

## ***TRUCKER RADIO NEWS JUNE 16, 2022***

Well this is scary. Dr. Melissa Snider-Adler, the chief medical review officer of DriverCheck, leaves little doubt that people are performing safety-sensitive work with drugs in their system.

Thirty-five per cent of people who use cannabis do so three or more days per week, and 26% use the drug five or more days per week, she told an audience of fleet managers during the Private Motor Truck Council of Canada's (PMTC) annual meeting.

The minimum safety standard is to avoid cannabis for 24 hours before performing a safety-sensitive task. That's impossible to achieve if someone is using the drug three or more days per week.

Dr. Snider-Adler said.... "I guarantee that it affects every single workplace out there." She said that 69% of those with a substance use disorder are employed and working.



Mo Chen, a Canadian entrepreneur who co-founded autonomous truck company TuSimple, this week unveiled Hydron, an independent company that seeks to develop, manufacture and sell hydrogen trucks with Level 4 autonomous technology.

He founded TuSimple with partner Xiaodi Hou in 2015, and the company has secured US\$1.3 billion in funding through an initial public offering in 2019.

Mo Chen, who is Hydron's General Manager..."The commercialization of autonomous vehicles requires the complex integration of hardware and software." Hydron also plans to provide fueling infrastructure.

In a press release, the company said it plans to work with partners to build a manufacturing facility in North America and intends to begin "mass production" as early as the third quarter of 2024. Does this sound like early Nikola?



The Private Motor Truck Council of Canada (PMTC), in conjunction with insurer Aviva, has selected John Deere, Walmart and Giant Tiger as the safest private fleets of the year.

**John Deere** took first place in the medium-sized fleet category. The fleet consists of 56 power units and 190 trailers. The vehicles are driven by 82 employees, 75 of whom are drivers provided by CPC Logistics Canada. The fleet has a commercial vehicle operator's registration (CVOR) violation rate of 3.72%. The CVOR is the equivalent of the SAAQ's Heavy Vehicle Driver Behaviour Record in Quebec.

**Walmart Canada** took top honours in the large fleet category. It has 711 employees, including 500 drivers who haul 4,100 trailers with 400 tractor trucks.

**Giant Tiger Wholesale** won the award for the most improved fleet safety. It has 170 employees, 129 of whom are drivers operating 15 tractors, five straight trucks, three light commercial vehicles and 628 trailers.



Speaking of the PMTC...Canada's private fleets identified the search for truck drivers as their top challenge in 2021, and those who were hired tended to come from a familiar labor pool.

In the US, National Private Truck Council (NPTC) executive vice-president Tom Moore said "About half the new drivers came from other private fleets. presenting findings of an annual benchmarking survey to members of the Private Motor Truck Council of Canada (PMTC). By the way, if you are new to trucking, Private Fleets are fleets of trucks owned by companies such as Tim Hortons, Labatts, Coke, Home Hardware, Giant Tiger, Superior Propane, etc. These are the prime driving jobs.



And more on the topic of fleets. Canada Post has one of the biggest fleets in the country. Canada Post announced it will electrify its entire fleet of 14,000 vehicles by 2040 as part of its plan to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. It will spend \$1 billion to transform its fleet, with an initial goal of being 50% electric by 2030. Your tax dollars at work.