

# ROAD KNIGHTS NEWS

YOUR FAVORITE TRUCKING & LOGISTICS NEWS!

07 - 2022



## “Motivational Trucking Quotes

“There is more credit and satisfaction in being a first-rate truck driver than a tenth-rate executive.”  
~ B. C. Forbes



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## About Road Knights, Inc

We offer quality transportation and logistic services to all US clients at reasonable prices. Our courteous staff have the professional tools and experience necessary to help with all your needs. Our professional trucking company is well renowned throughout the

entire US. Our team is up for every job, managing projects with the skill and experience our clients have come to expect. Road Knights, Inc. is a family-owned trucking company that has been in operation since 2010 with headquarters in Schiller Park, IL. Our trucking

company is a full truckload and LTL carrier, specializing in refrigerated or climate controlled freight, and flatbed services; special equipment or atypical shaped/sized loads included.We always stand behind our work, with customer satisfaction being our #1 priority.

05 Things Drivers Never Should Do at the Scene of an Accident

04 SUMMER SAFETY TIPS FOR DRIVERS

03 Continual Training – Key to Improving Fleet Quality

02 Diesel Falls 8.2¢ to Reach \$4.911 a Gallon

# First five drivers of the month of July

WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT YOU ARE WORKING WITH US!



- 1. Gustavo Rojo
- 2. Jeffrey Frey
- 3. Tomika Sauls
- 4. Daniel Jenks
- 5. Bobby Joseph

Meet the winner  
Tonya Bailey

“



Hi my name is Gustavo Rojo. I am married and have one son. He is 13 I used to live in Chino California prior to being a truck driver I worked in construction. Construction wasn't working out for me. So I started driving truck in 2016. There is way more work!

When I first started driving trucks I knew that this job was for me I was getting paid way better and had a steady income my family really supports me with my change of career and I really look forward to the future.

I like working with Road Knights because they offer great pay. I tell my friends, "If Only They knew how hard construction could be they would work harder at truck driving!" This job is not that difficult. I like the support team at Road Knights because they help you understand that owing a truck is a right it is not a privilege"



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“

Do What You Love Quotess

"If you do what you love, you'll never work a day in your life." - Marc Anthony



# Eaigle eyes ways to refine trucking by using AI

There’s nothing artificial about the delays that can emerge in customer yards. Each comes with a real-world cost. On-duty clocks continue to tick away as drivers provide information at facility gates. Hours are wasted as shunt trucks search for misplaced trailers and move the units where they should have been parked in the first place.

Ontario-headquartered Eaigle believes many solutions can be found by applying artificial intelligence (AI) – and it’s done that very thing for clients such as Walmart Logistics, Agropur, and Cargill.

CEO Amir Hoss first experienced AI when working for an automotive OEM, where the technology helped refine manufacturing processes. It’s where AI-based camera systems were used to inspect everything from paint colors to alignments within seconds – a vital step when a car rolls off an assembly line every 45 seconds.

But Eaigle was established to apply such technologies to an array of applications, particularly those in the world of logistics.

“The idea was to ensure that people don’t spend their time on redundant tasks, on tasks that a \$100 camera or a solution can simply replace,” Hoss says.

It’s a key differentiator for the business. Some AI companies build their offerings on proprietary hardware. Eaigle develops its AI platform in-house, but also integrates any existing cameras to help reduce rollout costs. New hardware is only introduced where gaps exist.

“Cameras are expensive. Potential installation of cameras is costly. Also, where do you want to install? You don’t want to have a lighting pole in the middle of the yard to have cameras. So, we came up with the idea of mounting radar on the



perimeter of the building,” Hoss says.

## Deep insights

Deep insights then begin to emerge through the data collected by optical cameras, infrared units, and radar alike, much like the sensors mounted on autonomous vehicle systems. The difference here is that the building monitors the truck.

Picture a traditional setup where someone in a distribution center’s gate house reviews a truck driver’s documents, enters all the related data, takes a quick look at the condition of the truck, and then presses a button to open the gate. Eaigle uses cameras to speed up the entire process. Licence plates and equipment numbers are recognized and scanned; driver data is automatically entered when a licence is held up to a camera; a QR Code on the driver’s smartphone is scanned to collect details on the load. When the gate is opened, drivers know exactly where the trailer needs to go. Heat maps identify wherever trailers sit longer than they should.

