

LTSC Newsletter November 2017

Regional meetings:

The LTSC Executive held a Regional meeting in Whangarei late September. This was well attended by operators and provided a good opportunity to present and discuss what the Council is currently doing and to get feedback from its members in Northland.

Earlier in the day we met with representatives of the various Forest Owners, as well as Northport staff, where we discussed various operational matters relating to the area.

Next stop was Invercargill on the 3rd of November, where we met with local operators in the afternoon and then had the great pleasure of attending a session with operators and drivers where 49 Training Pathway certificates were presented to deserving recipients. It was especially pleasing to see the first Platinum Certificate presented to Blair Keelty of McNeill Distribution Ltd.



Blair with Janet Lane (CEO MITO) and Warwick Wilshier (Chairman LTSC)

(photo courtesy of Corrina Jane Photography)

IRTENZ Award:

It was really pleasing to see Warwick Wilshier, Chairman of the LTSC, presented with the Outstanding Industry Achievement Award at the recent IRTENZ Conference. Dom Kalasih IRTENZ President said that Warwick had led the formation of the Log Transport Safety Council in 1996, a time of chronic log truck roll over incidents. The log truck industry chose to take responsibility for the problem it faced and put in place the initiatives to effect real change, rather than wait for legislators to address the problem in a way the industry may not have found suitable. Today's log truck industry is unrecognisable compared with the one the group embarked on turning around in 1996.



Trailer Lifting Chain certification:

Transport Operators should now be planning to complete the annual certification of their lifting chains; the forms are available from the LTSC Webpage (www.logtruck.co.nz). The check should be carried out by a competent person; this could be your Service Manager, Service Provider, Trailer Manufacturer, an "A" grade mechanic or similar trade, or the supplier of the lifting chains.

The new stickers are now available, current stickers expire 31 January 2018.

Operators are reminded that you only have to send in the Statutory Declaration page, all calculation sheets should be kept by you.

LTSC Projects:

The LTSC has engaged the University Of Canterbury College Of Engineering to work on 2 projects for our Industry, these are:

Load Security - Load securing in the log transport industry, injury, risks and interventions.

Trailer Lifting - a review of the log trailer lifting methods (national and International) to explore feasible alternatives with a view to improving ergonomics and safety.

Both of these projects are being undertaken by students in their last year at University. The 2 LTSC members on the working groups, to help oversee the 2 projects, are Campbell Gilmour (Dynes transport Ltd) and Mark Wareing (Philip Wareing Ltd).

If, as an operator you have a smart idea to contribute to either of these two projects now is a good time to advise the LTSC, as we can get the students to check out the option either by building and trialling, or at least have them evaluate the suggestion, as part of the project. Please advise the Secretary if you are keen to share your good ideas.

Fleet Photos:

If you have any fleet photos that you would like uploaded on our gallery page on the LTSC website, please forward these to the Secretary.

Load Tensioners:

The latest shipment of the new LTSC load tensioners has arrived and they are now available for purchase. The cost of these is \$36.00 Plus GST per tensioner, plus any freight costs from Tokoroa, we have stock available also ex Christchurch.

Please contact the Secretary to place your order; currently they come in boxes of 5.

Training Pathway:

The Council commends those drivers who have completed the various stages of the Training Pathway to date and greatly appreciates the diligence and professionalism you've demonstrated.

Up to the 3rd of November, the LTSC has presented 166 Gold certificates, 46 Silver certificates and 109 Bronze certificates, plus the first Platinum certificate.

Congratulations to all the drivers who have achieved their certificates and to the Transport Companies who have embraced the Training Pathway to date.

Need more information on the pathway, please contact the Secretary or check the website.

IRIS database:

The Council has developed a new incident database (an off shoot of the Forest Owners IRIS database) which has been modified to reflect the business of a log transport operator. ACC has approved the database to fulfill its auditing requirements.

If you would like more detail as to how this system can be used to enhance your business, please contact the Secretary or check the link on the LTSC webpage (www.logtruck.co.nz).

To make the data even more meaningful and useful requires more transport operators to be using the system. The beauty of this system is that you can benchmark your incidents against the Industry average by region. It helps the LTSC identify and focus on key areas requiring improvement. All information entered remains confidential to the provider.

Sleep Apnoea project:

The Council, with help from Rachel from FRMS, has developed a program that will help operators, cost effectively and in timely manner, pre-test employees for sleep apnoea utilising the council's own equipment. This program includes the recently produced video of personal accounts from actual drivers in the industry that can be shown to drivers and staff to help break down the barriers to taking the first step to getting tested.

The program kit will include all the information and material for a suitable manager, or senior staff, within companies to deliver to their staff, either in a group or a one on one situation.

Once the pre-questionnaire is completed by the driver the decision will be made whether or not the overnight sleep test is required. If so, the driver will be given all the information and equipment to complete this and the results will be sent back to FRMS to be analysed.

The results from this test and any further follow up that may be required will be provided back to the company concerned by FRMS.

Details of the program are now up on the LTSC website, don't forget to check out the video of the two drivers who shared their experiences of having sleep apnoea and how it affected their daily lives at work and at home.

Radio Channels:

The LTSC has recently invested in 10 radio Simplex Road Safety channels across New Zealand that are dedicated to our Industry. These channels are available free to LTSC financial members; contact the LTSC Secretary for details.

Share the Road program:

LTSC members are actively supporting this program with the various Forest Owners in many parts of the Country. Operators make a truck available when a school visit is planned, the students learn about how to be safe and be seen around heavy motor vehicles, especially the students on rural roads which have a heavy motor vehicle presence.

The LTSC is also supporting the program by supplying giveaways on the day. Since 2013 the program in the Central North Island has visited 65 schools and has had in excess of 4500 students attend the program. Northland has been operating a lot longer and areas like Gisborne and Hawkes Bay are also running the program in their areas.

Need more information on this contact the LTSC Secretary.