



# TRALA Industry Wire

Truck Renting and Leasing Association



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## Industry Headlines

### DOT Providing \$48.8 Billion for State Highway Projects

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood announced that \$48.8 billion in highway funds is now available to state departments of transportation for federal projects through the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment (HIRE) Act.

Source: [The Trucker](#)

### Fleets Ramp up Recruitment as Freight Shows Signs of Recovery

Changes in a few economic indicators, such as the gross domestic product and consumer confidence, point to better days ahead for the U.S. economy and for the trucking industry.

Source: [truckinginfo.com](#)

### Volvo Net Income Exceeds Estimates; Shares Surge

Volvo AB reported its first profit in more than a year, beating analysts' estimates and sending the stock as much as 14 percent higher in Stockholm. Trucks and construction equipment, the two largest divisions, which accounted for 81 percent of Volvo's revenue, both returned to an operating profit.

Source: [Bloomberg](#)

### U.S. Diesel Price Climbs 0.4 cents, \$3.078

### Durable Goods Orders Fall

### Fed Holds Interest Rates at Record Low

### Medium-Duty Truck Sales Rise in March

## William "Buddy" Brawley Named TRALA's 2010 Driver of the Year

William "Buddy" Brawley Jr. of Yadkinville, North Carolina has logged over 3 million accident-free miles driving tractor-trailers over the past 31 years. For that lifetime performance of safe driving, Buddy was selected as TRALA's 2010 Driver of the Year. This program is sponsored by The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company.

Buddy, an employee of Unifi, Inc., was recognized at TRALA's 2010 Annual Meeting. In addition to an all-expense paid trip to the event for himself and his wife, Robin, Buddy received a trophy and cash prize.

TRALA received over 24 nominations for this prestigious award. All nominees were recognized with a Certificate of Merit. TRALA would like to thank everyone that nominated drivers this year.

## Legislative Update

### TRALA Lobbying Congress for Investment Tax Credits for 2010 Compliant Trucks

TRALA is continuing its push of passage of federal legislation that would create tax credits for the purchase or lease of new medium and heavy-duty trucks. A proposal being pushed by TRALA and other industry groups would create a 10% investment tax credit (ITC) for the purchase or lease of heavy-duty, Class 8 trucks with engines that are compliant with 2010 emissions mandates. The proposal also includes a \$6,000 "green voucher" program that would be used towards the purchase or lease of medium-duty Class 6-7 trucks with 2010 compliant engines. The green voucher program would be similar to the recent "cash for clunkers" program, where a dealer/lessor places a truck order with the manufacturer, followed by completion of a voucher that is submitted to the government, and the government then reimburses the truck dealer/lessor for the credit.

### FMCSA Publishes Electronic On-Board Recorders (EOBRs) Rule

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) published a Final Rule that will require interstate commercial truck and bus companies with serious patterns of hours-of-service (HOS) violations to install electronic on-board recorders (EOBRs) in all of their vehicles. Motor carriers who are found to have 10 percent or more HOS violations during a compliance review will be required to install EOBRs in all their vehicles for a minimum of two years.

### CARB Delays Consideration of Amendments to Truck and Bus Rule

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has delayed the date at which they will consider amendments to both the Heavy Duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Measure (the SmartWay mandate) and the Truck and Bus Regulation. CARB was originally scheduled to consider amendments to both rules at the Board of Directors meeting on April 22, 2010, but that has been pushed back to "late summer 2010," CARB said in a regulatory advisory.

### Court Rules in Favor of EPA in CARB TRU Rule Lawsuit

The U.S. District Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit has ruled that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) acted legally when they granted the California Air Resources Board (CARB) the authority to impose the Transport Refrigeration Unit Airborne Toxic Control Measure, or the TRU Rule. In the decision given on April 2, 2010, the Court said the EPA followed all statutory criterion required under the Clean Air Act in order to authorize the TRU Rule. The American Trucking Associations (ATA) had challenged the EPA in a lawsuit, claiming the Agency did not follow the provisions of the Clean Air Act when they granted CARB the authority to enforce the TRU Rule.

### TRALA Elects New Leaders at 2010 Annual Meeting

Enterprise Commercial Trucks Vice President of the Commercial Truck Division, Allen Serfas, began his term as 2010-2011 TRALA Chairman at TRALA's 32nd Annual Meeting in Miami, Florida.

"It is an honor to serve as TRALA chairman over the next year. The vehicle renting and leasing industry will face many new challenges over the coming years and I am ready to begin working with our members and Board of Directors to advance such issues as protecting the industry from unfair fees and taxes, overly burdensome lease accounting standards and attacks on federal vicarious liability repeal won several years ago," said Serfas during his April 8 acceptance speech.

In addition to Serfas, four officers were elected by TRALA's Board of Directors:

- Terry Dubowick, Director, Mack Leasing System/Volvo Truck Leasing in Greensboro, North Carolina, was elected Vice Chairman;
- Scott Anderson, Senior Vice President, Insurance, Finance and Leasing of Rush Enterprises, Inc. in New Braunfels, Texas, was elected Secretary;
- Tom Brown, President of Brown National Lease in Des Moines, Iowa, was elected Treasurer; and
- Tom Thayer, President of Idealease of Richmond in Richmond, Virginia, was elected Immediate Past Chairman.

The membership also welcomed a number of new directors to the Board. A complete listing is available on [TRALA's website](#).