation — Private Carrier/Towing,
10+ Million Miles
Brady Trucking — Tank Truck,
10+ Million Miles
Fife Trucking, Inc. – Flatbed Division
Up to 1 Million Miles
Fife Trucking, Inc. – TLC Carrier Division —
Up to 1 Million Miles
Fife Trucking, Inc. – Dirt & Concrete Hauler Division
Up to 1 Million Miles
Barney Trucking Inc. – LTL Carrier Division —
1–2.5 Million Miles
Barney Trucking Inc. – Dirt & Concrete Hauler Division
1–2.5 Million Miles
Barney Trucking Inc. – Tank Truck Division —
1–2.5 Million Miles
Airgas USA, LLC — Private Carrier/Towing,
Up to 1 Million Miles
Alpha Transport — Tank Truck,
1–2.5 Million Miles

Silver

Soar Transportation Group — LTL Carrier,
10+ Million Miles
FedEx Freight — LTL Carrier,
10+ Million Miles

Bronze

LW Miller Diversified, Inc. — TLC Carrier,
2.5–5 Million Miles

UTA congratulates each of this year's Safety Award recipients. Their commitment to safety and professionalism helps protect drivers, employees, customers, and everyone who shares Utah's roadways.







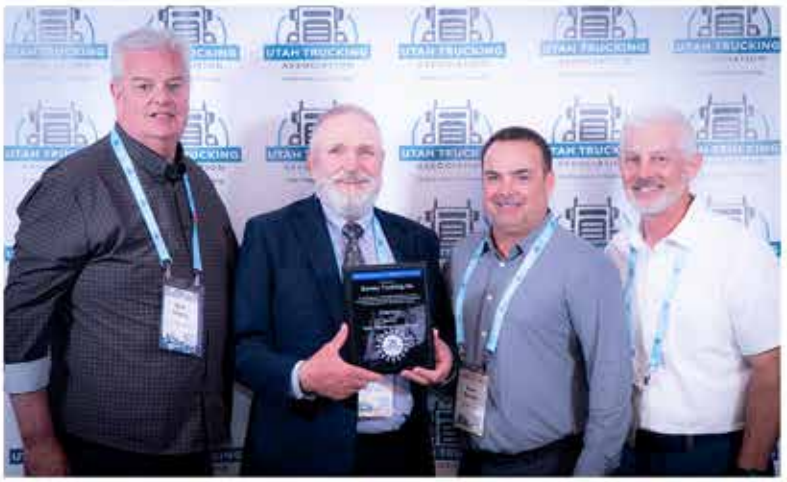




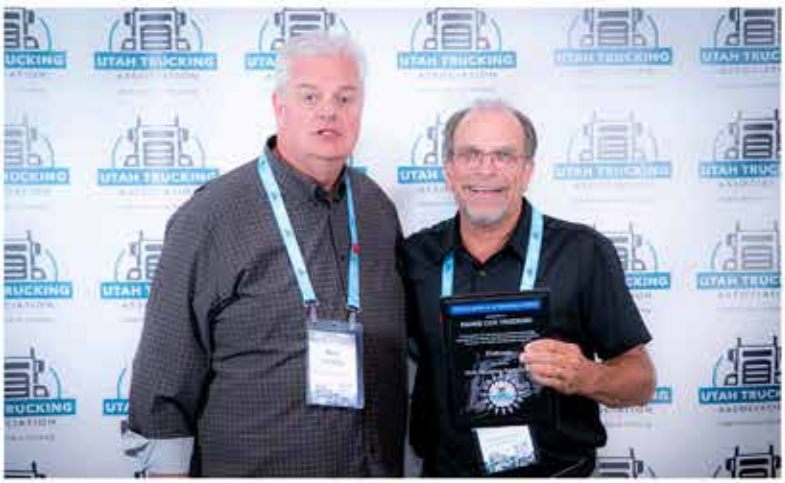










Recognizing UTA Leadership

The evening also provided an opportunity to recognize leadership appointments and transitions approved by the Utah Trucking Association Board of Directors earlier that afternoon.

UTA's officers for the 2026–2028 term are:

Adam Lindsay (Alpha Transport) President
Mark Lawver (Stokes Trucking) - 1st Vice President
Danny Hansen (Dixon Bros, Inc) - 2nd Vice President
Ronnie Johnson — (Mountain West Truck Center) - 3rd Vice President
Brandt King (King Farms Trucking) Treasurer
UTA also welcomed **Luke Braegger (Tramcor)** and **Mark Austin (Beehive Insurance Agency)** as new members of the Executive Committee and **Lee Slaugh (Basin Wester Inc)** as a newly appointed member of the Board of Directors.

