

Frank Larance, Director IT & Asset Utilization

Hello, my name is Frank Larance and I'm the Director of IT and Asset Utilization for Roadmaster Group. I can't believe we are already in month 3 of 2021. For me, this last year created an opportunity to rethink priorities and refocus some of my efforts. I'm thankful that transportation workers and especially truck drivers are finally beginning to be understood for the essential service they provide to our country. Without your sacrifice, dedication, and perseverance the flow of goods and services comes to a grinding halt.

Roadmaster Group rose above the challenges faced in 2020 and delivered one of the best years in the company's history. Even though most of us were further apart we all came together as a team to achieve a great result. This exceptional performance is continuing into 2021 and we have some more exciting things to talk about this year. Below are some focus points from my teams. I've also included some additional company information that I hope that you find useful. Please feel free to reach out if you have any additional comments or questions.

I'm going to cover a lot of ground in the next few paragraphs. Here are the main topics...

- RMGconnect Driver Mobile App
- Telematics
- PrePass Tolls and Weight Station Bypass
- Equipment
- Pricing

RMGconnect – Driver Mobile App

There's an app for that... and it's called RMGconnect. (available for iOS and Android)

Have Questions? The RMGconnect app has answers!

Get the latest news on RMGconnect!

I don't know when my credentials expire – RMGconnect gives you reminders!

There's a typo in my order number and I need to rescan all the paperwork – RMGconnect puts the Order number and other relevant load information automatically!

What does my pay history look like – current and historical pay is accessible in RMGconnect!

What does the weather look like on my route – RMGconnect will show you!

RMGconnect does this and a whole lot more! Download and experience the app for yourself!

Do you have feedback on the RMGconnect app? We want to hear it, use the built-in feedback module to communicate your thoughts and ideas back to us.

Telematics

Many of our drivers have received the newer Omnitracs IVG unit in their trucks. We are moving to the IVG platform for the following reasons. First, it is an upgrade to the more modern 4G LTE signal. This means more terrestrial coverage in more areas. It also comes paired with a satellite upgrade that provides coverage in the US and up into Canada and Alaska. Second, the hardware installation is greatly simplified. The main unit contains the cellular antenna and this device connects to the satellite wirelessly. Lastly, the new IVG device is required for us to be Canadian ELD compliant (starts June 12^{th} , 2021).

The IVG unit requires a wiring harness that is specific to the make, model, year of the truck. If you have an MCP200 please work with your DM to schedule a time to get that unit replaced with an IVG.

Bonus TIP: Did you know that the Omnitracs IVG unit will work with a wired or wireless USB keyboard? Roadmaster does not provide these but they are available at a very low cost from 3rd party providers

We are also upgrading our trailer tracking devices from Omnitracs to Skybitz. The Skybitz device utilizes a 4G LTE signal which will maximize the time a trailer communicates. The Skybitz unit being installed is also DTTS compliant.

Continued from Page 1 (Frank Larance)

PrePass Tolls and Weight Station Bypass

The entire fleet is being moved over to the PrePass ElitePass. This device handles tolls and your bypass needs all in one device. Another huge benefit of this device is that it is powered by batteries that can be replaced. This means more uptime for your truck. Please stop by the shop in Joplin to get your new ElitePass and Kay and Kathy will get you taken care of.

Pricing

Demand for high-security truckload service continues to outpace supply. Pricing has remained strong across all customers. We are continually evaluating the freight mix to maximize our competitive advantage which in turn helps us to provide better service to our customers. By exceeding our customer's expectations, we strengthen our relationships and increase our opportunities for additional business.

Equipment

Roadmaster Group will be bringing in new equipment into the fleet this year. Beginning in March we will start to take delivery of new flatbed and van trailers. The delivery of new trailers will continue into July of this year. New Kenworth T680 trucks will also start to be delivered in April and new Volvo VNL860 trucks come in the May/June time frame. We believe it is very important to continue investing in our fleet to provide all of our Drivers with equipment that is high-quality. We spec our equipment for safety, performance, and longevity of life.

I'd like to finish up this article with a sincere thank you to all at Roadmaster Group. Our prior accomplishments and future growth are only possible with the continued commitment to excellence that each of you chooses to deliver every day.

