



## MAINTENANCE & TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

### Meeting Minutes November 17, 2011 Fort Smith, AR

#### Welcome

Mr. Randy Porter, Director of Maintenance for McKee Foods Transportation, LLC and Vice Chairman of the Maintenance and Technology Council of the Arkansas Trucking Association – standing in for Chairman Brent Hilton, called the 76<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Arkansas Trucking Association Maintenance and Technology Council to order at 11:00a.m. Vice Chairman Porter reminded everyone that this is their council and encouraged involvement from everyone and hoped that all in attendance took away some benefit for their time invested.

#### Housekeeping

Vice Chairman Porter pointed out housekeeping measures which included:

- Emergency exits
- This is an informal meeting format; feel free to use the facilities as needed
- Out of courtesy to others, please turn your cell phones and pagers to silent, if you need to make a call, please step out of the room
- Robert's Rules of Order, as revised will govern our proceedings
- There is a sign in sheet on each table, please make sure that you all sign the sheet.

#### Safety message

Vice Chairman Porter, in the tradition started by our first Chairman Mr. Carl Tapp stated: We like to begin each meeting with a short Safety Message. A Person's attitude toward safety is a CHOICE there are four levels of commitment.

Level 1 Comply when it's convenient

Level 2 Comply when I have to

Level 3 Believe for me and my family

Level 4 Believe for me, family, and teammates

Quote for Safety 24/7

We could all probably agree we have a safety culture that fits into one of these.

#### Introductions

Vice Chairman Porter suggested we begin our introductions by going around the room and having each person stand and state their name and affiliation.

Vice Chairman Porter recognized our presenters and new members of the Council and the Association: Ridge Corporation & Wabash National Corp.

Vice Chairman Porter also recognized Greg Carman of Carman, Inc. for attending as he currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Arkansas Trucking Association.

### ***Reading of the minutes of the last meeting dated October 20.***

Vice Chairman Porter informed everyone that the minutes from our last meeting have been published on the ATA website under the Maintenance and Technology Council page. He then asked for a motion from the floor to waive the reading of those minutes and approve them as written. The motion was granted, seconded, unopposed, and passed unanimously.

### ***Reports of Standing Committees***

None.

### ***New/Old Business***

Old business brought up for discussion:

None.

New business brought up for discussion:

None.

### ***Adjournment of Business Meeting***

In light of the fact that there is no further business, Vice Chairman Porter suggested adjourning the business meeting and asked for a motion from the floor to do so. The motion was granted, seconded, unopposed, and passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman Porter took a moment to thank Mr. Al Anderson and Mr. Jim Parison of BOSE Corporation for presenting at our last meeting.

### ***Presentations***

Presenting is: John & Chris w/Ridge Corporation and Todd Blaising w/DuraPlate Wabash

Our presenters will be available after the meeting for questions and everyone is welcome to ask questions throughout the presentations.

1<sup>st</sup> presenter is Ridge Corporation; our speakers are John Shuttleworth and Chris Fannin.

BIO: John Shuttleworth

John entered the trucking industry in 2003 with Strick Trailer in Monroe, IN. He was responsible for the Dealer program, Fleet sales, and specialty trailers including furniture vans and Government trailers. Starting in 2006, John shared responsibility for Cheetah Chassis and Evan's Trailer product lines. In 2010, John joined Manac Trailer as Midwest Sales Manager with responsibility for TrailMobile vans, CPS dump trailers, and Manac flatbeds. John joined Ridge Corporation in 2011 as Sales Manager for Transportation Products.

Prior to the entering the Trucking Industry, John worked for 15 years in Automation and Packaging for an International provider of conveyor systems. John has a Mechanical Engineering degree from Purdue University and an East Asian Studies degree from Bucknell University.

And his counterpart,

BIO: Chris Fannin

Chris has been involved in the automotive and trucking industry for over 15 years with a background in Automation specifying equipment and direct sales to the automotive and trucking Industries, with a direct sales back ground in Plastic assembly and welding technologies. Chris also spent 10 years as an over the road Driver. His current responsibilities

are in Sales and Installation training to Fleets, Dealers, as well as OEMs. Chris provides Industry information to our Management and Engineering Departments.

2<sup>nd</sup> presenter is Todd Blaising with DuraPlate Wabash

BIO: Todd Blaising

Todd is the Manager of Field Sales and Service for the DuraPlate Products Group, a strategic business unit of Wabash National. Todd has over 30 years of industry experience in Sales and Customer Service with companies such as Cortec, Todco and Wabash.

### **Questions & Answers**

Question. Is ice build-up a problem?

Answer. Ridge: Ice doesn't bond well to polypropylene. We aren't aware of any issues that ice has been a problem such as ice being lodged between the Side Skirt bracing and coming off in chunks or anything of that sort.

Question. Do crosswinds pose a problem for trailers with Side Skirts?

Answer. Ridge: Side Skirts actually help with trailer stability.

Question. What is the optimum clearance for Side Skirts?

Answer. Ridge: There are many variables that determine the specific clearance. However, the clearance toward the center of our Side Skirt is 11" to 12" with an arch that is designed to clear standard docks, which prevents our Skirts from contacting the ground most of the time.

Question. Are there measureable fuel savings gains to be noticed as you add the various Aerodynamic components to tractors that are couple to trailers with Aerodynamic Side Skirts?

Answer. Ridge: Yes, the trailers will provide a 5% and there are noticeable gains with each Aerodynamic component that is added in addition low rolling resistant tires provide additional measureable gains.