

Get involved in your industry



BY DAVID BOYCE, CEO, NZ TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

Are you flat out working in the day to day operation of your business? Are you feeling like you are just treading water and not really getting anywhere? Do you want to grow your business and have more time for yourself?

If you answered yes to these questions, then you need to take some time out to find some new inspiration and ideas for your business. Start by becoming a member of the NZ Trucking Association, we specialise in providing our members with inspiration and new ideas for their businesses. By getting

involved in the industry through your association membership you will be presented with many opportunities to learn, to network, and to develop and grow your business.

In the last 12 months our members have had the opportunity to get involved in a range of activities, including:

Trucking 2014: This initiative and highly successful event, organised by the NZ Trucking Association, and held at Wigram Airforce Museum in Christchurch, showcased the latest developments and trends in the

industry, with over 80 industry trade displays, 269 trucks in a Show & Shine, an industry careers hub, along with safety and working displays. The event was attended by over 10,000 people on the day, including 650 people to a sold out Show Dinner. Plans are now well under way for Trucking 2016, which will be held over two days on the 7th and 8th October 2016.

Health and safety workshops: Together with ACC and Worksafe NZ the association has presented a series of workshops aimed at improving transport operators Health and Safety systems, and preparing them for the new legislated requirements that have been put in place since the Pike River Mining disaster. Members who have attended are now armed with the tools and knowledge to comply in the new regulatory environment.

NZ Truck Driving competition: The trucking industry is holding a series of regional heats around the country to find the industry's best truck drivers, across all licence classes. Finalists will compete in a final to be held at the RTF conference in August. The competition winner will be awarded a prize pack worth \$10,000. A great opportunity to promote safe and professional driving skills within your business.

Cycle Safety workshops: These half-day workshops aim to give both truck drivers and cyclists a better understanding of the issues each other faces on a daily basis on the roads. The workshops are effective because they are a two way conversation, with all participants learning from each other. Participants have the opportunity to trade places, with cyclists going for a ride in a

truck, and truck drivers riding a cycle on the road beside a truck.

EECA Fuel Efficiency workshops: These workshops are an opportunity to join leading trucking firms to learn how to achieve up to 10 percent or more in fuel savings.

Participants are mentored and receive help to:

- Improve safety, fuel efficiency, profitability and sustainability.
- Prepare for an ACC Fleet Saver audit.
- Learn the skills to lock in savings for the long term.

- Evaluate potential fuel saving opportunities.
- Set up monitoring systems.
- Engage with staff at all levels.

Truck Rollover Prevention programme:

The programme is run in conjunction with Vic Roads from Australia. Every year truck rollovers cause loss of life and injuries, and damage to vehicles, property and customers goods. Truck rollovers are especially prevalent in vehicles with a high centre of gravity. Some trailers can rollover with an incline as little as 15 degrees. The course focusses on causes, awareness and solutions.

Careers expos: The trucking industry is facing an ongoing shortage of skilled workers across a range of positions. As an association we are promoting the industry as a viable career choice option to school students through a range of opportunities. At a recent Careers Expo held in Christchurch the association ran a Trucking Industry Careers Stand, with four heavy trucks on display. The Expo was attended by over 7000 students, parents and careers advisors. Over 1200 of those students took the opportunity to sit in the cab of a truck and have a discussion about the trucking industry career options.

Annual General Meeting: Held every year, this is an opportunity for members to network with the wider trucking industry, and learn about new industry initiatives and developments. This year's AGM is being held at The Heritage Hotel, Hanmer Springs on Saturday 4 July.

Road Transport Forum Conference: Every year the Road Transport Forum has an industry conference to give the industry an opportunity to discuss the latest issues affecting the industry. This is your opportunity to discuss the industry issues with the decision makers. This year's conference is being held in Christchurch at Wigram Airforce Museum between 27-29 August.

If you would like to get more involved in the trucking industry, we would be pleased to hear from you. NZ Trucking Association can be contacted on 0800 338 338 or info@nztruckingassn.co.nz



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