

THE GREEN LIGHT

The official newsletter of ATA Comp Fund

WHAT'S INSIDE

OSHA 101: 2-3

2025 Safety Initiative: 4

Monthly Safety Training: 5

Safety Spotlight: 6-7

What's Happening: 8

Program News: 9

JOIN US IN MOBILE OCTOBER 16TH!



Our first two Building Blocks of a Safety Culture had record turnouts. Now, there's one more chance to join our team for a regional event designed to equip transportation and trucking industry professionals with the essential tools and knowledge to implement and maintain a strong, sustainable safety culture within their organizations.

October 16th Hampton Inn & Suites Downtown Mobile

These seminars offer a unique opportunity to connect with industry experts, network with peers, and leave with actionable strategies to enhance safety and claim management within your company. Scan or click the QR code to register today!

OSHA 101: WHAT EVERY BUSINESS SHOULD KNOW

Jason Brown August 1, 2025

Ensuring workplace safety isn't just about compliance — it's about protecting lives, reducing claims, and fostering a culture of care. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) plays a central role in this mission, and understanding its framework is essential for every employer.

2024 INJURY & ILLNESS SNAPSHOT

According to OSHA's latest data:

- 527,116 workplace injury and illness cases were reported.
- 500,572 involved days away from work.
- 410,604 led to job transfers or restrictions.
- 750 workplace fatalities occurred.

These numbers underscore the importance of proactive safety measures — not only to protect workers but also to reduce the financial and legal risks associated with workplace incidents.

EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES

Employers must:

- Comply with OSHA standards
- Identify and correct hazards
- Provide PPE at no cost
- Maintain injury/illness records
- Report serious incidents promptly
- Avoid retaliation against workers

\$ CURRENT OSHA FINES

Violation Type	Min Penalty	Max Penalty
Serious	\$ 1,221	\$ 16,550
Other than Serious	\$ 0	\$ 16,550
Willful or Repeated	\$ 11,823	\$ 165,514
Posting Requirements	\$ 0	\$ 16,550
Failure to Abate	N/A	\$ 16,550 per day*

*up to 30 days



Click [here](#) to discover our Risk Management team's Educational Resources. As your trusted partner in worker's compensation, we offer risk assessments and safety audits, training resources for OSHA compliance, claims analysis to identify trends, and support for implementing safety programs



OSHA 101: WHAT EVERY BUSINESS SHOULD KNOW

Continued

REAL-WORLD CASE STUDIES

HEAVY TRUCK SHOP SAFETY FAILURE (2024)

A technician was seriously injured when a hydraulic lift failed during maintenance on a Class 8 truck. The lift had not been inspected in over a year, and safety stands were not used. The truck collapsed, pinning the worker's leg and causing multiple fractures. OSHA cited the shop for multiple violations:

- Hydraulic Lift Safety: No inspection logs or secondary safety supports.
- Lockout/Tagout (LOTO): No energy control procedures or employee training.
- Hazard Communication: Missing Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and chemical training.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Inadequate gloves and eye protection.
- Housekeeping: Oil spills and cluttered workspaces created trip hazards.

Penalties: \$38,000

Lesson: Skipping basic safety checks—like equipment inspections and LOTO training—can lead to serious injuries and costly fines.

FORKLIFT FATALITY AT A DISTRIBUTION CENTER (2023)

An Illinois logistics company was cited after a warehouse worker was fatally crushed by a forklift. OSHA found:

- No seatbelt enforcement
- Inadequate pedestrian safety zones
- Lack of operator training

Penalties: Over \$250,000 in fines

Lesson: Forklift safety protocols and training are critical in warehousing and distribution environments.

HEAT ILLNESS IN DELIVERY OPERATIONS (2024)

A Texas-based delivery company faced OSHA citations after a driver collapsed from heat exhaustion. The investigation revealed:

- No hydration breaks
- Lack of heat illness training
- No weather monitoring protocols

Outcome: Required implementation of a heat illness prevention program

Lesson: Environmental hazards like heat stress are increasingly scrutinized, especially in transportation roles.

TAKE ACTION

Reducing workplace injuries starts with awareness and action. Let's work together to build safer workplaces and lower your risk exposure!

SAFETY FROM THE GROUND UP.

Abby Greer August 11, 2025

One of our most successful initiatives has been our annual Safety Blitz, which reimaged the traditional “blitz” concept as a positive, engaging way to promote safety and recognize drivers. For 2025, we will pause the Safety Blitz and instead focus on a targeted safety-centered Footwear, PPE, and Safe Work Practices program, “Safety from the Ground Up.”