The association appreciates these individuals for their willingness to serve, along with all current Board members and those whose terms were extended. Their time, experience, and involvement play an important role in guiding the association and representing Utah's trucking industry.

Recognizing UTA Leadership



UTAH TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

Utah's Voice in Trucking



Distinguished Service Award Recipient: Ladd Kennington

The Utah Trucking Association proudly recognizes Ladd Kennington with the 2026 Distinguished Service Award for his exceptional leadership, industry advocacy, and commitment to safety.

A strong supporter of the Association and its mission, Kennington has been actively engaged in helping build relationships between the trucking industry and policymakers at both the state and federal levels. He has participated in congressional meetings, hosted industry visits, and worked to ensure that the voice of trucking is heard on important transportation issues.

Kennington is equally committed to professional excellence. He has earned his Certified Director of Safety (CDS) designation and continues pursuing advanced credentials as a Certified Safety Professional (CSP). He currently serves on the State of Utah Emergency Response Commission and previously represented transportation interests on the Utah Traffic Records Coordinating Commission.

His leadership within the industry continues to expand. In 2026, Kennington was elected President of the Northern Utah Trucking Association, where he will help guide regional engagement and industry initiatives.



Through his dedication to safety, advocacy, and service, Ladd Kennington exemplifies the leadership that strengthens Utah's trucking industry and advances its future.

Congratulations Ladd!!



Distinguished Service Award Recipient: Senator Ron Winterton

The Utah Trucking Association is honored to recognize Senator Ron Winterton with the 2026 Distinguished Service Award for his longstanding support of Utah's trucking industry and his distinguished record of public service.

Before entering public office, Winterton spent 35 years as a professional truck driver. That firsthand experience continues to shape his understanding of the transportation industry and the challenges facing employers, drivers, and communities across Utah.

Representing Senate District 20 since 2019, Winterton has earned a reputation as a thoughtful and effective leader who values stakeholder input and practical solutions. During the 2026 legislative session, he played an important role in advancing policies that support Utah businesses while helping address issues of concern to the trucking industry.

Today, Winterton serves in several key leadership positions within the Utah Senate, including Chair of the Senate Government Operations and Political Subdivisions Committee. His commitment to public service, combined with his deep roots in the trucking industry, has made him a trusted advocate and respected voice on transportation issues throughout the state.



The Utah Trucking Association gratefully recognizes Senator Winterton for his leadership, service, and unwavering support of Utah trucking.

Congratulations Senator Winterton!!



Trooper of the Year: Trooper Chris Lewis

The Utah Trucking Association proudly recognizes Trooper Chris Lewis as its 2026 Trooper of the Year, honoring his exceptional commitment to commercial vehicle safety and public service.

A member of the Utah Highway Patrol since 2006, Lewis has served communities across Utah, including Wendover, Tooele, and St. George. A certified drone operator and crash reconstruction specialist, he joined the UHP's full-time truck inspection unit in 2025 after years of preparation and service.

Known for his professionalism and leadership, Lewis consistently combines effective enforcement with education and outreach. Whether conducting roadside inspections or engaging with industry professionals, he takes the time to help drivers understand the regulations designed to keep Utah's roadways safe.

His dedication, integrity, and commitment to public safety make him an outstanding representative of the Utah Highway Patrol and a deserving recipient of this prestigious recognition.



Congratulations Trooper Lewis!!



UDOT Safety Partner of the Year: Cheyenne Enns

The Utah Trucking Association is honored to recognize Cheyenne Enns as the 2026 UDOT Safety Partner of the Year for her outstanding professionalism, leadership, and dedication to highway safety.

Since beginning her career at the Echo Port of Entry, Enns has earned a reputation as a knowledgeable and respected professional who approaches every interaction with fairness, respect, and a commitment to education. She believes that effective enforcement begins with understanding and consistently helps drivers learn the reasons behind safety requirements.

Her expertise has also earned her selection as an instructor for the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA), where she helps train inspectors on federal safety standards and inspection procedures.

Beyond her technical expertise, Enns is known for her willingness to assist others, whether helping drivers resolve compliance issues, serving as a certified EMT, or supporting coworkers and her community. Her dedication exemplifies the partnership between government and industry that makes Utah's transportation system one of the safest in the nation.

Lane Murphy recieved award on Cheyenne's behalf.

UTAH TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

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Congratulations Cheyenne!!



