

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 2017

Pennsylvania Petroleum Association 2017 Fall Energy Conference and Annual Meeting

Oct. 9-11

The Nittany Lion Inn, State College, Pa.

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New York Propane Gas Association Fall 2017 Conference

Oct. 16-17

Inn on the Lake

Canandaigua, N.Y.

Website: www.nypropane.com

JANUARY 2018

AHR Expo

Jan. 22-24

McCormick Place, Chicago, Ill.

Website: www.ahrexpo.com

MARCH 2018

The Work Truck Show, Green Truck Summit, and Fleet Technical Congress

March 6-9

Indiana Convention Center

Indianapolis, IN

Website: www.worktruckshow.com

to restore infrastructure to regional black-outs and power outages.

"Our experienced team is prepared to respond at a moment's notice," says Jayme Oyen, director of emergency fuel services at Atlas Oil. "All of the various team members know exactly what to do and we have drivers on standby prepared to deploy when called upon."

As an emergency fuel supplier, the company fills generators for hospitals, data centers, utilities, telecommunications companies and other "mission-critical" facilities, the company says.

Headquartered in Taylor, Mich., Atlas Oil is a Simon Group Holdings company. Atlas offers single-source solutions for fuel, transportation and logistics and is one of the largest fuel distributors in the country, delivering over 1 billion gallons of fuel annually to customers in 46 states. It is engaged in transportation logistics and fueling including bulk, fleet, event, onsite, emergency response, and oil field services.

■ DISTRACTED DRIVING SURVEY: PRACTICE AND OPINIONS DON'T MATCH

About one third of drivers feel confident in their own ability to text and drive, yet the majority believe distracted driving is the biggest cause of auto accidents and more than 90% say it should be illegal, according to a survey by Progressive Insurance, Cleveland, Ohio.

The starkest difference in attitudes is between younger and older drivers. More than 60% of 18- to 34-years old are confident in their ability to safely text while driving compared to less than 6% of individuals 55 and older.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2015 alone, 3,477 people were killed, and 391,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers. Teens were the largest age group reported as distracted at the time of fatal crashes.

"We hope this study starts conversations around distracted driving and how to reduce it. It's especially interesting that most people recognize this activity is dangerous, yet many people feel confident in their own ability to text and drive," said David Pratt, an executive with Progressive. "Based on early results with users of our Snapshot Mobile app, we're optimistic that personalized feedback will encourage safer behavior."

Here are a few key findings from the study:

YOUNG VS. OLD

■ 62% of 18- to 34-year-olds are very or somewhat confident in their ability to text while driving, while only

6% of individuals 55 and older felt the same confidence.

■ Yet, 64% of 18- to 34-year-olds think texting or looking at a phone while driving is the most common cause of accidents.

MEN VS. WOMEN

■ Twice as many men (21%) as women (11%) are "very confident" in their ability to text while driving.

■ Despite that confidence, 88% of men and 97% of women think texting should not be allowed.

AMONG ALL DRIVERS

■ More than 65% of individuals polled believe that texting/looking at one's phone while driving is the most common cause of traffic accidents in the U.S. And 83% of individuals believe police should be able to pull over drivers for texting alone. At the same time, 34% of respondents said they were somewhat or very confident in their ability to text while driving.

■ Individuals are most likely to think it is ok to engage with the following activities on their phone while driving: listening to music (43%), use a map (30%) and make a call (25%). This also corresponds with ways they interact with their phone when behind the wheel: use a map app at a stoplight (37%), use a map app while driving (35%), look at an app at a stoplight (22%), look at an app when stopped in traffic (21%), and use a virtual assistant (like Siri) to search for a contact to make a call (19%).

■ The most common feelings evoked when seeing another driver texting is concern (62%) followed by irritation (50%). These top two feelings didn't vary by age, gender.

The study of drivers was developed by Progressive Insurance. It was a national online study conducted in August 2017 among general market, insured drivers, who are not Progressive customers. Approximately 1,000 individuals 18 years of age or older responded.

■ ESEA LAUNCHES 'UPGRADE YOUR LIFESTYLE' PROGRAM

The Empire State Energy Association launched its new "Upgrade Your Lifestyle"

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