

## Safety Management Council

The Safety Management Council of the Nevada Trucking Association is dedicated to enhancing the safety and security of the trucking industry. This council brings together industry experts to share best practices, provide safety training, and networking with peers and partners in law enforcement and regulatory agencies. Join us today!

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## Newsletter Highlights

- Safety Council Meeting Notice
  - NDOT Survey on Truck Parking
  - 2026 Safety Awards Program – Safe Drivers, Fleet and Safety Professionals
  - Top Industry Concerns – National vs. Nevada
  - Preventing Strains & Sprains
  - Free Hazardous Materials Training – CVSA
  - Transportation Security News
  - New Partner – Background Checks and More - Instahire
  - HME Fingerprinting / Endorsement Applications – permanent Northern location!
  - Calendar of Events / Save the Dates
  - Guest Column: Warning Signs of At-Risk Drivers
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## Safety Council Meeting

We will hold our next Safety Council meeting on December 9, 2025. This will be held on ZOOM only.

Join us as the Alliance for Clean Transportation representatives discuss Natural Gas alternatives to traditional fuels. Learn about the Cummins natural gas engine, natural gas fuel tank packages, station construction and financing alternatives and see how fleets are achieving cash savings by switching from diesel.

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## Please Participate! NDOT Survey on Truck Parking

The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) is conducting a short survey to identify truck parking needs, challenges, and opportunities across the state. Your input will directly inform the 2026 State Freight Plan Update and help guide NDOT's future planning, funding, programming, and design of truck parking facilities and information systems.

Please complete the survey by **December 15, 2025**, using the QR code below or by clicking this link "[2026 Nevada Department of Transportation Truck Parking Needs Assessment](#)" or pasting this URL into your search engine:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/b435efffa90d4a33a572ed16babfa1a3>

Estimated Time to Complete: 5-7 minutes

NTA encourages everyone to complete the survey. Your feedback is important to ensuring Nevada's freight system continues to support safe and efficient goods movement.

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## **2026 Safety Awards Program – Save the Dates!**

Watch your email – in early January, we will open nominations for the following Safety Award Categories:

- Driver of the Month (*Driver of the Year will be selected from these applications*)
- Safety Professional of the Year
- Fleet Safety
- Knights of the Road

You will find the downloadable nomination forms on our website after the holidays. Please return the completed forms and other required information no later than **May 29th**. Nominations may be emailed to [patti@nevadatrucking.com](mailto:patti@nevadatrucking.com) or delivered to NTA office at 8745 Technology Way, Unit E, Reno, NV 89521.

Awards will be announced and distributed in early August. Specific details will be provided at a later date.

We hope you take advantage of these great programs. We highly recommend each of our member companies submit nominations. They are an excellent way to recognize your company, drivers and safety professionals for their dedication to highway safety. Additionally, participation in these programs enhance your company's reputation among the trucking industry, law enforcement, shoppers, insurance carriers, the public and potential jurors.

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## **Top Industry Concerns**

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in ATRI's Top Industry Concerns survey this year. As you can see, Nevada companies have a different list of concerns than we see on a national scale. This information helps NTA staff develop policies, positions and training seminars that can specifically address YOUR concerns.

**ATRI Top Industry Concerns Survey – Results**

Rank	National Truck Drivers	National Motor Carriers	Nevada
1	Driver Compensation	Economy	Insurance Cost/Availability
2	Truck Parking	Lawsuit Abuse Reform	Lawsuit Abuse Reform
3	English Language Proficiency for Drivers	Insurance Cost/Availability	Driver Distraction
4	Broker Issues	CSA	Economy
5	Detention/Delay at Customer Facilities	Driver Shortage	CSA
6	Artificial Intelligence in Trucking	Driver Retention	Diesel Emissions Regulations
7	Driver Training Standards	Driver Distraction	Driver Retention
8	Autonomous Trucks	Diesel Emissions Regulations	Fuel Prices
9	Electronic Logging Device Mandate	Truck Parking	Driver Health & Wellness
10	Diesel Emissions Regulations	Broker Issues	Driver Shortage

## Preventing Strains and Sprains in the Transportation Industry

Strains and sprains are among the most common injuries in the transportation industry, affecting truck drivers, delivery personnel, warehouse workers, and transit operators alike. Long hours on the road, frequent loading and unloading, and repetitive movements place continuous stress on the body. Fortunately, many of these injuries can be prevented with proper planning, safe work habits, and attention to ergonomic practices.

One of the most effective ways to reduce strain is through proper lifting techniques. Workers should always assess the weight of a load before attempting to move it and use mechanical aids such as dollies, pallet jacks, or liftgates whenever possible. When lifting manually, it is important to keep the load close to the body, bend at the knees rather than the waist, and avoid twisting while carrying or setting items down. Team lifting should also be encouraged for oversized or awkward objects.

Stretching and movement breaks play a key role in preventing soft-tissue injuries. Drivers who spend long hours seated should incorporate simple stretches for the neck, shoulders, back, and legs during rest stops. These short breaks improve circulation, reduce muscle stiffness, and help maintain flexibility.

Ergonomics within vehicles and warehouses is another essential factor. Adjustable seats, proper lumbar support, and correct steering-wheel positioning help maintain neutral body posture while driving. In warehouses or loading areas, ensuring that

commonly used materials are stored at waist height can reduce unnecessary bending and reaching.

Footwear also matters. Slip-resistant, supportive shoes decrease the risk of slips and provide better stability when lifting or walking on uneven surfaces. Additionally, maintaining clean, clutter-free work areas helps prevent tripping hazards.