Frank Larance

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Sarah Hogan, CSR Lead, Joplin sarah.hogan@roadmastergroup.com

If you're anything like me, sometimes in this world you find things that are so unique while still being purposeful that you can't get your hand in your pocket fast enough to spend your money. It will come as no surprise that, while surfing through the bazillion items for sale on Amazon, I have run across a few of these "just show me where to pay" products. Some of my favorites also come from companies with a social conscience who will donate an item or a portion of their proceeds to people in need.

Here are some things I have found that might be especially helpful if you live in your truck and work outside in all kinds of weather. I actually found the Zippo Hand Warmer a couple of years ago and bought one as a Christmas gift. It was so awesome, I ordered two more for myself. The rest of them are untried as of yet but I'm checking the mail every day for my Rite in the Rain paper...

Epic Wipes ~ Ever find yourself in need of a quick shower but no time or place to stop? Epic Wipes could be the answer. They are baby wipes on steroids. They are massive...16 times larger than a standard wipe... more like a towel, really, and they're individually packaged...think portable and lightweight. They are made out of bamboo (making them biodegradable) and utilize essential oils

JUST TAKE MY MONEY

By Sarah Hogan

and a toxin free surfactant to get you clean. You can find them at epic-wipes.com ...\$24.99 for a box of 10 individually packaged wipes. As a bonus, for every box sold, Epic Wipes will donate a wipe to a person in need (disaster relief, deployed military and the homeless) on your behalf.

Scrubba Portable Laundry System Wash Bag ~ No washing machine? No problem. Scrubba is a laundry system wash bag for a "machine quality" wash in 3 minutes without the machine..."a modern take on the old fashioned washboard". Made of microbial resistant polyether TPU, the bag itself weighs 5 oz and folds up small enough to fit in your pocket. The inside is filled with "Scrubba nodules" that take care of the hard cleaning work. Just put your clothes in, add water (couple of gallons), detergent and then rub your clothes across the nodules. Change out the water to rinse and Voila! clothes in 5 minutes. Check out the video on YouTube or you can buy at Amazon for \$54.95. Another bonus: a portion of every sale goes towards providing clean drinking water to those areas of the world that can't readily access clean water.

Rite in the Rain ~ Rite in the Rain is a "wood based, recyclable paper that won't turn to mush when exposed to: rain storms, sweat, oil and grease, mud and grime or a laundry mishap". Over 100 years ago, entrepreneur Jerry Darling saw a need for durable writing material in the logging industry and developed a special coating "that created a unique moisture shield on the hand-dipped sheets of paper that he and his wife, Mary, processed at their home". Check out riteintherain.com/about to see a demo...someone writing on a notepad submerged in water. It really IS amazing. The water doesn't disintegrate the paper or warp it as it dries. Rite in the Rain carries all sizes of notepads and journals (\$3.95-\$17.95 at riteintherain.com) and you can even pick a paper color, binding type and a waterproof cover.

Zippo Portable Hand Warmer ~ This thing rocks. It beats those dry chemical (think Hot Hands) packets, well...hands down. This metal hand warmer is thin and compact, about the size of a deck of cards, making it perfect for your pockets. It uses lighter fluid to produce 10x as much heat as the dry chemical packets and the Zippo warmth lasts for up to 12 hours. Instead of a flint or a wick, the hand warmer uses a burner to produce heat. Plus, it's virtually odorless. Comes with a warmer bag and a one year guarantee. \$18 Do yourself a favor on Amazon. and get two...one for each pocket.

BY: Sarah Hogan, CSR Lead, Joplin

cessfully Completes Historic Multi-Year

This Project was the Largest Transfer of Highly Enriched Uranyl Nitrate Liquid (HEUNL) to the United States in the History of the **Nuclear Transportation Industry.**

transport challenges in its various states, but in this case, it was to be transported in a liquid state (HEUNL). This is the part of that has "Never Been Done Before." In fact. many experts in the field believed this was an impossible project to successfully complete.