Safety Supervisor of the Year: Brandon Crosgrove

The Utah Trucking Association proudly recognizes Brandan Crosgrove as its 2025 Safety Supervisor of the Year for his exceptional leadership and commitment to building a culture of safety.

As Fleet Safety Manager for Walmart's Private Fleet operations in Grantsville and Corinne, Crosgrove oversees safety programs supporting more than 300 professional drivers and hundreds of additional associates. His hands-on leadership style emphasizes accountability, engagement, and continuous improvement at every level of the organization.

Under his direction, Walmart's Utah operations achieved remarkable safety results, including more than 1,000 consecutive days without a workplace injury at the Grantsville facility and an OSHA Injury Rate of zero at the Corinne operation. His efforts to reduce preventable collisions, strengthen inspection performance, and improve workplace safety have established benchmarks recognized throughout Walmart's national fleet operations.

A former professional driver with more than three decades of industry experience, Crosgrove combines technical expertise with a genuine commitment to mentoring others. Through innovation, training, and leadership, he has created a lasting culture of safety excellence that benefits employees, driv-

UTAH TRUCKING
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Congratulations Brandon!!



Holiday Trucking Receives Utah Trucking Association Grand Trophy Award

The Utah Trucking Association proudly recognized Holiday Trucking as the recipient of its 2025 Grand Trophy Award.

Presented annually, the Grand Trophy Award recognizes a company that exemplifies the very best of Utah's trucking industry through outstanding safety performance, operational excellence, integrity, leadership, and commitment to the broader transportation community.

Holiday Trucking has built a reputation as one of Utah's most respected transportation companies. Known for exceptional service, reliability, and professionalism, the company has earned the trust of customers and industry partners alike through disciplined operations and a steadfast commitment to excellence.

Safety remains a cornerstone of Holiday Trucking's success. Through comprehensive safety programs, continuous training, and a culture of accountability, the company has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to protecting its drivers, equipment, and the motoring public. This dedication has helped establish Holiday Trucking as a model for others throughout the industry.

Beyond its operational achievements, Holiday Trucking has been a consistent supporter of the Utah Trucking Association and the trucking industry. The company has generously contributed its time, resources, and leadership to Association programs and events, helping strengthen the industry's voice and advance initiatives that benefit trucking companies across Utah.

The company's legacy extends far beyond business success. It has earned the respect of customers, employees, competitors, and industry leaders through its commitment to professionalism, integrity, and community involvement.

In accepting the award on behalf of Holiday Trucking, Aaron Leonard represented the many employees whose dedication and hard work have contributed to the company's continued success and outstanding reputation.

The Utah Trucking Association congratulates Holiday Trucking on this well-deserved recognition and thanks the company for its enduring contributions to Utah's trucking industry.



Greg McCandless Receives Utah Trucking Association President's Award

Former UTA President recognized for decades of leadership and service

The Utah Trucking Association proudly recognizes Greg McCandless, former owner of James H. Clark and Son, as the recipient of the Association's prestigious President's Award.

One of the highest honors bestowed by the Utah Trucking Association, the President's Award recognizes individuals whose leadership, dedication, and service have had a lasting impact on both the Association and Utah's trucking industry.

McCandless has devoted decades to supporting the Association and advancing the interests of the trucking community. His leadership journey culminated with his service as UTA President from 2022 to 2024, following years of service on the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and in each of the Association's elected officer positions.

Throughout his tenure, McCandless earned a reputation as a trusted leader who was always willing to step forward when needed. Whether providing strategic guidance, supporting Association initiatives, encouraging industry participation, or mentoring emerging leaders, his commitment to the success of UTA remained constant.

While his industry knowledge and leadership abilities are widely respected, many colleagues point first to his character. McCandless possesses a unique ability to make people feel welcome and valued.

He has built lasting friendships throughout the industry and helped foster the sense of community that remains one of the Utah Trucking Association's greatest strengths.

Known for his honesty, integrity, and thoughtful approach to difficult issues, McCandless has consistently provided candid counsel and principled leadership. He has never hesitated to address challenges directly, always focusing on what is best for the Association and the industry it represents.

His contributions extend beyond his own company and professional accomplishments. Through his generosity, mentorship, and unwavering support of the Utah Trucking Association, McCandless has helped shape the organization and strengthen the trucking industry throughout Utah.

Although he was unable to attend the awards ceremony in person, McCandless expressed his gratitude for the recognition and his continued appreciation for the Association and its members.

The Utah Trucking Association is proud to honor Greg McCandless with the President's Award and thanks him for his many years of distinguished service, leadership, and friendship.