Finally, consistent training reinforces safe behavior. Regular safety briefings, hands-on demonstrations, and open communication about near-misses encourage workers to stay alert and prioritize injury prevention.

By combining ergonomic adjustments, proper lifting techniques, movement breaks, and ongoing training, transportation professionals can significantly reduce strains and sprains—leading to safer workplaces and healthier employees.

*Courtesy of ProGroup Safety Services*

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### **Introducing New Partner - Instahire**

NTA has partnered with Instahire to provide discounted pricing on background checks, MVRs, PSP and clearinghouse reports along with employment verification and other screens including credit reports, criminal searches, and social media searches.

We are working to get the information uploaded onto our website, but in the meantime, you can use the QR code below to set up your account. Contact Patti for pricing.



[www.instahirecheck.com](http://www.instahirecheck.com)

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### **Free Hazardous Materials Safety Training**

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance is holding several training courses relating to Hazardous Materials. These are open to all industry members and are free of charge.

- Hazardous Materials Instructor Training – Overview – January 13, 2026
- Shipping Lithium Batteries Training Course – January 15, 2026
- Introductory Hazardous Materials Instructor Training– January 27-29, 2026

Trainings are free but you must register. You can find more information on these and other trainings at <https://cvsa.org/training-type/industry-training/>

## Transportation Security Corner

### CYBERSECURITY

Cybersecurity threats have become an increasing concern for TSA. Our regional office has a dedicated cybersecurity team that works with entities on security directives and/or regulatory

requirements. The lead outreach and cost-free programs to help stakeholders prepare for evolving cyber threats. Preparedness resources include:

- Cybersecurity Evaluation Tool (CSET) that includes a Ransomware Readiness Assessment and TSA Validated Architecture Design Review
- Cybersecurity Baseline Assessment for Security Enhancement (Cy-BASE). This is an evaluation of the key aspects of a security program
- 5N5 Workshops are five non-technical actions to consider in five days to enhance an entity's cybersecurity posture

For more information, please contact Surface Transportation Security Inspector Dave Douglas at [David.Douglas@tsa.dhs.gov](mailto:David.Douglas@tsa.dhs.gov) or Supervisory Inspector Rob Grim at [Robert.grim@tsa.dhs.gov](mailto:Robert.grim@tsa.dhs.gov)

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### **NEW! Permanent HazMat Endorsement TSA Location Opens in Northern Nevada**

NTA is happy to announce a new permanent location for HazMat endorsements and TWIC cards is now open in Sparks.

Huge kudos to Congressman Mark Amodei's staff who worked on getting this issue resolved for our industry!

The permanent location is below:

IdentoGO

2351 S Pyramid Way, Ste 18

Sparks, NV 89431

Hours are Monday – Friday 9:00AM – 12:30PM & 1:30PM – 3:30PM

You can schedule appointments at [TSA Enrollment by Idemia](#).



## Safety Council Meetings

The Safety Council will meet via ZOOM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month in 2026.

January 8	February 12	March 12	April 9
May 14	June 11	July 9	August 6 <sup>th</sup> (1 <sup>st</sup> TH)
September 10	October 8	November 12	December 10

## 2026 Dates

May 2 – Truck Driving Championships – Las Vegas

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## Get Involved!

We are excited to invite all members to actively participate in our Safety Council and safety-related programs. By joining, you'll have the opportunity to contribute valuable insights, share experiences, and collaborate on events. Let's work together to build a positive safety culture in Nevada. Join us in making a difference! Contact Patti today!

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## Guest Column: Great West Casualty Company

### Important Warning Signs of At-Risk Drivers

What if one driver on your team is silently putting your whole business at risk, and you don't even know it yet?

Identifying at-risk drivers is about preventing accidents and keeping your bottom line intact. In this blog post, we'll explore common early warning signs of unsafe driving and how to intervene before it's too late.

#### SUDDEN OR FREQUENT VEHICLE INCIDENTS

Multiple minor incidents or near misses could be signs of a larger safety issue. Examples include backing accidents, low-speed collisions or repeated close calls. Even if no one is hurt, these add up.

Frequent minor incidents often indicate poor judgment or distraction, both major risks on the road. Recognizing patterns early can help address them before a serious crash occurs.

#### RISKY DRIVING BEHAVIORS OBSERVED OR REPORTED

Aggressive driving, speeding and tailgating are red flags for high-risk behavior. Telematics systems, dash cams and complaints from other drivers can reveal these behaviors.

These actions not only endanger the driver but also increase liability for your organization. Monitoring helps reinforce safer driving habits.

#### DECLINE IN PHYSICAL OR MENTAL FITNESS

Changes in health or alertness can directly affect driving ability. Examples include slower reaction times, fatigue, medication side effects or vision issues.

Age, stress or personal health conditions can lead to a decline in driving performance. It's crucial to have policies in place to reassess drivers if needed.

#### DISENGAGEMENT OR POOR ATTITUDE TOWARD SAFETY

A lack of concern for safety protocols often signals bigger risk. Skipping vehicle inspections, resisting safety training or dismissing rules are signs to watch for.

Safety starts with having the correct mindset. A disengaged driver is more likely to take shortcuts, ignore warnings and create unsafe conditions.

## RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS

Recognizing early warning signs of at-risk drivers—whether it’s recurring incidents, unsafe habits, health-related concerns or a poor attitude—can prevent costly accidents and protect everyone on the road.

The information in this article is provided as a courtesy of Great West Casualty Company and is part of the Value-Driven® Company program. Value-Driven Company was created to help educate and inform insureds so they can make better decisions, build a culture that values safety, and manage risk more effectively.

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