MEET SAFETY SIMON

It wouldn't be fall at the ATA Comp Fund without a fun character to promote our work. This year may not be a “Blitz”, but we are still introducing Safety Simon, the newest ATA Comp Fund team member, whose sole (pun intended) focus is to ensure everyone puts Safety First. Be on the lookout for our “Safety from the Ground Up” proper footwear posters, coming soon!

SAFE WORK PRACTICES

Did you know that 80% of injuries in our industry occur when the vehicle is **not** moving? The majority of these accidents are entirely preventable by using proper footwear/PPE and having situational awareness.

Our Risk Management team will be focusing their efforts on making sure our members are up-to-date on proper footwear, PPE policies, and have trainings in place for preventing slips, trips, and falls. Scan the QR code below for a custom YouTube playlist for this initiative.



Click here for the custom
2025 Safety Initiative
YouTube playlist.



NEED SAFETY TRAINING IDEAS? WE'VE (STILL) GOT YOU.

Abby Greer August 5, 2025

Coming up with fresh, new content for monthly safety trainings can be tough. Our Risk Managers have been working hard to provide an easy tool that can assist in safety training for our members... and helps to alleviate some of the stress that comes with scheduling these very important meetings. The MONTHLY SAFETY TRAINING CALENDAR provides topics for each month and includes a one-page handout, relevant videos from our archives, and a quick game to reinforce the message and can be incorporated for prizes!

SEPTEMBER

Outside Distractions are all around us and pose a significant safety hazard to drivers and pedestrians.



OCTOBER

Speeding is a dangerous - and completely avoidable - driver behavior. Arriving SAFE is more important than arriving FAST.



NOVEMBER

Texting and driving involves visual, manual, and cognitive distraction. It's downright DANGEROUS... and ILLEGAL.



DECEMBER

Stress not only wreaks havoc on your mental well-being; the damage to your body can sometimes be irreversible.



This resource is available exclusively to members of the ATA Comp Fund program and is also available in our [Online Portal](#) under the Resources tab. Contact your Risk Manager today to learn more about how you can incorporate this useful tool in your safety trainings!

SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

Abby Greer August 12, 2025

The “Safety Spotlight” feature of The Green Light shines the spotlight on safety professionals to gain insight into their background, and their thoughts and ideas on safety in our industry.

Meet Christopher Haney, CDS - Director of H.S.S.E. & HR at Payne Trucking. With almost four decades of leadership experience and a career that spans luxury hospitality management and heavy-haul trucking, Christopher Haney knows that Safety is both a science and an art. As a Director of Safety, HR & Risk Management, he oversees everything from compliance and training to risk management and legal representation — all while keeping a sense of humor and a genuine connection with the people he protects. Whether he’s representing the company in litigation or swapping stories with drivers in the yard, Chris believes Safety isn’t just a policy — it’s a promise.



How did you get started in Safety? What do you view as the main duties of a Safety Director?

My career in Safety was the natural intersection of two worlds — hospitality and trucking. After years in high-profile hotel management, where guest safety and service excellence were non-negotiable, I transitioned into transportation. The stakes were higher, the vehicles bigger, and the regulations... well, let’s just say the FMCSA doesn’t hand out “frequent flyer points.” As a Safety Director, my primary role is to protect lives, property, and the company’s reputation. That means ensuring compliance with DOT, OSHA, PHMSA, and environmental regulations, while also building a safety culture where policies aren’t just rules on paper but part of everyday operations.

What has been the most challenging task in your role/career as a Safety Director?

Changing mindsets. Equipment can be replaced and processes updated, but convincing someone who’s been “doing it this way for 30 years” to see a new perspective? That’s the real heavy haul. The trick is to pair data with stories, and occasionally, a little humor, to make the medicine go down easier.

SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

Continued

How do you promote your company's safety culture? How do you get employees to "buy in" or get involved?

I focus on communication, recognition, and consistency. I make sure Safety isn't just talked about when something goes wrong. We celebrate milestones, recognize drivers and staff who model safe behavior, and keep Safety top-of-mind without turning it into "background noise." The buy-in happens when people see it's not about discipline — it's about protecting our team and their ability to keep earning a living.

What advice do you wish you had received early in your safety career? What advice would you give to someone who is starting out in their safety role?

Advice I wish I had received: You can't change everything at once, no matter how many certifications you earn or how much coffee you drink. Advice I give: Listen first, act second. Safety is as much about relationships as regulations. If people trust your intentions, they'll trust your guidance.

What is your "One Big Thing" you focus on in your safety role?

Creating a culture where Safety is second nature — not a checklist. When Safety is instinctive, it becomes the foundation for every decision, from the driver's seat to the boardroom.

What would be your safety quote or message?

"Safety isn't a rulebook. It's a promise you keep — to yourself, your family, and the person in the vehicle next to you."

Any other information you would like to provide?