“Registering the trailer and truck and the driver, we are aiming to save five to 15 minutes per every entry. Multiply that by 2,000 trucks that are coming to that facility every day. That’s how much time you’re saving,” Hoss says. “When they go inside, this yard-of-the-future idea is really to ensure that the trailer leaves that facility within four hours. And if not, [we know] why it did not.”

“We should not forget the advantage of saving lost time due to errors,” adds chief commercial officer Subhi Alsayed. “You’re making the existing process faster, but also you’re reducing or minimizing or eliminating errors and delays because of mistakes or human errors.”

Several factors continue to increase the use of AI in transportation, and Hoss says companies such as Tesla are leading the charge. But in trucking, much of the focus has come because of e-commerce and its related demands on the supply chain.

## Speed of the process

Delays must be eliminated to meet increasingly tighter delivery deadlines.

“Now the speed of the process becomes important in every aspect, every step of the way, from tracking from the gate, from the gate to the loading dock, from unloading, and the loading dock, and then the process within the warehouse,” Hoss says. “Everybody’s trying to move very fast. And when you move fast, now accuracy becomes more important.”

Processes need to be scalable and repeatable. Never overlooked. Any delays, after all, are more costly than ever.

“The trailer costs now 2-1/2 times more than what it was two years ago,” Hoss explains. “The dollar value associated with every hour of a trailer sitting in the yard is valued much more than what it was two years ago.”

More gains are possible, but a diverse industry presents several challenges. About 70% of the trucks that serve a Tier One logistics facility can still be run by third-party suppliers, many of them small operations, he says. Hundreds of carriers mean multiple approaches to collecting and distributing data.

Eaigle is applying an ever-larger team to the work, though. A business launched with three initial partners has grown to 25 employees. Another 25 contractors are spread across North America. An original customer experience center – a room filled with monitors and cameras to showcase capabilities – will soon be joined by a similar location in Arkansas.

“The whole Midwest is becoming the hub of logistics,” Hoss says.

But the research and development will continue in Canada.

# Diesel Falls 8.2¢ to Reach \$4.911 a Gallon

The national average price of diesel continued on its downward path, dropping 8.2 cents to settle at \$4.911 a gallon, according to Energy Information Administration data released Aug. 15.

## Highlights

- The average price of a gallon of diesel has fallen for eight consecutive weeks, totaling 89.9 cents.
- This week’s decrease was the first of less than a dime in the past six weeks. The previous time diesel dropped by less than at least 10 cents was June 27, when it dipped 2.7 cents to reach \$5.783.
- Diesel still costs \$1.555 more for a gallon on average than it did at this time in 2021.

- The cost for a gallon of trucking’s main fuel declined in all 10 regions surveyed by EIA, ranging from a high of 17.6 cents in New England to a low of 6.3 cents in the Gulf Coast.
- California, at \$6.019, remains the only EIA region in which diesel costs more than \$6 a gallon on average.
- Gasoline trimmed its price by an even dime, dropping below \$4 at \$3.938 a gallon.



	08/01/22	08/08/22	08/15/22	Change from	
				week ago	year ago
U.S.	5.138	4.993	4.911	▼ -0.082	▲ 1.555
East Coast (PADD1)	5.181	5.037	4.950	▼ -0.087	▲ 1.634
New England (PADD1A)	5.463	5.351	5.175	▼ -0.176	▲ 1.904
Central Atlantic (PADD1B)	5.518	5.384	5.291	▼ -0.093	▲ 1.806
Lower Atlantic (PADD1C)	5.027	4.874	4.802	▼ -0.072	▲ 1.590
Midwest (PADD2)	5.108	4.959	4.872	▼ -0.087	▲ 1.613
Gulf Coast (PADD3)	4.801	4.677	4.614	▼ -0.063	▲ 1.541
Rocky Mountain (PADD4)	5.181	5.040	4.963	▼ -0.077	▲ 1.306
West Coast (PADD5)	5.803	5.630	5.541	▼ -0.089	▲ 1.512
West Coast less California	5.399	5.224	5.124	▼ -0.100	▲ 1.442
California	6.266	6.097	6.019	▼ -0.078	▲ 1.700

