



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

WEEKLY NEWS & INFORMATION FROM THE CALIFORNIA TRUCKING ASSOCIATION



**Make The Change To  
Renewable Diesel Today**

**DIESEL DIRECT** **NESTE MY**  
Supply, Delivery, Management. Renewable Diesel

**Convenient 24/7 Premium-Quality  
Fuel Delivery Near You.**

Call us at (888) 900-7787 or order online at [www.dieseldirect.com](http://www.dieseldirect.com)

## Spring Gov Affairs Update to Review Top Issues

Join the **California Trucking Association's Government Affairs** team for our webinar: **Spring 2026 Government Affairs Update**. This webinar is an invaluable opportunity to stay up to date on the latest legislative and regulatory developments directly affecting the trucking industry in California.

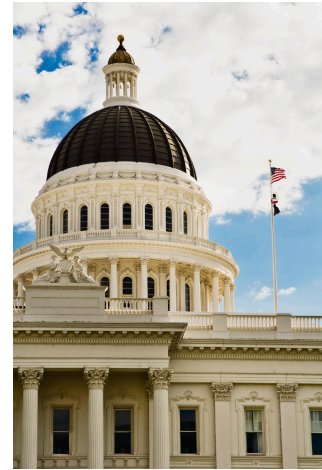
Approximately 2,000 bills have been introduced in the legislature for this year's session. Government Affairs will provide an overview of legislation that could impact the trucking industry including legislation focused on labor, environmental, tax, and safety policies.

Attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions about pending legislation, and **this event is free to all members!**

**Secure your spot by registering today.**

**Tuesday, March 31st  
9:00 - 10:00 AM**

[Register Now](#)



## Kern Unit Welcomes a Full House at Lamb Fry

It may be an acquired taste, but that never scares anyone away from the **Kern Unit's Annual President's Night and Lamb Fry** last week. The evening's guest of honor, **CTA 2026 President Timothy Pollock**, addressed attendees and showed no fear of the evening's dinner delicacies.

Special thanks to Wool Growers Restaurant, our generous event sponsors, and Kern Unit organizers for this unique and enduring community event.



---

## Safety Symposium Registration Open Now!

Join the California Highway Patrol, UC San Diego's TREDs Program, FMCSA, CARB, and your trucking colleagues for a day of critical safety education.

We'll be taking a deep dive into several of the top safety issues and challenges you need to understand:

- **English Language Proficiency**
- **Hours of Service**
- **Training, Research & Education for Driving Safety**
- **A Discussion on Cargo Theft**
- **Basic Inspection of Terminal (BIT)**
- **Caltrans Transportation Permits**

This event's \$49 admission includes lunch and a full day of information critical to your safety operations. **Seats are limited**, so register early to not miss out!

**Friday, May 1**  
**9:00 - 4:00**  
**The Dana on the Mission**  
**1710 W Mission Bay Dr.**  
**San Diego**

[Register Now!](#)



---

**TDC26: Registration Deadlines Are Coming**

CTA's 2026 Truck Driving Championships (TDC26) begins one month from today.

Our northern California competition is set for **April 11 at FedEx Freight's yard in West Sacramento**. The southern California event follows two weeks later in **Arcadia at Santa Anita Park, on April 25**, with our **state finals following the next day, April 26, at Santa Anita Park**.

[Online registrations](#) are open but deadlines are coming fast - the **Northern Regional registration deadline is Friday, March 20**, and the **Southern Regional registration deadline is Friday, April 3**.



We're also still looking for companies to take advantage of a large selection of high-visibility sponsorships. These packages are going fast so don't wait!

Visit the [TDC26 sponsorship page](#) or contact [Tina Ferguson](#) at (916) 373-3528 for more information.



## Volunteers Wanted Next Month for TDC26

If you're interested in some fun in the sun (and a snazzy t-shirt), we're looking for volunteers to help us staff both the north and south regionals, as well as the state finals.

Can you join us **April 11 in West Sacramento**, or **April 25 and 26 in Arcadia**?

