

4TH QUARTER, 2025

UNIMARK NEWS



**WINTER
IS
COMING**





UNIMARK PRESIDENT MIKE SMITH

Happy Holidays to all of you,

As we close out the year, I want to take a moment to reflect on someone who meant a great deal to our Unimark family. At the end of August, we lost one of our own — Rod Rife.

Rod began working with ULB in January 2014. Over the years, he became a million-mile-plus driver without a single DOT accident — an incredible accomplishment and testament to his skill and dedication. Rod was truly one of a kind. He had a unique personality, always calling with ideas, leads, or the latest updates from our corner of the industry. More than just a great driver, Rod was a good friend — and he will be deeply missed.

Earlier this week, I found myself reaching out to a couple of drivers, already missing Rod's weekly check-ins and updates. I can't help but imagine Rod up there with Mike Stefanik, sharing the latest scoop or maybe asking for more unit releases.

Last night, Rod's family held a celebration of life in his honor. I was genuinely moved by the number of lives he touched — the last count I heard was 268 people in attendance. Among them were over 50 of the old Fleet Carrier/Allied drivers. One even drove in all the way from Baltimore just to pay his respects. It was heartwarming to see so many familiar faces, some of whom I hadn't seen in years.

As for business – I wish I could say things are about to pick up in a big way, but based on the current information, it looks like the first quarter will continue at the pace we're seeing now. I do believe we'll see gradual improvement as the year progresses, but not likely any major spikes in releases. That said, a lot can change, and as always, I'll keep you all updated as soon as I know more.

In the meantime, I hope you all enjoy a safe and meaningful holiday season with your families.

**Talk to you soon,
Mike**



UnimarkTM
TRUCK TRANSPORT



**Brad Banner
Mario Botello
Justin Bowen
Twyla Carr
Logan Carter
Charles Clark
Jaquar Cloud
Fred Corley
Mark Cunningham**

**Nicholas Eynon
Kenneth Foster
Zannie Griffin
Brian Groves
Kent Hunter
Ryan MacKay
Fred Makes
Dwight McFadden
Max Moreno**

**Luther Phifer
Victor Ramirez
Fabian Ramos
Stanley Stookey
Aaron Stroud
Chance Thompson
Willie Townsel Jr.
Hollie Varner
Michael Veras
Raul Villegas
Chris Wallace**



Vice President Stephanie Johnson

The challenges of life on the road.

For many truckers, time away from family and friends can lead to feelings of isolation. However, by actively prioritizing your mental and physical health, you can reduce stress, improve your focus, and maintain productivity. Staying connected is crucial; make time for regular calls with loved ones and engage with other drivers through social media groups or at truck stop communities. Your dispatcher is also there to listen to your concerns and provide feedback and solutions.

Planning is your superpower. A well-prepared day is a smoother day. Resources like the Truckerpath and Trucker Map apps offer real-time updates and reviews from fellow drivers, helping you find rest areas with available parking and essential amenities like showers. This helps avoid unnecessary stress and ensures your downtime is well-spent.

Nutrition is as a tool for your mental and physical strength. The convenience of truck stop food often means processed snacks and fast food, but with pre-planning, you can find healthier alternatives. A diet rich in nutritious foods not only powers your body but also enhances mental resilience and emotional balance. Avoiding sugary, processed foods helps you maintain consistent energy levels, steering clear of irritability and fatigue.

Stress management is essential for long trips. Take a few minutes during breaks for deep breathing, meditation, or simply stepping outside to stretch. Incorporating bodyweight exercises—like push-ups, jumping jacks, squats, or lunges—into your routine can dramatically improve your circulation. Remember to walk whenever you can, get sufficient sleep, and stay hydrated.



GREAT JOB!!!!

Thanks to everyone's efforts we have seen a big reduction in log violations across all Unimark divisions in recent months. Listed below are the TOP 3 violations in each division for the previous quarter. Let's all stay focused so that we continue to see improvements.

UNIMARK LOWBOY TRANSPORTATION

- LOAD NUMBER INCORRECT/MISSING**
- FAILURE TO PERFORM SAFETY INSPECTION WITHIN 3 HOURS**
- FAILURE TO LOG PRE TRIP OR POST TRIP INSPECTION**

UNIMARK TRUCK TRANSPORT

- MILES DRIVING TODAY INCORRECT/MISSING**
- FUELING INACCURATE – TIME/LOCATION/NOT LOGGED**
- INACCURATE CITY/STATE FOR CHANGE OF DUTY STATUS**

UNIMARK TRANSPORTATION SERVICES – CANADA

- LOADING/UNLOADING/DELIVERY MUST BE ON DUTY**
- FAILURE TO LOG PRE TRIP OR POST TRIP INSPECTION**
- FAILURE TO PERFORM SAFETY INSPECTION WITHIN 3 HOURS**

Please continue your efforts to keep the log violations trending downward by checking your previous logs for errors and inaccuracies each day before you head out and drive. If you have log questions, please contact your terminal manager or the safety department.

