

Trucking: Making the holidays possible in [STATE]

The holiday season is a joyous time of year, but it's also an opportunity to reflect on the many things we are grateful for in our lives. I bet many people would be surprised to know that all the wonderful items that make a holiday is great are brought by a truck. Did you know that the holiday sweater you're wearing was brought to you by a truck? Sure, you bought it in a store at the mall, or online, but a truck made sure it was delivered on time to that store and your home. It's the same with the meal that makes your holiday gathering so delicious and the fuel you put in your car to travel to Grandma's house.

One of the reasons I'm so grateful this season is for having a job year after year that enables me to make a positive difference in not just our community, but communities across the country. I am one of 3.5 million professional truck drivers on America's roads, safely delivering everything you'll rely on this season and year-round, and I'm thankful to be part of a hardworking, results-driven industry made up of seven million professionals.

Trucking is the only industry that can say it directly ships to and contributes to every community in America. The industry plays a critical role here in STATE, where more than X percent of communities rely exclusively on trucks to transport their goods. Keeping our stores stocked ensures our daily lives supplied and moving. Trucking also provides X out of every X jobs in our state, and contributing XXX m in federal and state roadway taxes, keeping our state economy strong. More than XXX jobs in the state are in trucking, thanks to XXX trucking companies here in [state.]

Trucking is not only a major contributor to our economy; the industry also makes major investments to improve safety. Did you know that every year the industry provides at least \$9.5 billion to ensure only the most modern trucks with up-to-date safety tools and technology and environmental protections are on the road? This technology also makes trucks more reliable and ensures the on-time delivery of food, toys, gifts and other things that you'll enjoy this holiday season.

When headed to the mall or grocery store this season, driving next to a large truck may seem intimidating, but you should know it's not a responsibility I take lightly. I know the stakes are high, which is why I'm well-trained and always prepared. Safety is always my highest priority. It's a busy time of year, but I am aim to remain calm and operate at safe speeds and distances. There's no trip that is more important than the trip home to my loved ones, and I'm confident that's true for most drivers with whom I share the road.

This season, while you're driving around to get everything you'll need this holiday season, I hope you'll remember that it was all made possible by a truck driver like me. Trucking truly makes the holidays possible.

Name

Professional Truck Driver, City, State

Company & Member, Trucking Moves America Forward