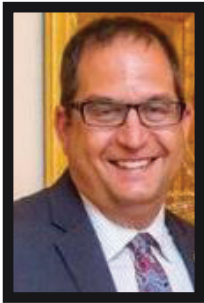




October 2020  
Issue 26

# TEAM SafeTrucking UPDATE...

*Working to Train New & Existing Forestry Transportation Drivers*



## *President's Message*

Team Safe Trucking  
3881 Ten Oaks Rd 2E  
Glenelg, MD 21737  
Phone: 877-399-7757  
info@teamsafetrucking.com

All,

As we deal with life's challenges on the road and in our personal worlds, I hope this finds you safe and well. We can all agree that 2020 has kept us on our toes.

Chances are when you read this, you will be feeling the impact of the end of Daylight Savings Time. Sunday, November 1, we will turn our clocks back one hour. I want to take this time to warn you of the risks this poses to our professional drivers.

Research has shown that there is an uptick in accidents directly related to the end of Daylight Savings Time. At the end of your day, when you feel your most exhausted, the sun will disappear an hour earlier making you feel even more tired. Please make sure that you adjust your sleep habits in order to account for this flux in your sleep pattern. Dusk has always been a dangerous time for professional drivers, so we must be extra vigilant during this time. We are constantly trying to avoid becoming a statistic, and this is certainly one of those times.

Stay safe, get extra rest and remember to pull over if you feel tired. That extra load is not worth the risk!

Richard W. Schwab

***The TST's "Accountability Course" will be released to our Educational Sponsors in November!***



### Our Valued TST Educational Sponsors

Alabama Loggers Council, Allstate Land and Timber, American Loggers' Council, Anderson Logging, Arkansas Paper, Arkansas timber Producers, Bates Hewett Floyd Insurance, BB Forest Products, Beasley Forest Products, Beech Island timber and Construction, BITCO, Brandt Ryan Insurance, Carolina Loggers' Association, Coastal Pines, Columbia Forest Products, Cunningham Wood Products, Cushman 238 West Inc., Charles A. Wright Logging, Everest Insurance, Forest Resources Consultants, Forest Resources Association, Forest Industry Safety Training Alliance, Forest Insurance Center Agency, FMIC Insurance Agency, Florida SFI, Gaines and Critzer LTD Insurance Agency, Greenbay Packaging, Guffin and Eleam Inc, GG Logging, Hancock forest Management, Huber Engineered Woods, Idaho Forest Group, International Paper, John Golly Inc., L.D. Long Inc., Ledkins Insurance Agency, Longleaf Forestry Insurance, Louisiana Loggers Council, Louisiana Pacific, Michigan ELDT, Michigan Association of Timbermen, Maple Hardwoods, MA Ragoni Inc., McGill Brothers, Midstream Timber Solutions, Mississippi Logger Association, Mississippi ELDT, MW Collins Inc., NATP, Norboard Nacogdoches Mill, Norboard Jefferson Mill, Parnell Inc., Rayonier, South Carolina Timber Producers Association, Southeastern Technical College, South Georgia Tech, Stoutamire & Pavlik Associates, Texas Forestry Association, Tri-state Timber Company, Trowel Insurance Agency, Texas Logging Council, Walsh Timber Company, Ward Timber, Weyerhaeuser, Woodson Inc. , Florida Forestry Association SFI, Tijerina Investigation, Inc., Brandt Ryan Insurance, TJ Blackburn Syrup Works, Inc., South Carolina SFI Implementation Committee

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsorships are what keeps TEAM Safe Trucking moving forward. Whether you become a sponsor, or know a great potential sponsor, we need everyone to help! Here is a list of the various ways to support TEAM Safe Trucking in 2020!

### Become...

- » An Educational Sponsor for the Driver Refresher Training Program with multiple supporting fee levels available
- » A State Sponsor for the State of Tennessee for the Entry Level Driver Theory Training Program ~ \$3,400.00
- » A supporter of the development of a new training course. Each course costs \$2,500 to create. There are 17 new courses being developed this year in both Driver Refresher & Behind the Wheel Provider Training
- » A sponsor for the development of a new Public Safety Announcement for TV and Social Media distribution. ~ \$2000.00
- » A supporter in a marketing program for the Entry Level Driver Theory Training Program budgeted at \$50,000.00 for 2020

# Miranda's Update ~

**TST's Special Project  
Manager & Safety Director**



## GREETINGS!

This October update has been a little more difficult to generate, mostly because the information I need to share is not very cheerful. In my conversations with insurance representatives from around the country, number of accidents are on the rise due to COVID 19. Apparently with less drivers on the road, there is more speeding going on. Accidents are up, and sadly our training numbers are down. We are also seeing a decrease in new users. This is a trend that we collectively must stop if we want to realize our goal of a reduction in insurance rates due to accident prevention or mitigation.

We, as a non-profit in this industry, started something great, and our momentum has been huge! Now we are facing a new challenge with the onset of COVID 19. Add that to our original, industry specific challenges that we are still charged to tackle, insurance rates, training, accident prevention and recruitment of new safety focused drivers. I believe during this time of COVID 19, we should all be promoting the benefits of on-line training.