Click the links below to sign up.

[Volunteer at TDC North](#)

[Volunteer at TDC South](#)

## California Trucking is a Puzzle - So Are You Getting the Whole Picture?

The **California Trucking Association** is on [LinkedIn](#), regularly posting about the latest industry news for California and beyond.

This provides both members and non-members with yet another valuable CTA service - it also shows our engagement to the outside, public world.

Help us grow CTA's online voice by:

- **Following us (just click the "Follow" button)**
- **"Liking" posts you find interesting or useful**
- **"Reposting" items you deem worth sharing**



[Visit CTA at LinkedIn](#)

# EQUIPMENT LOANS



(209) 944-1516 | (925) 308-7545

BAC Community Bank

**GOT SOMETHING TO  
SAY TO CALIFORNIA  
TRUCKING'S  
DECISION MAKERS?**

**CONSIDER  
THIS SPOT.**

ADVERTISING IN  
CALTRUX 5<sup>TH</sup> WHEEL  
REACHES THOUSANDS EVERY WEEK.

CONTACT JENNIFER at  
jennifer@matthewspublishing.com  
or (501) 690-9393

## AWARD/SCHOLARSHIP NOMINATIONS



### 2026 TUF SOB Applications Due Soon

The TUF SOB (Truckers United Fraternity Super Offspring of the Boss) scholarship program provides financial support towards furthering the educational goals of trucking's next generation and the industry's future leaders.

Over the past three decades TUF SOB has provided more than \$400,000 to over 500 deserving scholars.

This year's nominees must have their applications submitted by April 1.

[2026 TUF SOB Application](#)

## SURVEYS

### ATA's 2026 Driver Compensation Survey

ATA's [2026 Driver Compensation Survey](#) is one of the most important benchmarking tools in our industry, delivering valuable insights on driver pay, benefits, and incentives.

The updated survey is **faster and easier than ever to complete**, and your participation is key to making the data as strong as possible.

Take the confidential survey today, and thank you in advance for participating in this year's study.



[Click Here to Take the Driver Comp Survey](#)

---

[ATRI 2026 Operational Costs Data Collection](#)



The **American Transportation Research Institute (ATRI)** is asking for-hire motor carriers to participate in its annual **Operational Costs of Trucking** report.

For-hire motor carriers are invited to participate by **Friday, April 24**.

Data for the year 2025 can be submitted [online or by PDF: both forms are available on ATRI's website](#) along with a sample customized report and other helpful information for participants. All

confidential data is protected and published only in anonymized averages.

[Click Here to Participate in the Operational Costs Survey](#)

## EVENTS/GOLF TOURNAMENTS



### Workshop: Drive Forward Heavy-Duty Incentives and Fiscal Year 25/26 & 26/27 AQIP Funding Plan

The **California Air Resources Board (CARB)** invites you to drive forward and participate in a virtual workshop to discuss the next phase of medium and heavy-duty incentive policies to support clean transportation.

This workshop will cover CARB's Drive Forward initiative and provide an overview of draft funding allocations for the **Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26** and **FY 2026-27 Air Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) Funding Plan**, which CARB anticipates bringing to the Board this summer.

The workshop will be held virtually **via Zoom** on:

**Wednesday, March 25**  
**9:00 - 1:00**

All interested parties are invited to attend the workshop virtually. Please register for the meeting at the link below. After you register, you will receive an email with information about how to join the meeting by digital/ computer device or telephone on the day of the meeting.

[Register Now](#)

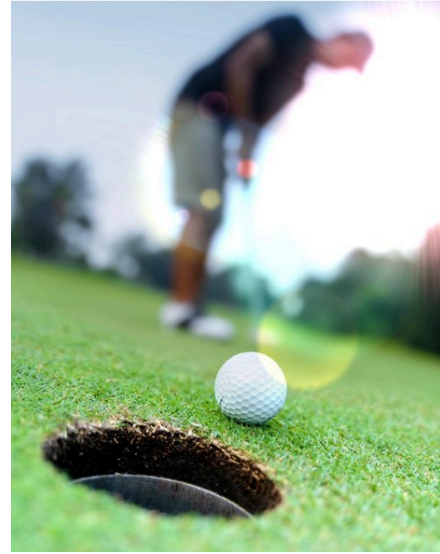
### Allied Conference Annual Golf Tournament

Fore! The **Annual Allied Conference Golf Tournament** is headed your way! Sink a putt to support your Allied Conference.