UTAH TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

Utah's Voice in Trucking



Val and Julie Stokes Receive David R. Free Lifetime Achievement Award

Honoring a lifetime of leadership, service, and dedication to the trucking industry

The Utah Trucking Association proudly recognized **Val and Julie Stokes** as recipients of the **David R. Free Lifetime Achievement Award**, one of the Association's most prestigious honors.

Established in memory of longtime industry leader David R. Free, the award recognizes individuals whose careers reflect a lifetime of leadership, service, integrity, and commitment to advancing the trucking industry. Recipients embody the values that defined Dave's legacy: dedication to the profession, investment in people, and a desire to leave the industry stronger than they found it.

Few individuals exemplify those qualities more completely than Val and Julie Stokes.

Since founding Stokes Trucking with a single truck in 1979, the Stokes family has built a respected transportation company founded on hard work, integrity, and exceptional service. Over the decades, Val and Julie have remained actively involved in the business while simultaneously investing their time, resources, and leadership into strengthening Utah's trucking industry.

Val's contributions to industry leadership have been significant.

He has served as President of the Northern Utah Trucking Association, Treasurer of the Utah Trucking Association, and continues to serve on the Association's Executive Committee. Throughout nearly five decades as a professional driver and business owner, he has remained a trusted advocate for drivers and a respected voice within the industry.

Perhaps even more impressive than his leadership positions is the character behind them. During Julie's battle with brain cancer, Val made the decision to step aside from the Association's presidential succession process in order to focus on his family. Even during that challenging period, he remained engaged and supportive of the Association and the trucking industry he loves.

Together, Val and Julie have extended their influence far beyond trucking. Their humanitarian efforts have included supporting educational projects in Zambia, helping build schools and create opportunities for children in underserved communities. They have also supported numerous charitable organizations, including CAPSA, Utah State University, Bear River Valley Hospital, African Vision of Hope, and the Travis Mills Foundation. Their commitment to youth agriculture is evident through their long-standing support of 4-H participants at the Box Elder County Fair.

What makes this recognition especially meaningful is that it honors both Val and Julie together. Throughout their lives, philanthropy, community service, and industry involvement have been a shared endeavor. Every sponsorship, charitable contribution, and act of service has reflected a true partnership built on common values and a shared commitment to helping others.

Their legacy is measured not only by the success of their company, but by the countless lives they have touched through their leadership, generosity, and example. Through nearly five decades of service to trucking and their community, Val and Julie Stokes have demonstrated the very qualities the David R. Free Lifetime Achievement Award was created to honor.

The Utah Trucking Association congratulates Val and Julie Stokes on this well-deserved recognition and thanks them for a lifetime of service, leadership, and lasting impact.



Congratulations to Val & Julie

UTAH TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

Utah's Voice in Trucking





Closing Out the 2026 Conference

The celebration continued with the Vendor Bingo Grand Prize Drawing, recognizing attendees who spent time visiting exhibitors and supporting the companies that helped make the Truck Expo possible.

The evening marked the conclusion of another successful UTA Management Conference and Trucking Expo. More than simply a series of meetings, presentations, and events, the annual conference provides an opportunity for Utah's trucking community to come together, exchange ideas, strengthen relationships, recognize achievement, and celebrate the people who keep the industry moving.

UTA would like to thank all of our members, sponsors, exhibitors, speakers, volunteers, guests, and industry partners who helped make the 2026 conference possible.

A special thank you once again goes to Kenworth Sales Company for sponsoring the President's Reception and to Great West, an Old Dominion company, for sponsoring the Safety Awards Ceremony.

Congratulations to all of our 2026 award recipients and newly appointed association leaders. Your commitment to safety, service, and Utah's trucking community continues to make our industry stronger.

UTAH TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

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2026 Presidents Cup Golf Tournament



Wraps Up a Great Week in St. George

UTAH TRUCKING ASSOCIATION
2026
PRESIDENTS CUP
GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Utah Trucking Association wrapped up its 2026 Management Conference & Truck Expo with one of the week's most anticipated events—the annual Presidents Cup Golf Tournament. Held on Friday, May 8th, at Bloomington Country Club in St. George, the tournament brought together UTA members, sponsors, industry partners, and friends for a great day on the course.

This year's tournament welcomed 139 golfers and 25 sponsoring companies, filling the course to capacity. With nearly every available spot taken and not a golf cart to spare, it was an impressive turnout and a great way to close out another successful Management Conference & Truck Expo.

Golfers competed in a four-person scramble, but there was plenty happening beyond the competition. Hole sponsors were set up throughout the entire course, providing snacks, drinks, giveaways, and plenty of opportunities for golfers to stop, visit, and interact with fellow members of the trucking industry. One hole even featured a soda truck, while others offered games and opportunities to win prizes.







