



**Saskatchewan
Trucking
Association**



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News Release

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Trucking association welcomes Federal initiative

SASKATOON, Sask. – The Saskatchewan Trucking Association (STA) today welcomed a Federal government pilot project aimed at encouraging more fuel-efficient technologies for highway tractor trailer trucks.

“Offering financial incentives to our industry to adopt more aerodynamic devices for commercial fleets is a step in the right direction,” said STA President Glen Ertell. “Trucking has been greatly impacted by the economic downturn and any help the Federal government can give us in terms of realizing greater fuel efficiencies is appreciated.”

Mr. Ertell was responding to an announcement Thursday by Brad Trost, Federal MP for Saskatoon – Humboldt, on behalf of the Minister of Natural Resources, that the government would partially fund companies using SmartWaySM certified technologies to increase fuel efficiency in large trucks.

Mr. Ertell pointed out that the truck transport industry is already adopting other leading-edge technologies to reduce green house gas (GHG) emissions and pollutants. “Our industry’s new smog-free engines have reduced particulate matter emissions by 90% and NOx by 95%. However, this has increased our operating costs,” he said.

“Employing low rolling resistance tires, fairings, side skirts and other streamlining devices can result in fuel savings of 2% to 10%, Mr. Ertell noted. “To an industry [in Canada] that uses 6,000,000,000 litres of fuel per year that can translate into significant savings.”

In Saskatchewan, close to 95% of shipped goods are truck-dependent and more than 25,000 persons are employed in the industry. About 80% of the province’s gross domestic product is shipped to the U.S. by truck.

A not-for-profit trade association, the STA is the voice of truck transport in Saskatchewan. With more than 300 carrier and associate trades members, the association offers seminars, insurance, truck driver and heavy equipment training and consulting services.

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INTERESTING FACTS

The following statistics on the trucking industry have been sourced through Transport Canada's annual reports - Transportation in Canada:

95% of the goods moved within Saskatchewan depend on trucks.
There are approximately **2,300** trucking companies registered within Saskatchewan.

Transportation industries employ more than **28,000** persons, or **5%** of the Saskatchewan labour force. These persons are residents and tax payers within our communities.

More than **227,000** Canadians are truck transport drivers, making it one of the top occupations in this country.

Nationally, the truck transport industry purchases **6 billion** litres of fuel annually.

A typical tractor trailer unit raises approximately **\$ 60,000.00** a year in federal/provincial taxes and fees.

If all the inter-provincial trucking companies with headquarters in Saskatchewan relocated to other provinces, Saskatchewan would lose **\$ 300 million** in gross income.

More than **200,000** commercial trucks cross the Saskatchewan/U.S. Border each year.

\$5.35 billion of Saskatchewan's exports are to the United States.

\$6.38 billion of Saskatchewan imports are from the United States.

80% of Saskatchewan's merchandise trade with the United States is shipped by truck.

Canada and the United States trade **\$300 billion** in goods and services every year. More than **60%** of these goods travel by truck.

Commercial truck operators must comply with the National Safety Code and provincial regulations that include driver, vehicle and operational related safety regulations.