Due to the security concerns tied to the product to be shipped NEVER having been transported commercially in the past, this project required coordination with not only U.S. and Canadian federal government and law enforcement agencies, but also state, provincial, and tribal agencies and governments as well. Once the U.S. Department of Energy, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission had all come to an gan.

For example, NAC engineers had to make technical and challenging modifications and additions to their "LWT" This group, along with assisting in

Our team began to prepare for the project as Tri-State was tasked with After a great deal of prep work by all experienced, dependable and commit-

Towards the end of 2009, two of our ted Driving Teams who could go in longtime partners and customers, and out of Canada. In addition, equip-NAC International and Secured Trans- ment to be used for the project had to portation Services (STS) requested be well-maintained and able to pass Tri-State's involvement in a large pro-multiple Level VI CVSA inspections on ject that had never been done before. each trip. Any equipment trouble that The project involved the transport of led to breakdowns or delays in-Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU), creased the security risks associated which in and of itself poses enough with the HEUNL product. In addition,



Tri-State had t o provide 24/7 Executive, Operational, Customer Service, as well as Safety and compliance support if needed. Due to the very limited compartmentalization and other security requirements, there were not many of us who could provide this support.

agreement regarding the repatriation During this time, as NAC was working of the material, addressing on all of the technical and regulatory the engineering, regulatory require- issues, they had already engaged STS, ments, and logistical challenges be- who, as mentioned before, was a longtime business partner with Tri-State. In fact, one of the owners of STS was a former Tri-State employee.

Casks (Type B (U) Packages) that the planning phase, was also responhave been a work horse in the indus- sible for the actual shipping of these try for years. These casks have been loads, coordinating all parties inused to transport several forms of volved, making shipping schedules, highly irradiated materials over the handling law enforcement and regulayears. Because of our strong working tory notifications and communicating partnership with NAC, and because with both the shipper and the receivthese casks would be loaded onto Tri- er. They also kept us informed and State trailers, NAC believed it was closely worked with us to keep everyimportant to consult with Tri-State thing on track. This company and about the engineering modifications. their staff were really the glue that held it all together.

providing DOE-cleared, highly trained, involved, it was not until 2015 that



This article is also in memory of Jamie Adam, who just recently passed away. Jamie was the head of all NAC Transportation Operations and this project. Jamie semi-retired at the completion of this project. He was a long time business partner with Tri-State and a very loyal customer. Also, he was a friend

to Mark and Twyla McDermott, Loudon Terminal

Tri-State was finally tasked with providing an appropriate Team, truck and trailer, along with some other speciallyrequested equipment for a "Grand Tour" over the designated routes. This truck was to take the trailer and the LWT package and make about 10 or so



stops in various locations across the US and Canada to impress upon the attendees at each stop the integrity of the package, its actual components and how robust its construction was. This trip eventually proved to be a successful effort to educate all involved parties (state, provincial, and tribal government and law enforcement agencies) about the Nuclear Industry and allay

Iti-Year DOE Project(Continued) any fears they had about the product being and on the weekends meant many sleep-

transported across their respective juris- less nights, some hair loss and some dictions.

The project finally began in early 2016 and



continued until August 2020. Tri-State proudly passed innumerable Level VI (Zero Out-of-Service Defects Required) CVSA inspections in the United States and Canada. During the course of the 4-year project, Tri -State had zero accidents or incidents and had an extremely low number of mechanical issues despite the number of miles traveled. This was in large part due to the extremely stringent preventative maintenance requirements set by our customers and all parties and agencies involved and a lot of hard work by Bear Enterprises, Inc. (Bob Renwick and Bobby Renwick, Jr.) and a lot of people at Roadmaster Group.

Below are some of the mechanical failure and accident/incident statistics of this entire project:

- **Flat Tires -7 shipments;**
- **Engine Failure 1 (replacement tractor** provided in 18 hours);
- Accidents/Incidents 0

Below are the shipment and mileage statistics of this entire project:

- Number of Shipments 171 Shipments
- **Loaded Miles/** Kilometers: 206,370/330,195
- Total Miles Over 465,000 miles (745,000km) total loaded, empty and positioning equipment.