Thank You Jack!!

UTA would like to extend a special thank you to Jack White and Adam Lindsay with Alpha Transport for their help coordinating with Bloomington Country Club and making the tournament possible. Longtime UTA member Jack White took his hospitality one step further by setting up shop in his backyard along the course and passing out drinks to golfers as they made their way through their rounds.





Throughout the day, golfers also competed for individual hole prizes. Congratulations to this year's winners:

Longest Drive in the Fairway – Hole #4: **John Souza**

Longest Drive in the Fairway – Hole #16: **Nate Yankovich**

Closest to the Pin – Hole #17: **Chris Spencer**

Closest to the Pin – Hole #2: **Jim Terry**

Competition was close among the teams, but three groups finished the day at the top of the leaderboard.

3rd Place Team
Bryan Austin, Brian Arbon, Ron Montgomery, and John Souza

2nd Place Team
Paul Luenz, Colby King, Nate Yankovitch, and Parker Hansen

1st Place Team
Bill Nehmer, Rick White, Don Cox, and Brecken Cox

Congratulations to our 2026 Presidents Cup champions and all of this year's winners!







Winners



1st GOLF TOURNAMENT

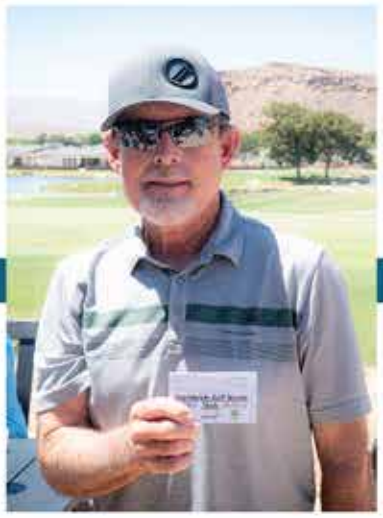
2nd GOLF TOURNAMENT





3rd GOLF TOURNAMENT

Winners



















Following the tournament, golfers gathered for lunch and the presentation of awards, bringing the 2026 Presidents Cup and the Management Conference & Truck Expo to a fitting close.

UTA extends a huge thank you to all 25 sponsoring companies, our hole sponsors, Bloomington Country Club, Alpha Transport, and every golfer who participated. The tremendous support and participation from our members continue to make the Presidents Cup one of UTA's most popular annual events.

And next year, we're switching things up!

The 2027 Presidents Cup Golf Tournament is scheduled for Wednesday, May 5, 2027. Rather than closing out the Management Conference & Truck Expo, the tournament will kick off the convention and get the week started on the course.

After filling the course to capacity in 2026, we're already looking forward to another great Presidents Cup in 2027. Thank you again to everyone who helped make this year's tournament such a success. We'll see you on the course next May!







Lunch Time

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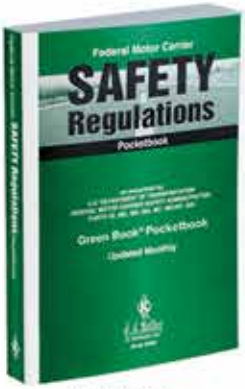
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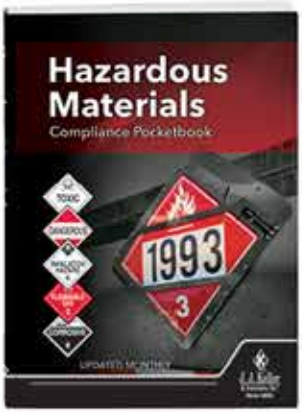


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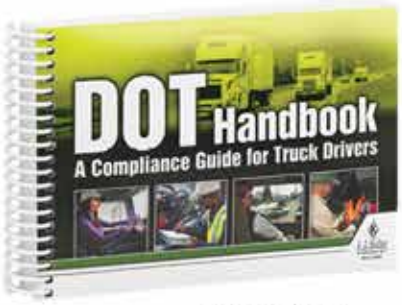
- **Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations Pocketbook**
- **Hazardous Materials Compliance Pocketbook**
- **DOT Handbook —** An easy-to-understand DOT compliance reference specifically written for new CMV drivers.



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NEARLY 150 DRIVERS SHOWCASE SAFETY AND SKILL



Nearly 150 of Utah's finest professional truck drivers gathered June 5–6 for the 2026 Utah Truck Driving Championship (TDC), demonstrating the knowledge, precision, and professionalism that keep Utah's highways safe every day.

