



# The Caltrux 5<sup>th</sup> Wheel

WEEKLY NEWS & INFORMATION FROM THE CALIFORNIA TRUCKING ASSOCIATION



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## FMCSA Streamlines Vetting Process for ELDs

On Monday the **Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)** announced a complete overhaul of the vetting process for electronic logging devices (ELDs) used by truckers helping to ensure non-compliant devices are blocked before they ever reach FMCSA's Registered ELD list.



The new, more rigorous vetting process is part of a broader Department initiative to strengthen road safety for American families while cutting costs for truck drivers and carriers. Most commercial drivers are required to use ELDs under federal law, with limited exceptions for certain short-haul operations and older vehicles.

Key features of the new-and-improved ELD vetting process include:

### Initial Review

- Verification of contact information, technical specifications, and device images.

### Fraud Detection

- Cross-checking new applications against active, inactive, revoked, and in-process lists.

### Application Categorization

- Category 1 - Approved: Application has met all necessary requirements for approval.
- Category 2 - Information Requested: Application is pending further information from the applicant.
- Category 3 - Further Review: Application requires additional internal assessment and may require additional documentation from the applicant.
- Category 4 - Denied: Application does not meet the required standards for approval.

Under the previous system, it was easier to register non-compliant devices or re-register devices that had been revoked, leading to repeated revocations and costly, inconvenient replacements for carriers. FMCSA's updated process closes this loophole, giving carriers and drivers a greater peace-of-mind that the ELDs they purchase are accurate, reliable, and compliant.

[Click here](#) to view the current Registered ELD List. To view the full announcement, [click here](#).



## ATA Urges Congress to Strengthen Veterans' Career Pathways to Trucking

At a hearing held Tuesday by the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, the **American Trucking Associations (ATA)** urged Members of Congress to expand support for veterans' transitioning into trucking careers.

Testifying on behalf of ATA was **Greg Hamm, Vice President of Field and Government Recruiting at Werner Enterprises** and a U.S. Army veteran, who underscored the vital role veterans play in strengthening America's supply chain.

"Veterans bring the values that make workplaces—and supply chains—stronger," Hamm said. "Hiring them is not charity; it is smart business."

Nearly 200,000 service members separate from the military each year, and many possess the discipline, technical expertise, and leadership qualities that translate seamlessly into transportation careers. Werner, an ATA member company, is among the nation's leading employers of veterans and military families, with approximately 20% of its 13,000 associates connected to the military and a goal of reaching 25%.

Hamm urged lawmakers to support policies that would expand training access and eliminate bureaucratic barriers that prevent veterans from embarking on good-paying trucking careers. His recommendations included:

- Increasing funding for the CMV Operator Safety Training Grant Program to expand access to high-quality CDL instruction;
- Passing the Warriors to Workforce Act to ease housing burdens for veterans enrolled in job training programs;
- Enacting the Veterans Transition to Trucking Act to streamline VA oversight of apprenticeship programs; and
- Passing the TRANSPORT Jobs Act to make it easier for veterans and their spouses to find jobs in the supply chain.

This was the eighth time ATA has been invited to speak on Capitol Hill this year.

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## AMC26: Friday Night Dinner Laughs

We're excited to announce another addition to our lineup for the **CTA 72nd Annual Membership Conference (AMC26)**,

**Comedian Eric Lyden** will headline our Friday evening inaugural dinner honoring **CTA President Timothy Pollock**.



Lyden's sarcasm and wit offer a comedy roller coaster that gets audiences to laugh about the things that are sometimes hard to laugh about.

His credits include "Comics Unleashed with Byron Allen" and "Gotham Comedy Live" in NYC. And several of Eric's spot on celebrity impressions can be heard on TV and radio nationwide.

Over AMC26's three-days - **January 21 to 23** - participate in informative sessions by day and relax among the extensive amenities by evening in and around the **Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa**.



Register now by clicking the button below, but act fast; the **discounted group room rate of \$289 plus taxes and fees expires on January 5th, 2026**. [Visit Monterey Plaza Rooms](#) to reserve your room online.

Be part of "Driving the Economy, Steering the Future" - join us at AMC26!

[Click Here for Details](#)

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A red semi-truck is shown driving on a road in a rural setting.

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A hand is shown holding a small white semi-truck model, with a larger white semi-truck driving on a road in the background.

## TRAINING & WEBINARS



### Webinar: Fleet Management with Weigh Station Bypass - From Safety Scores to Driver Retention

Having a weigh station bypass solution can help fleets to save time, operational costs, and provide visibility into data that can help improve safety scores.

In this webinar we'll break down how to maximize fleet management with a weigh station bypass plan, and in the process improve safety scores and driver retention.

**Wednesday, December 3**  
**11:00 AM - Noon**

Join presenter: **Abhi Reddy, Product Manager - Mobile Bypass & Safety, PrePass** to discuss:

- What to look for in a bypass solution
- How ISS scores affect bypass eligibility
- Getting started with a bypass solution - what to know
- Bypass and driver retention
- Using vehicle inspection data to track training and vehicle needs

[Register Here](#)

**Virtual Meeting: CARB Clean Fleet Connect Public Workgroup**

CARB invites you to participate in a **virtual public information session** to discuss a new voluntary, non-monetary incentive initiative, called the **Clean Fleet Connect** tool.



