

## Next Gen Trucking Attends 95th National FFA Expo

Next Gen Trucking got to be a part of the Future Farmers of America (FFA) National Convention which had 65,000 students in attendance in Indianapolis, IN. It was a fun, inspiring week filled with conversations about hopes and dreams. Michael White, owner-operator for Quality Carriers and National Tank Truck Carriers (NTTC) driver finalist, said it best when he said, "this is the most well-mannered, respectful group of kids. If this is the future workforce, we are going to be okay."

Marvin Johnson & Associates brought their driver simulator and from the time the exhibit hall doors opened to when they closed the booth had a crowd of students waiting to try their hand at driving a truck. We had conversations with students that had experience driving trucks on the farm or learning in a parking lot—these students were 16. Other students had never experienced driving before but wanted to get their CDL. They loved driving on the simulator and some students even came back the next day to drive again.

We also had TransfrVR join us at FFA. They provide a virtual headset for career exploration and users could virtually change the oil or a tire on a truck. They're also in the development of truck driver career exploration simulators so people can see what it is like to drive a truck. Many students had never used a VR headset and got to experience it for the first time.

NGT also sponsored the National Association of Supervisors in Agricultural Education (NASAE) annual conference that led up to the FFA Convention. Ag Supervisors are the influencers in each state over Agricultural Education. NGT recently helped Illinois start an Agricultural Education supply chain management pathway and truck/bus driver CDL course. Statewide, these offerings are available for school systems to adopt. We hope other states will start these programs of study.

When asked about what he thought about this group of students Tom Frain, a driver for Highway Transport and Grand Champion Driver for NTTC said, "I was overwhelmed with the knowledge and the interest these students have in the industry and about trucking—and really anything about trucks. What a great opportunity for all employers to meet such a great, organized group, with their eyes on the future and with so much potential."

Next Gen wants to thank all the employers and contributors who made this event such a great success with trucking being well-represented to the next generation including Marvin Johnson, Highway Transport, Quality Carriers, DHL, Saia, Horizon Freight Lines, XPO, Transmark Logistics, Hirschbach, ABF Freight, Roehl, Old Dominion, Shorty Whittington, TransfrVR, and NTTC.

### Lindsey Trent

President & Co-Founder, Next Gen Trucking Association



## Women In Trucking Association Announces Finalists for 2022 Influential Woman in Trucking Award

Plover, WI - October 25, 2022 - The Women In Trucking Association (WIT) announced today four finalists for the 2022 Influential Woman in Trucking award, sponsored by Daimler Truck North America. This is the 12th year for the award which was developed in 2010 to recognize female leaders and to attract and advance women in the trucking industry.

Read More

Student Graduate Spotlight By: Dave Dein

Malachi is enrolled in the Patterson High School Truck Driving program and has aspirations of being a diesel technician. He is an "A" student who embraces the truck driving class enthusiastically and with dedication. Malachi truly lives out our class motto, "Leadership in Motion". He has become a student to whom I can delegate responsibilities and be confident he will meet or surpass those expectations.

But, the one quality that truly sets him apart is his call to service. Malachi has grand ambitions for his life, but he is willing to put all those aside in order to serve our country first. At the end of the school year Malachi will be enrolling into the Marines where he plans to further his education as a diesel technician. To all those who are serving or have served our country we say "Thank You!"



#### COMPANY MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Jamie Hillier



#### Vice President, Operations & Maintenance

As skilled trades become harder and harder to acquire, my goal is to introduce young students to this trade and show them how lucrative it could be! In my opinion, skilled traded is the way to go!

Trailcon has taken the initiative to work with local High Schools within our region. We currently have 14 High Schools in PEEL Region that support a Cooperative Program that allows students to obtain credits towards there high school diploma. My goal is to create excitement in the Skilled Trades Employee Market. We are seeing a crisis in lack of involvement or considering a career in the Skilled Trades.We need to ensure we support this environment as it is becoming increasingly harder and harder to find employees to complete this work.

We have created a program at Trailcon where we will accept students that are interested in a career as a technician. The process starts much like as if you were applying for a job.



The students come in and they interview for the role of a Co-Operative Student. I believe this is a life skill they need to learn as they will be going through an interview process as they continue with their carer of choice. We assist in setting them up for success. We select the best of the best and they will go through a 4-step program as they learn this particular trade. They will learn...

 Preventative Maintenance Measures
Brake Applications
Tire Applications
Running Repairs/Structural Repairs/Electrical Measures

Ultimately, the role(s) of our student(s) would be to work hand in hand with our licensed technicians. They will be working on Transport Trailers, Flatbeds, Dry vans, reefer units and get an understanding of all the mechanical components of each. They would get an understanding of the mechanics and Preventative Maintenance measures we institute as required by the MTO.

The success of this program has been overwhelming. The response was so quick we have filled the spots for the entire 2022/2023 school year. In fact, due to this positive response, our pilot that started in Brampton, Ontario has now reached all of our locations across the country.

Exciting to get this response...even more exciting to educate these students on the advantages and the carer path that lie in front of them! Very Rewarding!



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UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

Women in Supply Chain Forum - Nov 8-9

Women in Trucking Accelerate! Conference & Expo - Dallas, TX, Nov 13-16

Veteran-Ready Summit - Washington DC Nov 14-15

Association of Career Technical Education (ACTE) Workforce Coalition - Las Vegas, NV Nov 28-29

Association of Career Technical Education (ACTE) Vision Conference - Las Vegas, NV Nov 30-Dec 3









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