The competition began on Friday, June 5, with the written examination held at the Utah Trucking Associationoffices. Drivers then traveled to Prime Inc.'s Salt Lake City Terminal on Saturday, June 6, where they completed the Pre-Trip Inspection and Driving Skills Course in front of judges, volunteers, family members, and fellow competitors.

Despite warm summer temperatures, competitors, volunteers, and officials powered through an outstanding day of competition. Thanks to the implementation of an online scoring system, the championship concluded in record time, allowing scores and final standings to be calculated more efficiently than ever before.

Professional drivers competed in three challenging phases of competition:

- **Written Knowledge Examination**
- **Pre-Trip Vehicle Inspection**
- **Driving Skills Course**

Each portion tested the professionalism, knowledge, and precision required to safely operate commercial motor vehicles every day.




Jason Carlsen (Walmart Transportation)

One of the biggest stories of the weekend was an unprecedented performance by Jason Carlsen of Walmart Transportation, who accomplished an incredible feat by capturing three of the event's highest honors:

- **1st Place – 4-Axle Class**
- **Rookie of the Year**
- **Grand Champion (Highest Overall Score)**

His remarkable performance highlighted an exceptional weekend of competition and will undoubtedly be remembered as one of the greatest individual performances in Utah Truck Driving Championship history.



Following the Utah championship, each class champion earned the opportunity to represent Utah at the **National Truck Driving Championships** in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. We are proud of Team Utah as they represent our state with pride on the national stage. We want to highlight that Utah competitor **Lynn Wilson of Walmart Transportation**, who earned an outstanding **3rd Place finish nationally in the Straight Truck Division**.


Lynn Wilson (Walmart Transportation)

2026 TEAM UTAH



Photo Created By: Kindra Carlsen

GRAND CHAMPIONS



TEAM AWARDS

1ST PLACE

FedEx® Freight

2ND PLACE

Walmart Transportation

3RD PLACE

Airgas®

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ROOKIE OF THE YEAR



5-AXLE WINNERS



2ND PLACE

Matthew Adams
(XPO)

1ST PLACE

Robert Lee
(FedEx Freight)

3RD PLACE

Kyle Croxford
(FedEx Freight)

4-AXLE WINNERS



5-AXLE WINNERS



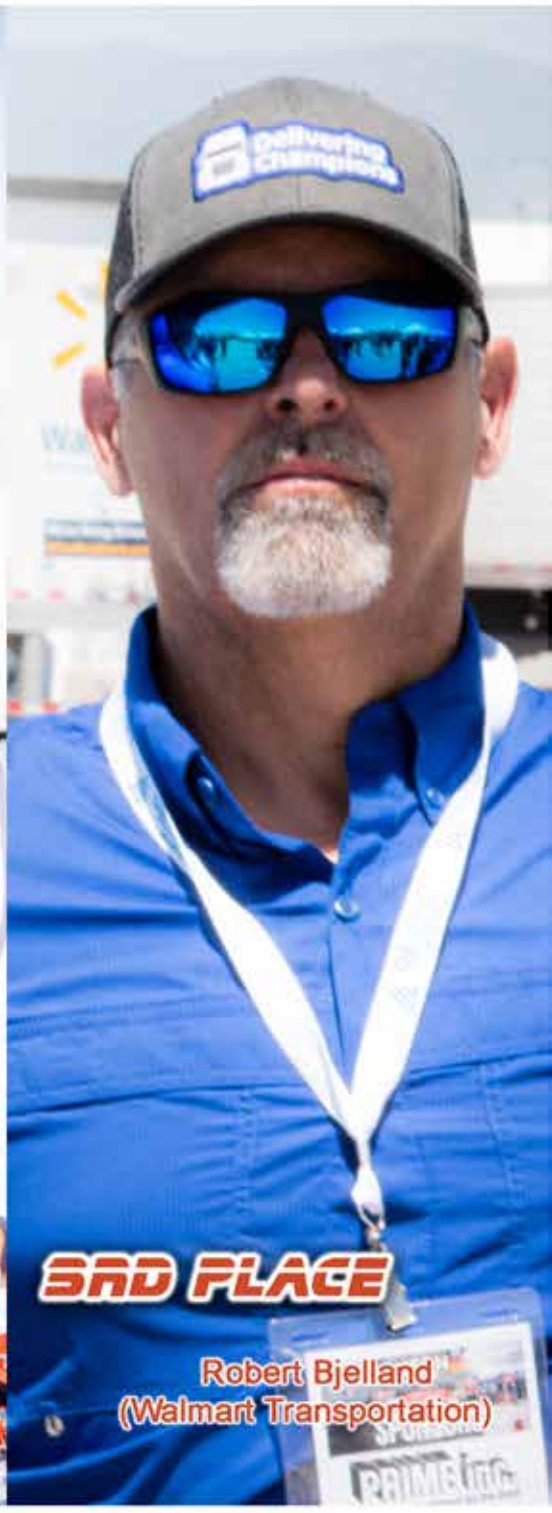
2ND PLACE

Jean Luther
(C.R. England)