As I mentioned before, the fact that there were very few people within Tri-State who were able to have knowledge of what was actually happening, and that most of these movements were to be executed at night

aging for the Drivers and the few others of us involved. BUT, without the support of the entire team at Roadmaster Group, despite many of you not even being aware of what you were supporting, this would not have worked, let alone exceeded everyone's expectations!

The last and most important thing to mention here are the Drivers who were involved with this project! Again, only a very few were qualified to participate. They literally "Carried The Wa-

ter" for our company on this venture! They faced many challenges, from adapting to multiple rigorous inspections, bad weather, extended periods of time away from home, unfamiliar Canadian motor

carrier requirements, high stress transit requirements, and stringent scheduling. Add increased scrutinization to all the other things our Drivers already deal with on a daily basis and only then may we come close to having an understanding and appreciation of what our elite Drivers who were involved in this project faced.





We can't thank OUR participating drivers enough.

To them .. Well Done

and Congratulations!



By: Mark McDermott, Project Manager mark.mcdermott@roadmastergroup.com VOLUME V ISSUE I

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TRI-STATE RECEIVES

THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



United States Department of Energy

The Secretary of Energy **Achievement Award**

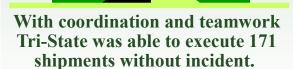
National Research Universal (NRU) and National Research Experimental (NRX) HEU Removal Team

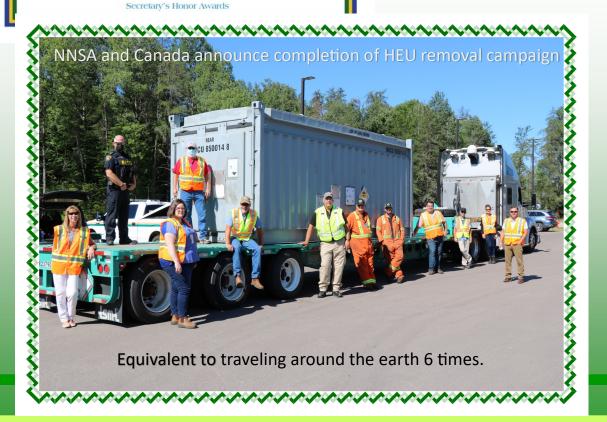
spers nucear fuel (SNF) from the National Research Universal (PRU) and National Research Experimental (PRU) reactors occated at the Chalk River Laboratories, Ontaino, Canada to the Department of Erency's (ODE) swampanah River Site in the United States. The PRU/PRIX HEU transfer, completed in 2019, was the largest SNF transfer to the United States in the United States. The States of DDE is Attainal Puckers Security Administration's Puckers Merinel Removed Programs Experticy coordinated among stationy of DDE is Attainal Puckers are Security Administration's Puckers Merinel Removed Programs Experticy coordinated among stations of States and United States, including multiple Federal, state and tribal partners, the differt involved SS total truck shipments covering more than 65,000 miles during the four-year campaign, and yielded a significant not reduction in worldwide HEU holdings.

Dan Brouillette

Secretary

January 2021





TRI-STATE

Appreciation



Orlando Andrew Strong

I've driven for a lot of companies (and I mean a lot) but Tri-State stands out by far! As a driver, truth and transparency means everything while we're on the road.

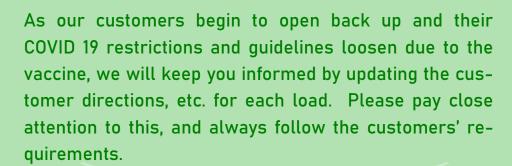
If anything happens we can call up and whomever picks up the phone listens about whatever issue we have. They'll try and resolve it quickly or if they don't have that knowledge, they'll pass it to who knows the answer. Tri-State also cares about our training and puts a real effort in the classroom. Not just reading verbatim then going on to the next subject. I know we haul primarily hazmat loads but they make sure we get it before we leave class.

Dispatch and the load planners work together to make sure we're rolling efficiently. They're also truthful about loads and transparent with information so we don't get somewhere without the knowledge we need for the shipper or consignee.

At the end of the day, Tri-State makes us feel comfortable driving for them. They have the resources and knowledgeable people to ensure our success and the company success as well. I've made a lot of decisions but coming over to drive here was one of my best!