I've been fortunate to serve in multiple industry leadership roles, from the American Trucking Association's Safety Management Council to the Virginia and Maryland trucking associations. But at the heart of it, I'm still the guy who will roll up his sleeves, walk the yard, and talk shop with drivers. And if we can swap a good story or two along the way — even better.



WHAT'S HAPPENING



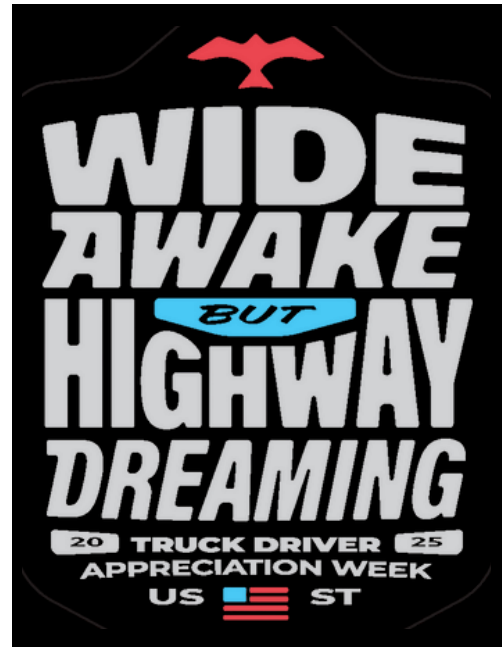
ALABAMA TRUCKING DRIVER APPRECIATION INITIATIVE

Alabama Trucking Association has partnered with Alabama recording artists, Sweet Tea Trio, to present "Highway Dreaming". This song is a tribute to the 3.5 million truckers who keep our country moving. Stay tuned - the full track drops in September, just in time for Truck Driver Appreciation Week!

NATIONAL TRUCK DRIVER APPRECIATION WEEK

The 2025 National Truck Driver Appreciation Week will be held from September 14th to September 20th. This week is dedicated to recognizing and thanking professional truck drivers for their hard work and dedication in keeping the economy moving.

Alabama Trucking has developed a heartfelt campaign for this year's celebration: Highway Dreaming. As part of the campaign, they are offering custom-designed stickers to show appreciation for these highway heroes. ATA members can request up to five complimentary stickers. Additional stickers are available at cost. To place your order or inquire about bulk pricing, please contact Brandie Norcross at bnorcross@alabamatrucking.org.



ALABAMA TRUCKING ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

The Alabama Trucking team is ready for its largest fundraising event of the year! Join the team Tuesday, October 7th at the Robert Trent Jones - Capitol Hill in Prattville, Alabama, for their Annual Golf Classic, benefitting the TRUK PAC. Festivities kick off Monday, October 6th with a celebration reception. Register your team today!

PROGRAM NEWS

The ATA Comp Fund, along with the Alliance Interstate Risk program, has returned a 10-year average annual historical dividend of 32.7% to participating companies, with over \$304 million distributed since 1993.

We look forward to continuing our current partnerships in 2026, as well as making new ones. Join us and we will work together to make your company one of the safest and most successful in the industry.

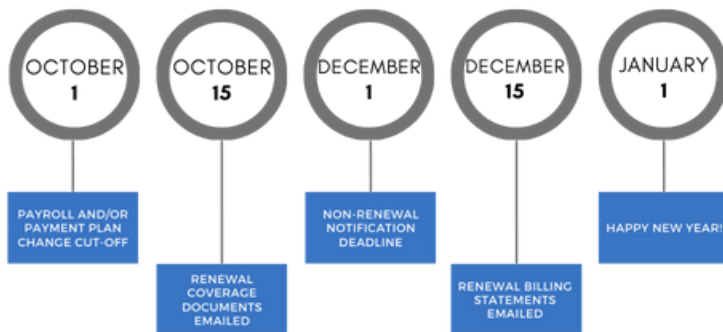
we are pleased to announce

\$22,805,135

will be distributed with 2026 renewals



2026 Renewal Timeline



IT'S RENEWAL TIME!

- **The deadline for payroll changes is October 1st.** We will be finalizing renewals in early October. All payroll changes for 2026 renewals must be submitted prior to this date. Any changes submitted after October 1st will be reviewed in January.

- **Requests for payment plan changes must be submitted by October 1st.** Current payment plan options are Annual, Quarterly, Monthly Installments, and Monthly Self-Reporting.
- Renewal coverage documents for 2026 will be emailed **mid-October**.
- **Requests to non-renew (cancel) must be received in our office no later than 5pm CST on December 1st.** All notifications received after that time will be subject to 30-day notice of cancellation guidelines, which will be strictly enforced.



A copy of our most recent [Financials](#) can be found on our website.