1ST PLACE

Scott Ambler
(Savage)



3RD PLACE

Robert Bjelland
(Walmart Transportation)

SLEEPER BERTH WINNERS



2ND PLACE

Robert Morris
(C.R. England)

1ST PLACE

Lloyd Geck
(Walmart Transportation)

3RD PLACE

Erich Lish
(Walmart Transportation)

TANK TRUCK WINNERS



FLATBED WINNERS



2ND PLACE

Markus Pena
(FedEx Freight)



1ST PLACE

Daniel Thornton
(Prime Inc.)

Godfrey Trucking

3RD PLACE

Chris Warmoth
(Godfrey Trucking)

TWIN TRAILERS WINNERS



STRAIGHT TRUCK WINNERS



STEP VAN WINNERS



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

The Utah Trucking Association extends its sincere appreciation to the companies whose generous support helped make this year's championship possible.

A special thank you goes to **Prime Inc.**, our 2026 **Course Sponsor**, for once again hosting the driving competition at its outstanding Salt Lake City Terminal.

We also gratefully recognize:

- **Walmart Transportation** – Platinum Sponsor
- **Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc.** – Golf Sponsor
- **C.R. England** – Gold Sponsor
- **FedEx Freight** – Silver Sponsor
- **Beehive Insurance** - General Sponsor
- **WCF Insurance** - General Sponsor
- **Regence** - General Sponsor

Events like the Truck Driving Championship simply would not be possible without the continued support of these outstanding industry partners.



UTAH 2026 TRUCK DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIP

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUTEERS

The success of the Utah Truck Driving Championship is the result of hundreds of hours of planning and volunteer service.

The Utah Trucking Association extends a heartfelt thank you to the Truck Driving Championship Planning Committee, the many volunteers who assisted with crowd management, judging, and scoring throughout the event, and the professionals from the Utah Department of Transportation Motor Carrier Division and the Utah Highway Patrol, whose expertise and dedication help ensure the integrity and professionalism of the competition each year.

Congratulations to every driver who stepped onto the course this year. Whether you took home a trophy or simply challenged yourself against Utah's best, your commitment to professionalism and highway safety is something our entire industry can celebrate.

Results and award standings are based on the official 2026 Utah Truck Driving Championship results provided by the Utah Trucking Association.







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Regional Safety Leaders Gather for 2026 Rocky Mountain Safety Rendezvous

More than 70 trucking and safety professionals from across the region gathered in Post Falls, Idaho, for the 2026 Rocky Mountain Regional Safety Rendezvous. The annual multi-state meeting brought together industry leaders, safety professionals, regulators, and association representatives to discuss some of the most important safety and regulatory issues facing the trucking industry.



The Rendezvous also welcomed public-sector representatives from throughout the region, including officials from each participating state's Department of Transportation and Highway Patrol. Bringing together both industry and government representatives provided an important opportunity to share perspectives, discuss challenges, and strengthen cooperation on highway and commercial motor vehicle safety throughout the Rocky Mountain region.



This year's program featured presentations and discussions covering a wide range of timely topics, including updates from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), predatory towing, Truckers Against Trafficking, nationwide developments involving drug and alcohol issues, and other emerging safety and compliance topics.

Utah was well represented at this year's Rendezvous, with a handful of representatives from the state participating in the conference.

UTA members Brandon Crossgrove of Walmart Transportation, the Utah Trucking Association's Safety Supervisor of the Year, and Reed Newman of Great West, an Old Dominion Company, both provided state reports during the meeting. Their participation helped highlight issues, developments, and safety efforts taking place within Utah's trucking industry.

Beyond the educational sessions, the Rendezvous provided attendees with valuable opportunities to network, exchange ideas, and learn from trucking professionals and public officials throughout the region. Attendees also enjoyed an evening cruise on Lake Coeur d'Alene, providing a relaxed setting to continue building relationships with industry colleagues.

The Utah Trucking Association would like to extend a special thank you to the Idaho Trucking Association for hosting this year's Rendezvous and putting together another successful regional meeting. We also appreciate the sponsors, exhibitors, speakers, public officials, and attendees who helped make the event possible.

