



# Bi-State News

Association of Bi-State Motor Carriers

Volume 1, Issue 2

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## Media Shines Spotlight on Problems at Port Newark

Under the direction of the Association of Bi-State Motor Carriers Board, our public relations agency, MWW conducted outreach to the media and also assisted the Association's Board in setting up meetings with local governmental leaders to raise awareness for the problems affecting our membership at Port Newark.

A press release outlining the Association's recommendations for remedying the situation at Port Newark was distributed to regional media on February 17. This had an immediate impact of raising awareness from key media to the problems at the Port.

MWW arranged for *Chasing NJ*, the nightly newscast on UPN-9 to have reporter Hank Flynn come out to Port

Newark (2/24) to file a story. He interviewed Tom Heimgartner and Dick Jones of the Association. Here's the [link](#) to his story.

*CBS News* reporter Alexis Christoforous also came out to the Port (2/26) and filed a network report, interviewing Tom Heimgartner and Dick Jones, which aired as one of the lead stories on the WCBS-TV's Six O'clock newscast. The interview segment with Jones did not make the final edited piece. Click [here](#) to access this news clip.

Other media that have covered this issue include the *Bergen Record* which published a news story (2/19) and an editorial

(2/24) on the subject and *CNBC*, which filed a news report on port productivity and National Retail Federation angle (2/24). A letter to the editor by Jeff Bader in support of the Bergen Record editorial was also submitted. *The Star Ledger* has also visited the Port and interviewed Association President Jeff Bader and continues to monitor the situation.



## Association Board Members Meet with Key Local Officials

Over the past couple of weeks, the Association of Bi-State Motor Carriers Board has been actively engaging with New York and New Jersey Port Authority representatives, Congressional and Senate leadership, local representatives and the media to raise awareness for the major problems at Port Newark that are affecting our membership on a daily

basis. Association President Jeff Bader and Vice President Tom Heimgartner and Executive Director Dick Jones met with Paul Brubaker, State Director for Senator Menendez (2/18) and Congressman Leonard Lance (2/24). Congressman Lance has called for a meeting with Rick Larrabe. Meetings are also being scheduled with Lt. Gov.

Guadagno, Congressman Sires and the PANYNJ. In addition, State Senator Joseph Pennacchio and Assemblyman Scott Rumana issued a press release calling for the end of veto power on new hires for the Waterfront Commission (2/25).



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Serving the Businesses that Serve the Port.

## A Look at Association Member, J Way Company

**J WAY Transportation** is a full service provider of transportation & logistics services founded on Integrity, dedication, and commitment since 1945. It has been owned and operated by John Kruse since 1978.

John's uncles Joseph and Gus founded Kruse Trucking in 1945 and quickly established itself as a trusted name in the transportation industry. From the time it began servicing its very first customer, Firestone Tire, the company and reputation grew, as a wide variety of clients learned they could count on the company for all kinds of delivery services and logistical support.

John Kruse worked there during the summers while in High School and his dad, a retired baker also worked for the company. John purchased the company from his cousin in 1978 and Kruse Trucking Co., became J Way Company with headquarters in Hillside, NJ.. During that time the organization focused heavily on medical supplies and food products. Despite its success, the company has not forgotten what got them where they are—*offering* premium services at affordable prices. As the company states: No matter what were hauling, we always deliver trust.



## NJ Pothole Alert

New Jersey Department of Transportation has launched a major program that will extend into the spring to repair potholes across New Jersey.

Crews will close travel lanes where necessary during daytime hours, including during peak travel times for priority repairs. Where possible, crews will limit their daytime work hours to 9 a.m.-3 p.m., per standard protocol, and will try to avoid working in travel lanes carrying traffic in the peak direction during peak times.

Detailed current repair locations will be posted on a continual basis on [www.511nj.org](http://www.511nj.org).

## Transportation Alternatives Program

On February 10, 2014, Governor Andrew Cuomo and New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Commissioner Joan McDonald announced the availability of applications for transportation projects under the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). Projects will be selected through a competitive solicitation process and rated on established criteria that include environmental enhancement to and for the transportation system; connectivity to an existing transportation system; encouragement of smart growth; impact on local or regional economies; avail-

ability of matching funds; and level of community support.

NYSDOT will provide technical assistance and required training for potential applicants through a series of workshops statewide. This training will be offered as webinars on March 18 and 19.

More information and details on the webinars and application process are available at [www.dot.ny.gov/tap](http://www.dot.ny.gov/tap)

## Port Task Force

The Port Performance Task Force met Feb. 20 at Port Newark and discussed the extraordinary congestion and delays over the past several weeks that have impacted everyone at the Port. Discussions about current activities included:

Discussions by the NYSA, WFC and ILA regarding the labor shortages, portwide checker lists and impending retirement of over 200 longshoremen and checkers.

Feasibility of uniformly extending gates for a period of time to clear the backlogs.

Examining the potential for relief associated with per diem and demurrage charges.

Publishing the traffic control measures managed by the PA Police.