**A Message from Your Director of Operations
– Driver Appreciation Team,**

As we recognize Driver Appreciation Week, I want to take a moment to speak to each of you directly. Every mile you cover, every load you move, and every safe decision you make on the road is what keeps our company strong. The truth is simple—we don't succeed without you.

I know the challenges you face out there aren't always easy. From long hours to unpredictable weather to the patience it takes to get the job done right, it requires grit and professionalism. And you bring that every single day. For that, I want to personally say thank you.

This week is about more than appreciation—it's about recognition. Recognition of the sacrifices you make, the pride you take in your work, and the professionalism you bring that represents our company. I'm proud to serve alongside such a dedicated group of drivers, and I want you to know how much I value you, not just this week but every week.

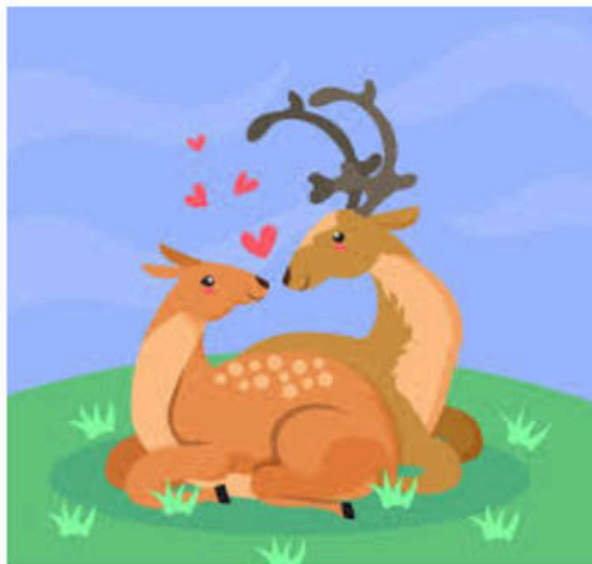
Stay safe, stay strong, and know that your hard work never goes unnoticed.

**Alex Andrade
Director of Operations - UTT**

Congratulations to the following drivers for receiving Clean DOT Roadside Inspections last quarter! This reflects your commitment to safety, compliance, and professionalism on the road. Your attention to detail and dedication to maintaining high standards are what keep our operations running smoothly and safely.

Thank you for representing our company with excellence and for making safety a top priority every mile of the way. Keep up the great work!

**Andrew McDaniel
Aboubacar Kabore
Frederick Hutson
Shane Yovich**



DEER MATING SEASON HAS ARRIVED!

Watch for increased risk of deer-vehicle collisions.

Winter Is Coming: Driver Safety Tips

As temperatures start to drop, it's time to think about preparing for winter driving. Staying safe on icy roads takes extra awareness and preparation. A few quick reminders before the snow flies:

Check Your Loads – Make sure all your equipment is secured and in working order. Take extra time doing Pre-Trip inspections and safety checks.

Slow and Steady Wins – Sudden movements can cause skids. Increase your following distance and ease into turns and stops.

Carry Your Winter Kit – Keep chains when required based on route, a flashlight, warm clothing, gloves, and extra food/water on hand. You never know when conditions may force a delay.

Know the Chain Laws – States like Colorado and Oregon enforce strict chain requirements during winter months. Be prepared and avoid costly fines.

Stay Informed – Weather changes fast. Use weather app alerts and pre-planning to stay ahead of storms.

Winter brings challenges, but with preparation and smart driving, you'll keep rolling safely through the season.



Don't Forget Your Keys!