Next year, it will be Utah's turn to welcome the region! The Utah Trucking Association is excited to host the 2027 Rocky Mountain Regional Safety Rendezvous and looks forward to welcoming our fellow trucking associations, safety professionals, industry leaders, and state representatives to Utah for another great year of collaboration, education, and advancing safety throughout the trucking industry.









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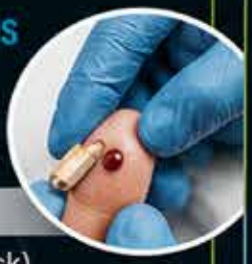
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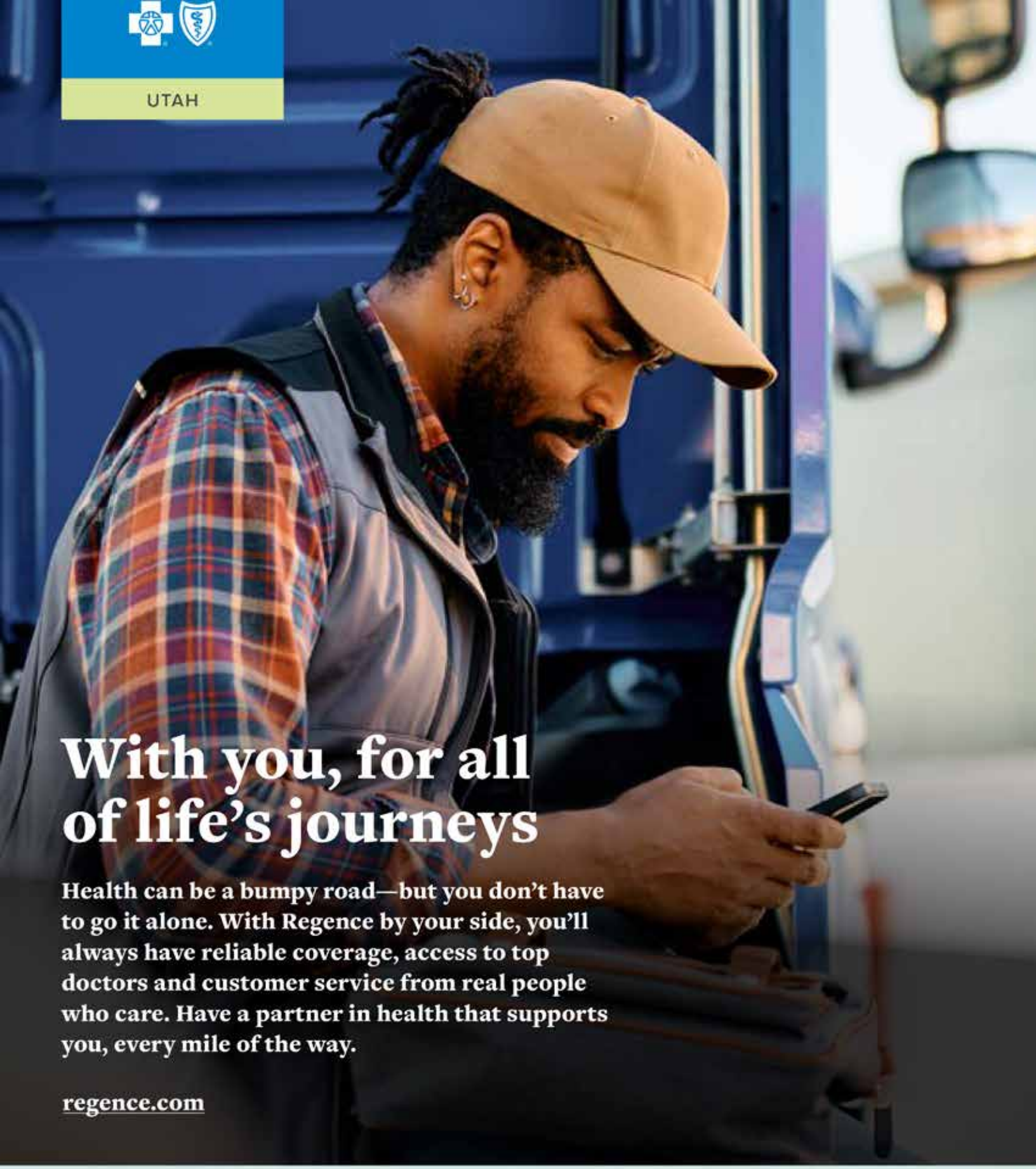
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