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# NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

## MISSOURI TRUCK DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS IN SPRINGFIELD

SPRINGFIELD, MO. – On June 3 & 4, 2016, the Missouri Trucking Association held the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Missouri Truck Driving Championships at Ramada Plaza Hotel and Oasis Convention Center in Springfield, the Official 2016 TDC Headquarters.

The two-day event, sponsored by the Association's Council of Safety Supervisors, evaluated 151 drivers on a written test of their knowledge of the industry; safety and security; first aid, health and personal safety; and fire safety. Another segment of testing included hands-on required Federal vehicle inspections. The participants then competed on a point-value-assessed driving skills course of six obstacles completed under actual everyday conditions. In their respective classes, drivers tested their expertise in the driving skills they use daily. The skills course tested drivers' ability to judge distances, maneuver tight spaces, park and position their vehicle exactly over scales, before barriers or around curves.

Over 550 on-lookers at the Awards Banquet Saturday evening saw **Glen Horack** of Elkland, MO, receive the prestigious "Grand Champion" title as Missouri's best of the best. Glen, a driver for Prime, Inc. of Springfield, MO achieved this recognition by achieving the highest point differential above the average within his class in all three elements of skill and knowledge.

Mr. Horack was also awarded the top driver in the Sleeper Berth Class during the annual safe driving competition. He will be joined by eight other class winners as the Missouri Championships Team travels to Indianapolis, IN to compete against other state teams in the American Trucking Association's National Truck Driving Championships August 10 – August 13, 2016. During the competition the Missouri Team will compete against 450 other professionals vying for selection as the nation's top professional truck drivers.

First, second and third place winners in all nine classes of competition as well as the top "Rookie", the driver with the best Pre-Trip Inspection, the driver with the highest score on the Written Examination and the driver awarded for Professional Excellence were honored at the Awards Banquet Saturday evening.

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Winners and runners-up in the classes of competition are listed below with the driver's hometown, and employer company.

**Straight Truck Class**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – **James Houghton**, Gower, MO – *FedEx Express, Kansas City, MO*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – **Dale Elkins**, Highlandville, MO – *Christenson Transportation, Strafford, MO*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – **Steve Reinhardt**, Baldwin, IL – *Walmart Transportation, St. James, MO*

**Three Axle Class**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – **Kent Luebbers**, Caseyville, IL – *UPS Freight, St. Louis, MO*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – **Vito Marciante**, O'Fallon, MO – *Old Dominion Freight Line, St. Charles, MO*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – **Robert Bramwell**, Centerview, MO – *ABF Freight System, Inc., Sedalia, MO*

**Four Axle Class**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – **Joseph Hartsell**, Collinsville, IL – *UPS Freight, St. Louis, MO*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – **Donald Cook**, Gobles, MI – *Prime, Inc., Springfield, MO*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – **David Wiechers**, Lee's Summit, MO – *ABF Freight System, Inc., Kansas City, MO*

**Five Axle Van Class**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – **Bruce Brewen**, Valles Mines, MO – *Hogan Transport, Bridgeton, MO*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – **Wayne Pierce**, Old Monroe, MO – *UPS Freight., St. Louis, MO*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – **Albert Hockett**, Rolla, MO – *XPOLogistics, Rolla, MO*

**Flatbed Class**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – **Terry Johnson, Jr.**, Hamilton, MI – *Prime, Inc., Springfield, MO*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – **Marc Moore**, Sparta, IL – *UPS Freight., St. Louis, MO*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – **Darrin Davis**, East Prairie, MO – *Buchheit Logistics, Scott City, MO*

**Tank Truck Class**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – **Remy Braun**, Carthage, MO – *D & D Sexton, Inc., Carthage, MO*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – **Jerry Farnsworth**, Mount Vernon, MO – *Solar Transport, Springfield, MO*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – **Michael Hausner**, O'Fallon, MO – *FedEx Freight, Inc., St. Charles, MO*

**Sleeper Berth Class**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – **Glen Horack**, Elkland, MO – *Prime, Inc., Springfield, MO*  
2<sup>nd</sup> – **Bobby Chilcoat**, Moore, OK – *XPOLogistics, Joplin, MO*  
3<sup>rd</sup> – **Rod Werner**, Perryville, MO – *Walmart Transportation, St. James, MO*

**Twin Trailers Class**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – **Jason Budd**, Nixa, MO – *FedEx Freight, Inc., Springfield, MO*  
2<sup>nd</sup> – **Lawrence O'Neal**, Festus, MO – *FedEx Freight, Inc., St. Charles, MO*  
3<sup>rd</sup> – **Randy Davis**, Mineral Point, MO – *XPOLogistics, St. Louis, MO*

**Step Van Class**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – **Steven Campbell**, Webb City, MO – *FedEx Ground, Joplin, MO*  
2<sup>nd</sup> – **James Ingram**, Licking, MO – *FedEx Freight, Inc., Cabool, MO*  
3<sup>rd</sup> – **Sean Barber**, Independence, MO – *FedEx Ground, Kansas City, MO*

**Vito Marciante** of O'Fallon, MO, a driver for *Old Dominion Freight Line, Springfield, MO*, was named "Rookie of the Year" for his outstanding well-rounded performance as a first-time contestant.

The "Pre-Trip Inspection" award for the highest score in assuring that a vehicle is in safe and efficient operating condition before leaving on a trip went to **Robert Hussey** of St. James, MO, a driver for *Walmart Transportation of St. James, MO*.

**Michael Gandee**, Cardington, OH of *Prime, Inc., Springfield, MO* received the Award for Highest Written Examination Score.

The Recipient of the Professional Excellence Award, the driver who most exemplifies the best attributes of a professional truck driver, was **Byron Bramwell**, Centerview, MO, of YRC Freight of Kansas City, MO.

The "Team Championship" went to **UPS Freight**, based in Richmond, VA, for having the highest average team score in the competition.

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