Love · Reply · Message · 15h





OFFICETERMINAL STAFF ANNIVERSARIES JANUARY - MARCH 2021

30 YEARS

Cheryl Hinkle

24 YEARS

Cheryl Shuman

23 YEARS

Mark McDermott

Tammy Scribner

29 YEARS

22 YEARS

18 YEARS

19 YEARS

20 YEARS

Chuck Curry

21 YEARS

Marni Smith

Michael Hadaway

Terry Peterson Bill Dooling

Leslie Martin

16 YEARS

15 YEARS

<u>13 YEARS</u>

14 YEARS

Brian Markosian

Deborah Bielan Kyle Smith

Kelly Brungardt

Stephen Barton

rian Markosia

Nathan Powell

7 YEARS

10 YEARSJeanie Sullenger

9 YEARS
Terri Wimberley

11 YEARS

Jose Navarro

Ronda McDaniel Rhonda Kauspedas Ruth Green Rodney Payne Kim Wilkerson

8 YEARS

<u>6 YEARS</u>

Ann Dubois John Wilbur

Cindy Garton Jorje Gonzalez Adolfo Rivas John Sampson

Erick Ureta

5 YEARS

Russ Thompson Blake England

3 YEARS

Christina Langille

Evelyn Cummins

Kevin Crawford

Zachary Wickham-Harris Dustin Lear Joyce Throneberry

4 YEARS

2 YEARS

Leslie Lombardo Lisa Nellis Robin Rickard Trevor Brown Terry Lane Sr.

1 YEAR

Cortney Johnson Stephanie Lisk

COMPANY-DRIVER AND OWNER OPERATOR ANNIVERSARIES JANUARY - MARCH 2021

We want all of our Drivers, both company and owner operators to know that we appreciate everything you do for us and value all of your years of service with us. However, if you are a company Driver and switch to an owner operator or vice versa, your anniversary date will not show your total years, thus causing your name to not appear on this list correctly. So, if you are not on this list and you should be, or you shouldn't be and you are, we apologize!!

21 YEARS

Ricky Babbie

20 YEARS

John Ries Robert Summerville Rodney Groom

17 YEARS

Johnnie Matthews Joann Matthews Robert Alexander

14 YEARS

Marshall Hufham

13 YEARS

Sharon Lapan

10 YEARS

Keith Reeves Paula Reeves

11 YEARS

Eldon Scott Teresa Scott Jeffery Wilson

8 YEARS

Hyrum Thompson Delbert Coleman Stacy Coleman Mark Black Brian Wood Jill Wood Jacki Hughens Fredrick Hughens Brian Brignac

9 YEARS

Randall Knickerbocker Charlotte Knickerbocker Donna Brown Otto Brown

7 YEARS

Phillip Hinch Amy Hinch Robert Miri Renee Miri



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4 YEARS

Laura Baucom Billy Buckaloo Davilene Buckaloo Vivian George Candace Subelka

3 YEARS

Dena Smith
Earl Smith II
Daryl Jackson
Thomas Peterson
Crystine Peterson
Sheryl Hoage
Charles Hoage
Ronald Guillotte

Travis Adams John Souza Kaihikapu Akau

5 YEARS

Scott Nelson
Cheri Nelson
Joe Pineda
Matthew Warneke
Lisa Brandon
Ernest Louis
Michelle Higgins-Leggett
Stenhen Leggett

Stephen Leggett Suzanne Faver Michael Faver

6 YEARS

James Cayton Paul Devine Aaron Worley

1 YEAR

William Brown **Bruce Caslake** Donna Hurst Clinton Hurst **David Carney** Valerie Carney Rick Hays Jason Plaisted **Tevin Daniels** Michael Busch Gilbert Spland Jr. Zechariah Teran Steven Caudill Christopherr Lall Carol Lall Alexander Heck Loretta McKaughan Joe Fernandez Kelly Clawson Kristyn Friese Ricardo Sanchez **Darrin Adams**

Debbie Copeland

2 YEARS

Jack Moore

Joshua Yates Jay Lintz Luke Moon Shane Selman Rachel Moon Chad Brough Tina Cristee-Brough Donna Wheeler Riley Hoffman Dale Malm **Emmanuel Spann** Nicole Hoffman Loretta Chilcote Mario Granados **Edmund Chilcote Eric Chambers** Mark Steiger Jason Mulkins Paula Steiger Jeramy Lowther Kenneth Acord Jr. Bernadelle Burke Tina Copeland **Kevin Anderson** Michelle Strehle Rebecca Anderson

Frazier Strutzel Carl Morrison Jr. Michael Cronin Sr.