In our State Representative's meeting on October 21st, I heard a lot of participants share that they have stalled their training initiatives because of COVID, when in reality I believe that should be the exact reason we focus even more on training. Especially since the number of accidents are rising during the virus.

We cannot afford to stagnate, we must keep moving forward to raise the level of awareness that there is a correlation between safety training and a reduction in accidents.

*These are the seven steps to stagnation:*

1. *We've never done it that way.*
2. *We're not ready for that.*
3. *We're doing all right without it.*
4. *We tried that once before.*
5. *It costs too much.*
6. *That's not our responsibility.*
7. *Something like that can't work.*

We cannot afford to utter any of these phrases. We do not have the option of slowing down, idling, or stopping. We need more drivers and business owners to buy into the TEAM Safe Trucking Training programs to have a chance as a community to address the rising costs of insurance, implement a standardized fleet training program to prevent accidents and train new safety focused drivers.

Research shows that if you have an effective safety program, you are 20% less likely to experience an accident. Based on its review of the literature on the effectiveness of these programs, and on the experience of the states that have implemented injury and illness prevention program requirements, OSHA estimates that implementation of injury and illness prevention programs will reduce injuries by 15 percent to 35 percent for employers who do not now have safety and health programs. At the 15 percent program effectiveness level, this saves \$9 billion per year in workers' compensation costs; at the 35 percent effectiveness level the savings are \$23 billion per year. <https://www.osha.gov/dsg/InjuryIllnessPreventionProgramsWhitePaper.html#:~:text=Based%20on%20its%20review%20of,percent%20to%2035%20percent%20for>

By implementing a driver safety program in the workplace you can greatly reduce the risks faced by your employees and their families while protecting your company's bottom line. Nationwide Insurance – Columbus, Ohio total motor vehicle loss costs are down 40 percent.

Charter Communications - Michigan experienced a 30 percent decrease in motor vehicle crashes during this time. Pike Industries – Vermont Company drivers traveled over 2 million miles in one year hauling construction equipment and materials, performing construction activities (many were in highly dangerous work zones) and did not have any significant roadway incidents. Workers' compensation claims for vehicle incidents dropped from a high of 73 percent of total losses in one year to 2 percent in the following year. Vehicle property damage losses also followed this trend. [https://www.osha.gov/Publications/motor\\_vehicle\\_guide.pdf](https://www.osha.gov/Publications/motor_vehicle_guide.pdf)

We need to regain that famous momentum we had in the beginning. We believe in this program and the impact it can have on reducing the number of accidents in our industry. We need to refocus on safety. Now is the time to ramp up our safety programs. These safety trainings are what prevent distracted driving, rollovers and excessive speeding accidents. Managing stress on the road is big right now with the additional stress of staying COVID compliant and worrying about loved ones who may be sick.

Please join me in looking at this as a chance to (Secure Our Future by Seeing Clearly during COVID 19) let us get back out there and provide training. Spread the word about Team Safe Trucking, encourage people to support Team Safe Trucking, take monthly courses. Team Safe Trucking offers effective, safety training in a virtual fashion to meet the needs of a safety conscious industry.

Thank you in advance for your additional efforts at this time.

Sincerely,  
Miranda Gowell



# TEAM Safe Trucking State Representatives Gather for Zoom Meeting

On October 21st, TST State Representatives from all around the country joined in on a Zoom meeting to discuss the challenges of introducing TST Training, and maintaining required safety training during COVID 19. In an industry that generally participates in person, TST was seeking solutions to get more information in front of owners and drivers hoping to boost dwindling on-line training numbers.

With over 450 years of forestry experience participating, valuable discussions ensued. One realization was that a lot of organizations are putting off new training initiatives until after COVID 19 restrictions are lifted. This is leading to a drop in the numbers of drivers actually utilizing the on-line training. The in person classroom setting has been the traditional way to introduce training, so a new way of spreading the word was discussed.

TEAM Safe Trucking's newly formed Communications Committee has taken the reigns in order to amp up TST's on-line presence, as well as the creation of brochures, and a course catalogue to assist educational sponsors and State Representatives with getting the word out.

During the meeting, State Representatives talked about including more information on their respective organization websites, newsletters, magazines and in letters to members, customers, and employees. TEAM Safe Trucking's Miranda Gowell, TST's Safety Director, reminded everyone of TST's power point presentation that can be used for virtual annual meetings, business meetings and Zoom trainings for the State Representatives to utilize.

TST will also be working with those states interested in developing a year end booklet of accidents that occurred during the year, corrective actions that should be taken. This can be shared with business owners and drivers to be utilized as a remedial training tool.

Miranda Gowell, invited and encouraged State Representative to attend TEAM Safe Trucking's weekly train-the-trainer on-line training to see first hand how to use the training platform to add courses, manage course completions for classroom trainings, add users to the platform, manage new employee training efforts, refresher training and remedial training for drivers behaviors that need improvement. Attendees also learn the three roles the platform offers, how to print reports and document training efforts. Individuals can register for this free training by emailing [Miranda.gowell@teamsafetrucking.com](mailto:Miranda.gowell@teamsafetrucking.com). The training is provided through Zoom and is 45 minutes in length each week from 10AM to 1045 AM Eastern Time.

