



Special Guest Speakers

69th Annual Convention * July 30 – August 1, 2009 * Sandestin Beach & Golf Resort

Trucking Issues in the National Arena. Shorty Whittington, Chairman of the American Trucking Associations and President of Grammer Industries in Grammer, IN, will discuss the major issues facing the trucking industry at the national level.



“Current Insurance Issues.” It is critical that the trucking industry stay abreast of any and all issues impacting insurance in Louisiana. Commissioner of Insurance Jim Donelon will join us to discuss current issues that could impact your operations, availability of insurance in Louisiana and what he sees on the horizon that could make his job a lot more interesting in the future.

“Baker and the People's Side of Trucking.” Dan Baker has a lot of interesting things to say. Dan’s message is the people side of trucking. His presentations are fun, funny, and full of jokes, stories and one-liners. But he never departs far from his basic theme that if you’re in trucking today, first of all you’re in the people business and secondly, you’re in the trucking business.



“Incident Management and Motor Carrier Safety.” Col. Mike Edmonson of the Louisiana State Police will discuss his agency's role in incident management and give us an update on the issues that will affect his agency and especially motor carrier safety regulation in Louisiana. Col. Edmonson will also introduce the Trooper of the Year and the Weight Enforcement Officer of the Year.

“The Latest in Trucking Research: The View from the Road”. Rebecca Brewster, President and COO of the American Transportation Research Institute (ATRI), a well-known leader in transportation-related research, will discuss Fuel costs, the economy, hours-of-service, environmental issues, congestion, driver shortage – all are top industry concerns and each has an impact on your job, your fleet and the industry at large. Ms. Brewster will provide an overview of the top industry issues and where research can make the road a little easier to travel.



“Regulatory and Liability Issues” Doug Williams, LMTA General Counsel with Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, LLP will discuss how to avoid having your post-accident preventability determination used against you at trial. And, he will discuss the relationship between driver obesity, sleep apnea and exposure to liability.

“What “Card Check” Really Means to Trucking” Murphy Foster of Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, LLP will discuss the Employee Free Choice Act – or “card check” bill – that will effectively eliminate secret ballots for workers in union organizing elections and bind employers to contracts that inhibit their ability to create much-needed new jobs. Murphy will also review other current labor related issues.