Did you know our Medical plans include a telemedicine option for actively enrolled employees and their dependents?

These services are provided by MDLive effective 1/1/2021. MDLive provides on-demand access to board-certified providers. You and your family can be treated for general health issues from the convenience of your home or while on the road.

With MDLive, not only do you have access to urgent, on-demand services, you can also choose to create a primary relationship with a provider you enjoy working with for non-urgent matters.

Telemedicine services have a \$0 copay for all plans except for the Bronze plan. The Bronze plan has a \$44 co-pay.

To register go to mdlive.com/
bcbstx and click on Activate
now. You will need your
BCBS member ID number and
your DOB.

VOLUME VISSUE I



"I didn't receive my dental or vision card, what do I do?"

This is one of our most frequently asked questions. The answer is MetLife (dental) and EyeMed (vision) do not send out cards. You shouldn't need a card to receive services but most employees are more comfortable having some type of card with them.

You can access your cards by visiting the below sites and registering. For benefits purposes you would list Daseke as the employer.

Dental: MetLife

Go to https://mybenefits.metlife.com

Vision: EyeMed

Go to https://eyemedvisioncare.com

Driving Safe

Focus on driving

- Keep 100% of your attention on driving at all times - no multi-tasking.
- Don't use your phone or any other electronic device while driving. Slow down. Speeding gives you less time to react and increases the severity of an accident.
- Law enforcement has the ability to conduct forensic investigations of your phone and will be able to determine if you were driving while using your phone. Any such use could expose you to criminal liability in the event of an accident.

Drive "defensively"

- Be aware of what other drivers around you are doing, and expect the unexpected.
- Assume other motorists will do something crazy, and always be prepared to avoid it.
- Keep a minimum 7-second cushion between you and the vehicle in front of you (1 second for every 10 foot length of your vehicle). Double the cushion or more as needed if the weather is bad or based on your vehicle weight.

Make a safe driving plan

Build time into your trip schedule to stop for food, rest breaks, phone calls or other business.

- Adjust your seat, mirrors and climate controls before putting the truck in gear.
- Take the time and pull over to eat, it's probably healthier for you as well and is a good reminder to check the load and quick vehicle inspection.

Practice safety

- Secure cargo that may move around while the vehicle is in motion, both trailer and inside cab.
- Don't attempt to retrieve items that fall to the floor.
- Have items needed within easy reach such as toll fees, toll cards, and documents
- Always wear your seatbelt and drive sober and drug-free.
- Avoid driving when you are tired. Be aware that even some over-the-counter medications cause drowsiness and make operating a vehicle very dangerous.
- Always use caution when changing lanes. Cutting in front of someone, changing lanes too fast or not using your signals may cause an accident or upset other drivers.
- Be extra careful while driving during deer season.

Submitted By: Safety Department

Do you have a music playlist? If so, Presley, Boogie Shoes by KC and the Your Own Way by Fleetwood Mac, you may know that you can build Sunshine Band, Boot Scootin' Boomany different kinds of music lists. gie by Brooks & Dunn, These Boots Categorizing songs into different were made for Walking by Nancy groups is a great way to change up Sinatra, and The Christmas Shoes by how you listen to your favorite mu- Alabama. sic. Personally, I have a few unique categories I'd like to share.

include Blue Suede Shoes by Elvis I Will Survive by Gloria Gaynor, Go

I never realized how many break-up songs there were until I made my "Footwear" seems to be everyone's "Breakups" playlist. My top 5 songs favorite request. I have over 30 are Freebird by Lynyrd Skynyrd, You "foot" songs in the playlist. Top 5 Oughta Know by Alanis Morissette,

Two Out of Three Ain't Bad by Meat Loaf.