\*prices include all taxes



# Continual Training – Key to Improving Fleet Quality

Ongoing training is equally, if not even more important than pre-employment orientation. Pre-employment training enables workers, in our case drivers, to perform their work activities according to industry and company standards. It also provides drivers with essential understanding of obligations and rules they need to obey, as well as expectations their company has. On the other hand, a company gets drivers with skills and mindset needed to do the job properly, accurately, and what is most important, safely.

Although pre-employment orientation secures that company's future drivers meet certain requirements, it is very important not to stay stuck on the same level and leave your drivers with limited knowledge and information. That's why trucking companies keep not only their drivers, but also all employees under continual training process.

Truckers often view training as punishment because they typically used to get trained only if they did something wrong. Because of that it is very important to get them to see that training is about improving and bettering themselves. Whether it's a refresher course on hauling hazardous material, a lesson on how to inspect brakes, or an update on the latest commercial driving regulations, training for drivers in the trucking industry is necessary.

Since it's impossible to bring all the drivers of one company together for classroom training or in-person meetings, online training platforms are a perfect solution. Thus, trainees are by no means limited in conducting their training and they can do it whenever or wherever it is convenient for them. Of course, there is only a time limit in terms of the deadline by which it should be finished.

What do drivers get from continual training? First of all, they are more likely to avoid mistakes which, in their business, can be very dangerous, costly and stressful. Also, they become more effective in the workplace and improve their skills to deliver a

professional service. Finally, they stay up to date with possible changes. Maybe laws and rules are not subject to frequent changes, but technology certainly develops at an extremely fast pace and if truckers don't keep up with it, they won't be able to use its advantages.

What do trucking companies get from it? It means that individuals are improving and therefore the company has knowledge and expertise to outperform competitors. At the same time, chances for accidents, failing inspections and making other violations decrease significantly, thus creating a better overall picture of the company.



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# Summer Safety Tips for Drivers



Summer is the perfect time to sit back, relax, and enjoy the weather. But as a truck driver, you know this can be one of the busiest times of the year – in terms of both your workload and the traffic you face on your routes. Now is the time to be careful and do everything you can to make the roads a safer place for everyone.

### UNSAFE SUMMER DRIVING FACTORS

What exactly makes summer the season of unsafe driving? Here are just a few key contributors to the greater traffic volume and higher risk of accidents during the sunniest time of the year.

### FAST & FUN VEHICLES

Summer is hot rod and motorcycle season! More drivers will be having fun in their convertibles, classic cars, and bikes, making the roads riskier for them and other motorists. It's best to take caution when you're traveling the same routes as these particular vehicles, especially during inclement weather or rough road conditions.

### HOLIDAYS, EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS

There's so much going on in such a few short months, which means you can expect to see many more drivers on the road compared to other times of the year when everyone wants to stay inside or avoid the roads as much as they can. From Memorial Day as the official kickoff of the season, Labor Day, Independence Day, and all the beach parties, bonfires, weddings, and other events in between, it's easy to see why there are more drivers (and, unfortunately, oftentimes impaired ones) taking to the streets.

### CONSTRUCTION ZONES

'Tis the season for road closures, detours, and the various construction projects that cause them. Any driver traveling on an unfamiliar route may make some hazardous decisions, fail to follow flaggers or new signage, or speed through the construction zone. This may cause delays – or worse – accidents.

As if the construction wasn't causing enough of a disturbance to your everyday commute or travel plans, any type of traffic jam or wreck can make them even harder to deal with during the summer months.

### SAFE DRIVING TIPS

With these extra hazards in mind, there are some additional safety precautions you should be taking specifically during the summer.

### CAREFULLY PLAN YOUR ROUTES

Taking extra time to schedule your trips during periods of lighter traffic can help you get to your destination quickly and safely. There are numerous apps available to help you with this, and your trucking GPS should point you in the right direction if there are any obstacles or detours in place. It's also important to take the weather conditions along your route into consideration. Tropical storms, tornados, sandstorms, and just about everything in between are more likely to occur in the hot months, which can severely impact your departure and arrival times. Regularly check weather apps while you're on the road to stay on top of any alerts that may come up.

### TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

Speaking of the weather, it's important to keep your health in mind during every season, but especially in the summer. The heat can take a toll on your hydration and energy levels, so remember to drink plenty of water throughout your workday and take intermittent breaks as needed. Your rest is just as important as your work. Watch your hours of service and make sure you're getting enough rest during off-duty hours. Maintaining the air conditioning and checking any power windows in your rig can help keep you cool during long trips. Parking in shady areas at your stops

makes a difference as well. Always apply sunscreen if you can't avoid sun exposure, even if it's for short periods of time.

### PRIORITIZE TRUCK MAINTENANCE

While this should already be a priority for you as a driver, it's never a bad idea to give your truck some extra TLC during the summer. Pre- and post-inspections should be done regularly and thoroughly to catch any fixes that need to be addressed. Higher temperatures can impact tire pressure, so be sure to check their air levels. Being mindful of your truck's temperature while idling and its coolant levels is a smart decision, too. The last thing you want to do is deal with a breakdown in the heat!

### AVOID DANGEROUS DISTRACTIONS

Summer may feel like a carefree season, but that doesn't mean you should throw caution to the wind when it comes to distracted driving. Eating, using a GPS, and texting or talking on the phone while driving are all risky decisions. Be diligent about avoiding these behaviors as much as you can. Not only can cell phone use result in a ticket, but all the above distractions can cause major accidents. With more accidents leading to severe lawsuits and nuclear verdicts, it's best to always avoid taking careless actions. Your safety, livelihood, and employer depend on it!

### MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR SUMMER

Being a truck driver means having a huge amount of responsibility resting on your shoulders, and that's no different during the summer months. Set the example of how we all should drive on the roads, no matter what type of vehicle we're traveling in. Putting these summer safety tips into action will help ensure you get home safely so you can enjoy the warmer weather, festivities, and holidays these coming months have to offer.



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“LIKE SHARE FOLLOW”

## ROAD KNIGHTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

Our company will soon start being more active on Facebook and Instagram. We would love for you to be a part of our social media platforms and participate in many giveaways. To begin with, we will create a poll of the most interesting images of you during your workday. Send us some interesting pictures of you while at pick up, delivery, waiting for something on your trip, etc. We will have others vote which of you has the best photo. The winning photo, with the highest rating, will bring you a cash prize.

Do not hesitate to follow us on social media and be our part of the team and win prizes.

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<https://www.facebook.com/RoadKnights.us>



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# Things Drivers Never Should Do at the Scene of an Accident



Semi-truck drivers have been a mainstay on the roads of the United States for decades. No matter how advanced the world can be, trucks are always the best way to haul freight across the nation in a timely manner. Truck drivers need to have a different mentality than regular car owners. They have to be up for hours on the road at a time, handling a truck carrying many tons of cargo.

How a truck driver responds on the scene has a major impact on the outcome of any claims that may follow.

Here’s a list of five things drivers should never, ever do at the scene of an accident:

**1 DO NOT LEAVE THE SCENE.**  
Drivers should stay on the scene of an accident until police and emergency responders arrive and tell them they can leave. Sounds like common sense, but it happens.

**2 DO NOT GET ARGUMENTATIVE OR PHYSICAL.**  
Picking a fight — verbal or physical — is a surefire way to make a bad situation worse. How the driver conducts himself on the scene can have a major impact on whether the bystanders become a witness for or against a motor carrier. The emotional response of those involved in the situation will have an impact on how they remember the “facts” — it’s just human nature.

**3 DO NOT DISCUSS FACTS REGARDING THE ACCIDENT WITH ANYONE OTHER THAN YOUR COMPANY AND THE POLICE.**

There will be people who show up on the scene and start asking questions. Some may be innocent bystanders, some may be ambulance chasers sniffing for a big dollar verdict. We’ve run into situations where people working for attorneys have approached a driver saying “I’m from your insurance company, can you explain what happened?” The only people a driver should discuss the situation with is his or her own company and the police.