Key 1. Aim High In Steering®

Key 2. Get The Big Picture®

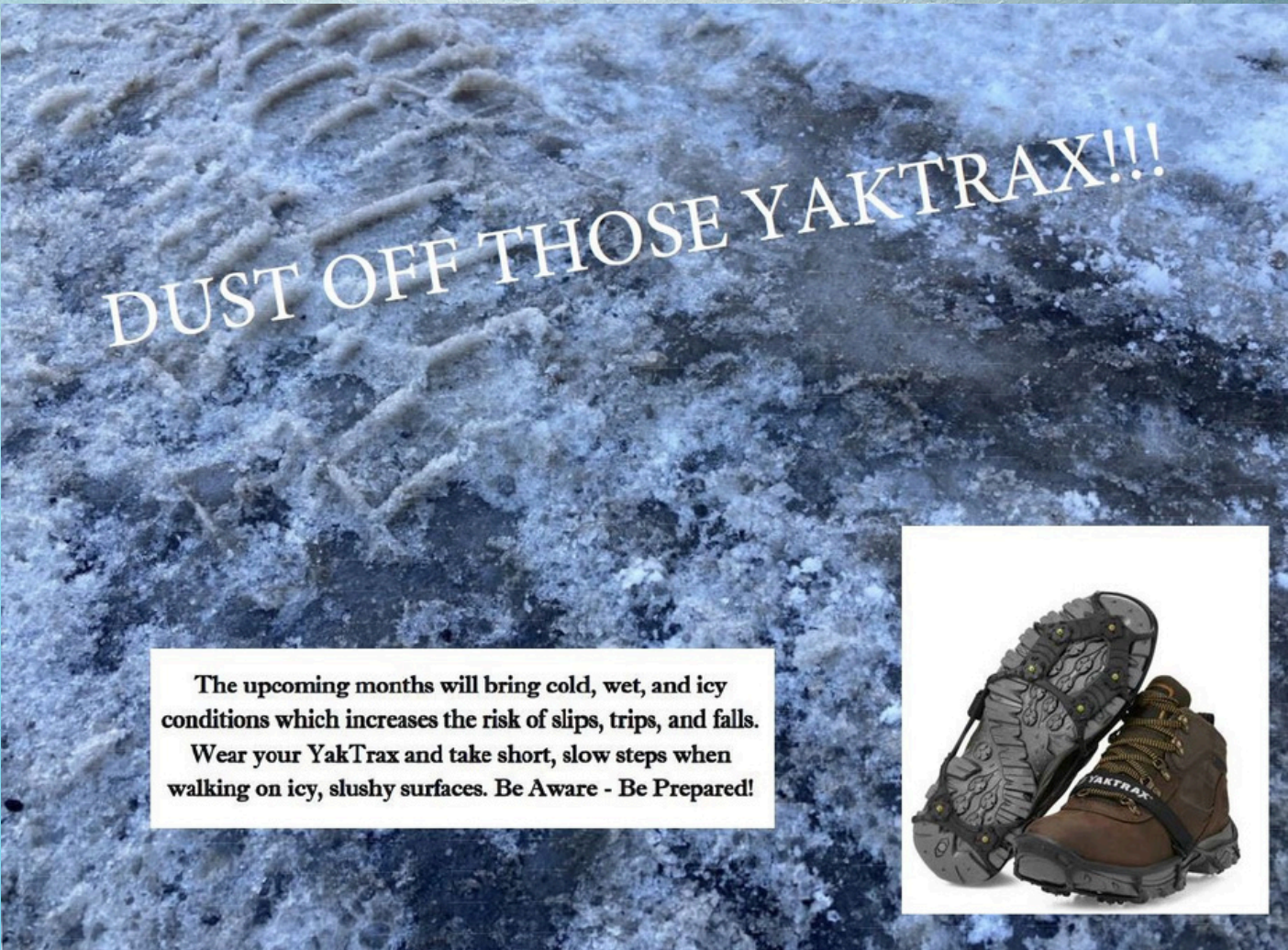
Key 3. Keep Your Eyes Moving®

Key 4. Leave Yourself An Out®

Key 5. Make Sure They See You®

A photograph of a street scene on a foggy day. Several cars are stopped at a red traffic light. The fog is thick, obscuring the background and the tops of the trees lining the street. The scene is dimly lit, with the red light of the traffic signal visible.

Autumn brings seasonal driving challenges such as reduced visibility from fog, as well as the potential for frost and ice. Trip planning should include checking weather forecasts daily.

A close-up photograph of a snowy and icy surface. There are deep, dark tire tracks in the snow, indicating a vehicle has driven through it. The snow is uneven and mixed with ice.

DUST OFF THOSE YAKTRAX!!!

The upcoming months will bring cold, wet, and icy conditions which increases the risk of slips, trips, and falls. Wear your YakTrax and take short, slow steps when walking on icy, slushy surfaces. Be Aware - Be Prepared!



Meet Lowboy Driver: Jan Michael Zbranek

Jan Michael Zbranek has dedicated 23 years to the trucking industry, traversing countless miles across the nation. His journey has equipped him with invaluable insights and expertise on the road, making him a seasoned professional in his field.

Jan Michael has been with Unimark since September 2014.

He enjoys hauling RGN and oversized loads because they present unique challenges that keep his work exciting at Unimark. The thrill of maneuvering large, heavy cargo requires skill and precision, allowing him to showcase his expertise. Additionally, transporting oversized loads often leads him to scenic routes and destinations that are off the beaten path, making each journey a new adventure.

“The joy of trucking goes beyond just a job; it's a way of life.” -- Jan M. Zbranek

He relishes the freedom of the open road and the opportunity to explore new places. Each mile traveled brings a sense of adventure and fulfillment that fuels his passion for the profession



When he is not behind the wheel, Jan Michael loves spending quality time with his family. Fishing with his sons, Jan Michael finds peacefulness and the thrill of the catch.

Jan Michael also has a passion for grilling; he loves to experiment with different marinades and recipes on his various BBQ pits.

Whether hosting family cookouts or fishing adventures, Jan Michael takes pride in bringing everyone together around good food and creating cherished moments.



Holiday Office Hours

Closed: November 27th & 28th

Closed: December 25th and 26th

Closed: January 1st 2026