There seems to be a song for anything in life. So, remember, sometimes you have to take a moment to treat life as a musical and just break out into spontaneous song and dance.

By: Terri Wimberley, Safety terri.wimberley@roadmastergroup.com

7 SOCIAL MEDIA MISTAKES THAT COULD DAMAGE YOUR CAREER

Social media is booming with opportunities. For some business professionals, it could mean networking that will boost your career to new heights. For others, it could mean the end of your career. Don't be a part of the latter group. Avoid these seven social media mistakes.

COMPLAINING ABOUT YOUR BOSS

Putting your complaints out there for the world to see is never the way to go, especially when you have something to say about your job or your boss. Even when you think your posts are safe from your boss, a colleague might be able to forward it to him or her.

Even if that one comment doesn't hurt your job now, it could come back to haunt you later. A future potential employer might see it and decide that you're not worth hiring since you've badmouthed your employers in the past.

SHARING YOUR LATEST JOB OFFER

The thing about job offers is that they're sometimes confidential. Just because you have the job offer doesn't mean it's a sure thing, and if you break that confidentiality right off the bat, your employer may see you as untrustworthy and revoke the job offer.

Definitely don't say anything negative about the job offer! Mashable reports on a woman who posted, "Cisco just offered me a job! Now I have to weigh the utility of a fatty paycheck against the daily commute to San Jose and hating the work." Unfortunately, a Cisco employee saw the post. She lost the job before her first day.

PLAGIARIZING

The typical career counselor might advise you to stay away from bikini pictures, drugs, and profanity to Any comment meant to offend anavoid losing your job. Forget about other persons or group could cost those little mishaps for a second you your job. For example, CNN

and think about one of the biggest things that can damage your career: plagiarism.

This is an important one, because plagiarism is completely unacceptable in the business world. It will follow you throughout your career, whereas a rant or two won't always prevent future employers from hiring you. Plagiarizing is like screaming, "I'm incompetent and lazy, and I lack integri-

It's not just about keeping your professional accounts free from plagiarism, but you also have to hold your personal accounts to the same standards. Are you posting a photo? Give the photographer credit. Quoting an article? Cite the author.

USING TEXTING LANGUAGE

It might seem like no big deal to use texting language on social media, especially when it's convenient while posting on your iPad Air or when you can't make your tweet fit otherwise. However. chances are you're better off spelling everything out. wise, you could be losing jobs because of it. A Jobvite survey found that 66 percent of employers look negatively upon poor spelling and grammar on social media.

POSTING TASTELESS COMMENTS

reports on an incident where a for-Washington National radio show producer drunkenly tweeted an inflammatory and racist comment about the people of San Antonio after his team lost a game. Others on the radio show were not amused and fired him for his comment. Wherever you are on the Internet, avoid posting offensive comments like this, even if they're meant as a joke.

POSTING PHOTOS WITH ALCOHOL

Yes, even if you're over 21, this behavior could cost you your job. In 2009, a teacher named Ashley Payne posted a photo on Facebook of her visit to a brewery while she was on vacation. Naturally, she had a glass of wine and a beer in her hand. Due to a complaint from a student's parent, the school district suspended her. Steer clear of these photos no matter the situation.

MOCKING YOUR CUSTOMERS

Like complaining about your boss, mocking or complaining about your customers can have equally poor effects. Several internet stories involve waiters who have taken photos of poor tips and posted them online only to get fired for doing so. Complaining about customers only shows your company in a bad light. Most employers won't stand for that, so avoid posting these types of complaints online.

Source: www.careercast.com

Author: J.T. Ripton

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PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Who needs Personal Protective Equipment????

Our Drivers Do, That's Who!!



Personal protective equipment, commonly referred to as "PPE", is equipment worn to minimize exposure to hazards that could cause serious workplace injuries. Tri-State provides our Drivers with a hard hat, safety glasses and a reflective vest. Drivers are expected to provide steel toe boots, long sleeved shirt, long pants and gloves. All of the afore mentioned items should be in the truck and available for use at all times. Often the load instructions will alert you that PPE is required at a particular shipper or receiver. Other times, the customer will request Drivers use PPE depending on the area of their facility where they are loading or offloading. Always be prepared and comply with these instructions. They are in place for our Drivers' safety.