If you are you interested in joining the Team Safe Trucking State Representatives group, please call Miranda Gowell at 207-841-0250. Together we can improve training, decrease accidents and insurance costs, as well as train new drivers for the industry.

The decision was made during the meeting to hold two State Representative meetings a year. These meetings will keep everyone abreast of progress, trainings, insurance, accidents and additional methods of getting the word out regarding TEAM Safe Trucking. These meetings will be held in March and October of 2021.

## Set Clocks Back One Hour



Don't let COVID 19 come between you and your safety training!



Call Miranda  
Gowell  
@ 207-841-0250  
for more  
details

**Safety training available @  
[www.teamsafetrucking.com](http://www.teamsafetrucking.com)**

# TEAM Safe Trucking's Committees



## ***The Research, Awareness, Education & Programming Committee***

TEAM Safe Trucking's Semi-Annual Meeting was held virtually on September 24th. The primary goal of this meeting was to establish committees that will help move TST into the future by strengthening the organization and the Forestry Transportation Industry. This month we are highlighting The Research Awareness, Education and Programming Committee.

The Research, Awareness, Education and Programming Committee Presentation for the semi-annual meeting was presented by Sherry Halstead, Team Safe Trucking's Secretary.

### **Committee Members**

John Auel of Mississippi State College, Rick Meyers of Forest Resource Association, David West of Forest Resource Association, Jeff Rogers of Rogers Lumber Company, Jeremiah O'donovan of Specialty Market Managers & Longleaf Insurance and

David Livingston of Mississippi Logger Association.

This dynamic committee will be charged with assisting in the planning of the semi-annual meeting. This would involve developing the agenda, finding speakers, designing space layout, audio video rentals, communication about the meeting, menu, development of the Power Point presentation.

Some of the other duties of this committee are as follows:

- To research, write and submit pieces for the Team Safe Trucking Monthly Newsletter
- To communicate issues that are causing accidents or safety concerns to Safety Director
- To review released training courses, provide feedback and help spread the word to others about new training courses
- To communicate the need for new training topics not yet covered by TST training courses

-To oversee new program development and to monitor and assess existing programs.

-To initiate and guide program evaluations.

-To facilitate discussions about program priorities for Team Safe Trucking.

-To reach out to colleges, CDL schools and SFI programs, State Economic Development programs, State Logger Associations and Forestry Associations (ELDT and Driver Refresher Training Programs) (Provide them with information on how to go on-line and see 9 free training courses)

-To attend industry meetings and show demonstrations on how to use the training program on-line, complete trainings and hold classroom trainings, download App., and access training courses.

If you have skills that can add to the effectiveness of this committee, please reach out to Miranda Gowell via phone or text at 207- 841- 0250 or email, [miranda.gowell@teamsafetrucking.com](mailto:miranda.gowell@teamsafetrucking.com)



### ***Log Trailer Visibility***

It is an unfortunate fact that a great number of the motoring general public are driving while distracted, usually by their smart phones. Additionally, for too many drivers are “outdriving their headlights” at night or in the early morning hours. Sadly, these two unsafe driving practices by the driving public has led to a number of tragic accidents involving vehicles running into the back or side of log trailers. While most of these accidents would be considered the fault of the driver who runs into the log truck, it is important for the log hauler to do everything in their power to help prevent these serious and sometimes fatal accidents, regardless of who is at fault. Here are some tips for making sure that your log trailer is as visible as possible.

- \* Ensure that all log loads extending off the rear of the trailer are marked with proper size red flag (and strobe light in some states) as required by state law.
- \* Make sure that DOT C2 reflective tape is present on the sides and rear of the body of the trailer as well as on the underride protection bumper. Additional visibility can be obtained by applying this tape vertically on the bolsters.
- \* Regularly inspect the reflective tape on the trailers and replace any cracked, peeling or damaged sections.
- \* Make sure that adequate pre/post trip inspections are taking place and that any non-functioning tail or marker lights or cracked or missing reflectors are written up and repaired immediately .
- \* Wash the side and rear of the trailer as often as necessary to ensure that the lights, reflectors and reflective tape can actually be seen by others.
- \* Ensure that the angle of the logs hanging off the rear of the trailer does not block the view of taillights, reflectors or reflective tape.

#### ***DRIVER REFRESHER TRAINING COURSES 2020 RELEASE SCHEDULE FOR EDUCATIONAL SPONSORS***

January - Alcohol & Drugs Part 1  
 February - Mill Safety Challenges  
 March - Entering & Exiting  
 April - COVID-19/Driver Selection  
 May - Woods' Roads  
 June - How to Survive a D.O.T. Audit  
 July - Loading & Unloading

August - Multi-contractor & Liability  
 September - Mill General Safety  
 October - Alcohol & Drugs Part 2  
 November - Accountability  
 December - Fall Prevention