Sign up now and secure your spot, and also consider sponsoring a hole or our other cool marketing opportunities!

Monday, April 6  
8:00 - 5:00

Aliso Viejo Country Club  
33 Santa Barbara Dr.  
Aliso Viejo



Register Now!



## Driven to be the best!

Join us in April, as we put California's finest truck drivers to the test to take on the nation at **TDC26**.

**April 11** - Northern California TDC  
FedEx Freight Yard, West Sacramento

**April 25** - Southern California TDC  
Santa Anita Park, Arcadia

**April 26** - California TDC Finals  
Santa Anita Park, Arcadia

## Zero-Emissions Showcase + Ride & Drive Event - San Diego

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) and CALSTART are sponsoring a free Zero-Emission Truck and Off-Road Equipment Showcase + Ride & Drive event.

Test drive zero-emission medium and heavy-duty commercial trucks and off-road equipment. Become familiar with the various zero-emission technologies.

Past Ride and Drive events have featured over 70 Class 2b-8 trucks, buses, vans, and off-road equipment. Receive information on incentive opportunities and the Cal Fleet Advisor technical assistance program.

CARB staff will be available to answer questions on programs including Advanced Clean Fleets applicable to state and local government fleets, Clean Truck Check, and Off-Road Diesel, among others.



Wednesday, April 29  
9:00 - 3:00


Pechanga Arena  
500 Sports Arena Blvd.  
San Diego

Register Now

**NES** Your Partner for Storm Water Compliance

**Storm Water Membership Benefits Include**

- Simplified form templates
- Semi-annual live training
- Sampling supplies and analysis of results
- Draft required Water Board reports
- Technical support and regulatory correspondence
- Annual confidential inspections to keep your facility in compliance



**INTEGRATED SOLUTION**


WEIGH STATION BYPASS  
TOLL PAYMENT SERVICES  
FLEET DATA INSIGHTS

Ask about a **free trial offer** to see for yourself.

Save more time, fuel, and money with PrePass!




866.228.1424  
PrePass.com/CA



**GREG DUBUQUE**  
LIBERTY LINEHAUL WEST  
Contributor Since 2010

**"In our regulatory environment, everyone needs to be a part of CARGO PAC!"**



MAKE A DIFFERENCE; DONATE TODAY!

## HELP DESK

### Compliance Confusion? Help Desk Has Your Solutions!

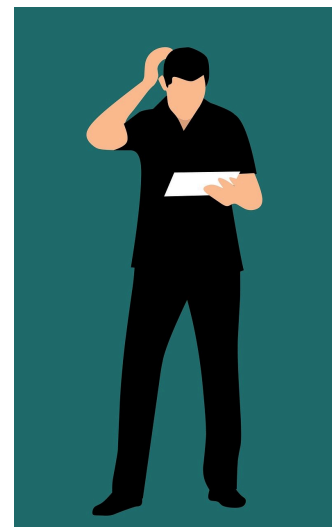
Remember to use the "Help Desk Online Contact Form" when you have a compliance or regulatory question on an issue.

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.

CTA-SUPPORTING, CTA-OWNED & OPERATED



- DOT COMPLIANCE
- EMPLOYER PROGRAMS
- BACKGROUND SCREENING
- MOBILE DRUG TESTING
- MRO SERVICES
- DRUG TESTING SOFTWARE

A portion of every dollar spent with TSC goes back to support the CTA. That's good for you, and good for trucking.

Experience exclusive member treatment with excellent customer service, reliability, and added value.

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

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



## Digital Back Issues: The Caltrux Bookshelf

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.