

2025 MAINTENANCE CONFERENCE

Tuesday, September 23rd - Cedar Rapids, IA
Wednesday, September 24th - Des Moines, IA



TWO LOCATIONS. SAME AGENDA.

The IMTA Maintenance Professionals Conference is back—and this year, *you've got options!*
Join us at one of the locations for the same expert-led sessions, same agenda, and same top-tier networking.

Over the course of the day, we'll tackle the biggest challenges facing maintenance professionals, from fuel efficiency and preventative maintenance to aftertreatment systems, tire safety, and idle reduction strategies. You'll also hear from industry leaders during our spec'ing panel and participate in interactive "Shop Talk" sessions designed to connect you with your peers and spark practical, real-world solutions.

Whether you're based in eastern or central Iowa—or anywhere else—you won't want to miss this one-day event built exclusively for fleet maintenance professionals. Pick the location that's most convenient for you and get ready to learn, connect, and take home strategies you can put to work immediately.

NEED A HOTEL?

The Hotel at Kirkwood
7725 Kirkwood Blvd SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

AC Hotel Des Moines
401 E Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309

Conference
REGISTRATION

\$200 / attendee

LOCATIONS:

Choose the location that works best for you!

Day 1



Kirwood Center Cedar Rapids
7725 Kirkwood Blvd SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD

Day 2



IMTA Building
717 E Court Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH



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7:30 – 8:00 AM

BREAKFAST AVAILABLE

8:00 – 8:45 AM

FUEL SMARTS: MAXIMIZE EFFICIENCY, CUT COSTS, BOOST PERFORMANCE

[Craig Sangster, Senior Account Executive, Howes Lubricator Products](#)

Fuel is one of your fleet's biggest expenses, are you getting the most out of every gallon? Craig Sangster, Senior Account Executive at Howes Lubricator Products, shares his expert strategies for fuel management, maintenance best practices, and efficiency hacks that save money and keep your fleet running at peak performance. Walk away with actionable tips to fuel smarter, not harder!

9:00 – 9:45 AM

MAXIMIZING UPTIME PANEL DISCUSSION: PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE & AFTERTREATMENT STRATEGIES THAT WORK

[Tom Mash, VP of Operations, Brown NationalLease](#)

[Brad Chubb, Director of Maintenance, Brown NationalLease](#)

Staying ahead of maintenance issues is the key to keeping trucks on the road and costs in check. This interactive panel will bring together seasoned fleet professionals to share how they are setting and managing preventative maintenance intervals, along with the proven policies, procedures, and best practices they use to tackle aftertreatment systems. From real-world strategies that reduce downtime to insights on optimizing service schedules, this session is designed to spark conversation, answer questions, and give you practical takeaways you can implement in your own shop.

10:00 – 10:45 AM

TIRE & WHEEL SAFETY: GETTING IT RIGHT BEFORE IT GOES WRONG

[Todd Nietzel, Corporate Manager - Training & Development, Pomp's Tire Service](#)

When it comes to tires and wheels, cutting corners can lead to serious—and sometimes catastrophic—consequences. This session takes a close look at the essential process steps every technician should follow when inspecting, mounting/demounting, inflating, and installing tire and wheel assemblies. We'll also examine real-world examples of what can go wrong when safety protocols are skipped or rushed. Whether you're in the shop or on the road, the goal is the same: doing it right, every time.

11:00 - 11:30 AM

SHOP TALK: YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED IN REAL TIME

Bring your biggest challenges, toughest questions, and hot-button topics to the table for this highly interactive session. Using a live text-in app, attendees can submit questions anonymously and see them appear on the screen in real time. From trouble-shooting stubborn shop issues to sharing practical solutions and lessons learned, this open forum is designed to spark candid discussion among peers. No slides, no scripts—just honest, unfiltered conversation about what's happening in your shops to-day.

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

NETWORKING LUNCH

12:30 - 1:15 PM

CEO SPEC'ING PANEL DISCUSSION

[Cedar Rapids Panelists: Jeff Arens, Schuster Company & Chris Hummer, Don Hummer Trucking](#)

[Des Moines Panelists: Jeff Arens, Schuster Company & Brad Gehring, Ruan](#)

Spec'ing the right equipment is a balance of cost, performance, safety, and long-term success. In this session, CEOs will share how they guide the process—who's involved, how pilot builds are used, and how they weigh standardization against new enhancements. Attendees will gain practical insights into the decision-making behind fleet specifications.

1:30 - 2:15 PM

IDLE STRATEGY: CUT COSTS, IMPROVE COMFORT, STAY COMPLIANT

[Jeremy Byrd, Bergstrom Inc.](#)

Idling burns fuel, drives up maintenance costs, and creates compliance challenges — yet drivers still need comfort and power when parked. This session explores smart idle-reduction strategies that balance cost savings with driver satisfaction. From APUs and battery HVAC systems to start-stop technology and bunk heaters, we'll cover the tools, policies, and real-world practices fleets are using to cut idle time, extend equipment life, and keep drivers comfortable and compliant.

2:30 - 3:00 PM

SHOP TALK: ROUND TWO

Still have questions? Thought of something brilliant after Round 1 ended? We've got you. This encore session keeps the conversation rolling with more real-world shop talk, more head-scratching challenges, and more "why didn't I think of that?" solutions. Fire up the app, text in your burning questions, and let's tackle whatever's still on your mind.

3:00 - 3:15 PM

EVENT SURVEY & ADJOURNMENT