**Tuesday, December 9  
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

This tool is intended to highlight ZEV fleets, create connections for environmentally conscious businesses, and support the state's broader clean-air and public-health goals. **At the information session, staff will outline the concept behind this voluntary opportunity, invite input from interested parties, and answer questions.**

The session will be held via Zoom and interested parties must register (click the button below) to participate.

[Register for the CFC Public Workgroup Meeting](#)

## EVENTS



### One-Stop Truck Event in Sacramento

**California Air Resources Board (CARB)** continues their roadshow throughout California next week in Sacramento on December 9th.

Parking and admission are free, and **attendees are welcome to attend virtually or in-person**. Join CARB officials at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West 2200 Harvard Street, Sacramento on:

**Tuesday, December 9  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

The event will include:

- One-on-one compliance assistance with CARB staff
- Overviews of Clean Truck Check, Off-Road Diesel, and Zero-Emission Forklift programs
- Overview of Compliance Support
- Overview of Incentive Funding and Q&A
- Zero-Emission Heavy-Duty Fleets Panel Discussion: Continuous Engagement
- Drive Forward Initiative

A final agenda will be available on the registration page and will be shared prior to the event. For more information on this event, [please click here](#).

[Click Here to Register for the One-Stop Truck Event](#)



CENTRAL VALLEY UNIT

# UNIT MEETING

Featuring Guest Speaker:

**Assemblymember  
Alexandra Macedo**

*Member of the Assembly  
Transportation Committee*

Thursday, December 11  
11:45 - 1:00

Legend's Tap House & Grill  
2910 Pea Soup Andersen Blvd, Selma

\$20 per person

**Click to Register**

Heavy appetizers will be served  
Open to CTA Members  
& Prospects



**Assemblymember Alexandra Macedo** represents **California's 33rd District** in the San Joaquin Valley. She was born and raised in Tulare to a family deeply rooted in south valley agriculture.

Prior to her election, she advised clients in environmental compliance and consulting, along with agricultural design and project management.

She joins us to share her vision for issues critical to her constituents and California's trucking industry.

# REGISTER NOW!

## CALIFORNIA TRUCKING ASSOCIATION'S

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JAN 21-23  
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## Compliance Confusion? Help Desk Has Your Solutions!

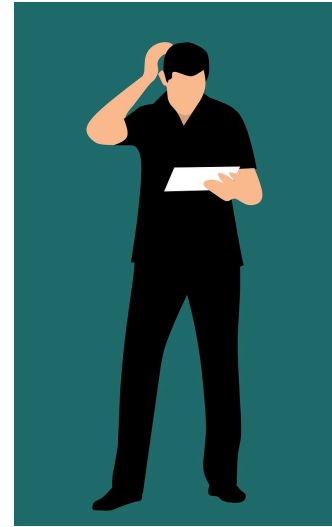
Remember to use the "Help Desk Online Contact Form" when you have a compliance or regulatory question on an issue.

The CTA Help Desk Online Contact Form is an exclusive member benefit designed to help with assisting various questions including:

- Driver qualification rules
- Drug testing questions
- Federal and California motor carrier safety regulations
- Log book/Hours-of-service regulations
- Vehicle load & securement rules
- Environmental regulations
- Hazardous materials regulations

Visit [www.caltrux.org/compliance-help-desk/](http://www.caltrux.org/compliance-help-desk/), or email [helpdesk@caltrux.org](mailto:helpdesk@caltrux.org).

Please be sure to include as much detail and information as possible. CTA's Government Affairs team will do their best to get back to you in timely manner.



Contact the Help Desk

## DRIVER SAFETY EDUCATION

### Brush Up on Safety Issues With TREDS

CTA is partnered with UC San Diego's [Transportation Research and Education for Driving Safety Center \(TREDS\)](#) to prevent crash-related morbidity and mortality by improving safe driving behaviors.

TREDS offers two courses aimed at preventing commercial motor vehicle-involved crashes from distracted and substance-impaired driving. They partner with the CTA to make courses available to the commercial motor vehicle industry.

Courses are approximately 60-minutes in length and available in both English and Spanish.



Courses focus on distraction related to the use of cell phones and electronic devices and...

Scope of the problem  
Risk & consequences  
Rules & regulations  
Distracted, fatigued & drowsy driving  
Work zone safety



Courses focus on substances most commonly reported to the FMCSA Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse and...

Scope of the problem  
Contributing factors  
Risks & consequences  
Laws & testing procedures  
Strategies to drive-drug free

[Learn More](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

[Upcoming events can be accessed via CTA's Events Calendar](#)

## MEMBER EXCLUSIVE BENEFITS & SERVICES



### CIRCLE CLUB SPONSOR

Circle Club Sponsor companies have shown a special commitment to CTA members and the trucking industry.

We encourage our members to take advantage of these special offers and support these affiliated businesses.

[Click here to view CTA Circle Club Sponsor companies and their promotions.](#)

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[Contact Levi Ochotorena for more information and a CTA Member-exclusive price quote.](#)



### The Caltrux Magazine Bookshelf: Digital Back Issues

For decades **Caltrux Magazine** has informed and entertained our members with news and features regarding the transport business, our legislative challenges and wins, and in-depth focus on the movers and shakers of California trucking.

The [Caltrux Bookshelf](#) uses a digital flipbook format to display these magazine issues in high quality, complete with articles and advertisements - identical to what you already receive in the mail.