**4 DO NOT ADMIT TO LIABILITY AT THE SCENE OR VOLUNTEER TO MAKE PAYMENTS — ALLOW YOUR COMPANY TO MAKE THAT DECISION AFTER FULL INVESTIGATION.**

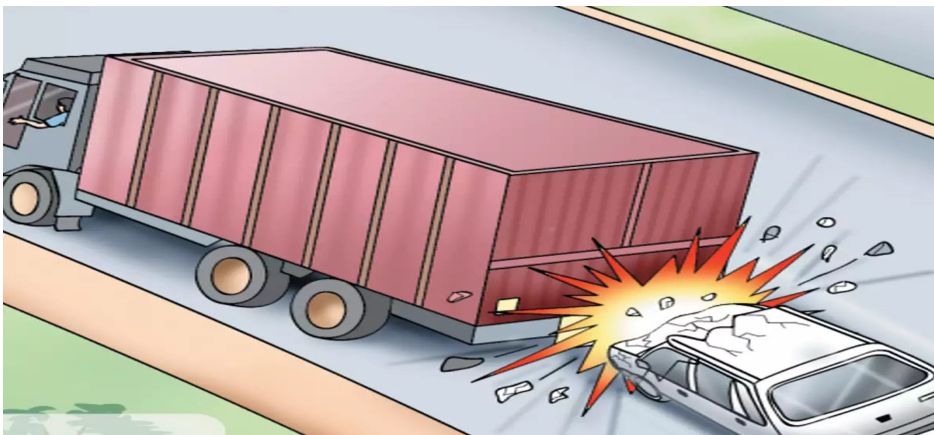
It’s human nature to want to say “sorry” when something goes awry — but even saying “I’m sorry this happened” can be twisted by a prosecutor into an admission of guilt. While your driver will certainly feel bad, reinforce that who’s at fault and who has liability will be determined following a full investigation.

**5 DO NOT DELAY REPORTING AN ACCIDENT, NO MATTER HOW MINOR IT MAY SEEM.**

The quicker a driver reports an accident, the quicker you can be prepared to respond. Days, hours, and minutes matter when it comes to collecting evidence and gathering witness testimony. Even a fender bender that seems minor needs to be reported right away — we have seen several accidents that seemed small blow up when the motorist has time to stew over it.

In some cases, drug testing may be required following an accident, either by the DOT or your insurance company. Controlled Substance Tests must be conducted within 32 hours and alcohol tests must be conducted within two hours. If the test is not performed within these time frames, you must provide documents stating the reason.

It’s no fun discussing or even thinking about trucking accidents. But, it’s one of the realities that comes with the job. Fortunately, you can mitigate your chances of being in a crash by training yourself mentally and physically to put safety first.



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Summer driving is not without its challenges. Adopting a few summer driving tips for truck drivers can help you avoid issues with your personal health and your vehicle’s well-being.

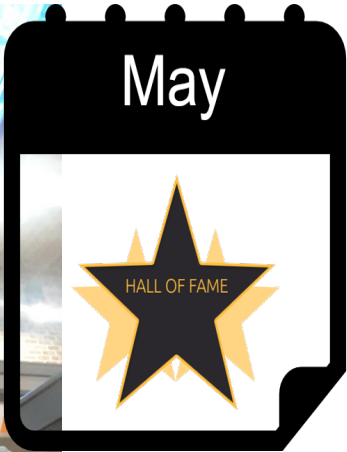
1. Pay Attention to Weather Forecasts
2. Check Your Truck’s Condition Frequently
3. Hydrate Frequently
4. Prepare for Congestion and Traffic Hazards
5. Protect Your Eyes
6. Use Sunscreen to Prevent Painful Burns



# Hall of FAME - ROAD KNIGHTS

WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” - Eleanor Roosevelt.





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Who are we?

We are a trucking company located in Chicago IL. Our company works with new equipment and well-maintained trucks and trailers. We have a very well organized 24 hour support. We take good care of our drivers, and look to build lasting work relationship!

If you are a CDL driver and looking to become an Owner/Operator driving new or newer equipment, then look no further! Our team goes above and beyond to cater to each owner/operator needs.

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