MOREL MUSHROOMS

A Delicious Hidden Gem



"Morel mushrooms are a mystery, a miracle, and a gift of the spring woods. Their arrival often coincides with turkey season. They can appear overnight and remain maddening-ly elusive. Veteran mushroom hunters covet their secret spots with a possessive fervor"

www.outdoorlife.com

Where Are They? Your best bet for morel mushroom hunting is to head out to a forest. Usually morels grow on the edges of wooded areas, especially around oak, elm, ash, and aspen trees. Also they love damp creek or river bottoms, and look for dead or dying trees while you are on the hunt because they tend to grow right around those. Any mushroom hunter can tell you this. If you find one, look around where you are standing and most likely you will find more within 20 feet.

When Spring rolls around and temperatures reach the forties at night and the sixties in the daytime, you better be ready to go hunting. A wet Spring is a precursor to a great mushroom season.

"Morels are pretty camouflaged. You have to develop an eye for it. You have to key in on what you're looking for. It definitely takes experience." says Joe Lacefield, Wildlife Biologist.

Morels are a delicacy; these delicious mushrooms can easily cost more than \$20 per pound when they're fresh, and over \$100 for a pound of dried morels. The main reason they're so pricey at grocery stores and farmers markets is their rarity. They only appear in the U.S. from late March through May.

By: Kyla

If you have never tasted a cooked morel mushroom you are in for a treat! The tastiest way to cook them for most people is to roll them in flour and fry them in butter. So delicious!! You first want to soak fresh morel mushrooms in salt water for an hour to help get rid of bugs. They should then be patted dry. There are 100's of recipes you can try.

So, if you go morel hunting don't get frustrated and quit, the old folklore says you will look at 100 trees before you find one. And, it is so worth the time and effort!

By: Kyla Jewsbury, Executive Assistant, Tri-Stater Editor kyla.jewsbury@roadmastergroup.com

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RECIPE

MOREL MUSHROOMS PASTA

INGREDIENTS

- 1 ounce dried morel mushrooms (or 8 ounces fresh morel mushrooms, cleaned and halved lengthwise*)
- 3 cups chicken stock or broth
- ¼ cup unsalted butter
- ½ cup finely chopped shallots
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon snipped fresh thyme
- ¼ teaspoon kosher salt
- ¼ teaspoon ground white pepper
- 1 cup whipping cream or heavy cream
- ¼ cup snipped fresh Italian (flat-leaf) parsley
- Hot cooked pasta
- Snipped fresh Italian (flatleaf) parsley (optional)

Instructions

 If using dried mushrooms, heat the 3 cups broth or water to simmering. Remove from heat. Add dried mushrooms; let



- mushrooms stand 20 minutes. Strain mixture through a 100% cotton cheesecloth-lined sieve, reserving 1 cup broth. Rinse mushrooms under warm running water; squeeze out excess moisture. Slice in half lengthwise any of the larger mushrooms; set aside.
- 2. In a medium saucepan, melt 1/4 cup butter over medium heat. Add shallots. Cook and stir for 3 to 5 minutes or until shallots are tender. Sprinkle flour over shallots; stir to combine. Slowly add reserved 1 cup broth, stirring until smooth. Reduce to low heat. Cook, uncovered, for 7 minutes, stirring occasionally. Stir in thyme, 1/4 teaspoon salt, and white pepper. Slowly whisk in the whipping cream. Cook, whisking constantly, over medium heat for 7 minutes more or until the mixture thickens. Stir in reserved morels and 1/4 cup parsley. Cook and stir until heated through.
- **3.** Spoon sauce over pasta. If you like, sprinkle with additional parsley. Makes 4 to 6 main-dish servings.

Well, it's that time of year again. The time when we start realizing that we might have put on a few pounds over the winter, well, maybe over the entire last year, darn COVID! Time to think about taking those few extra pounds off!! Here are a few Post-Winter Workout Tips to get your body back in shape!



Chart from Fix.com

By: Kyla Jewsbury, Executive Assistant, Tri-Stater Editor kyla.jewsbury@roadmastergroup.com