



New Clean Big-Rigs Go On Display Drivers Apply for Leases, Grants at 'Center' Festivities

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The ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles are hosting a weeklong outreach event at the Clean Trucks Center on Terminal Island, August 18-23, to display the new, clean trucks that will help to dramatically reduce air pollution at the ports.

"Clean Trucks Center Week" at the facility at New Dock Street and Pier S Avenue will give truck drivers and trucking companies a first hand opportunity to see the full range of clean new vehicles, talk to dealers and meet with Clean Trucks Program advisers who will provide information and assist with filling out applications for grants, leases or concessions. A variety of trucks, including diesel and LNG models will be on display. The Clean Trucks Center (CTC) was created to be a "one-stop-shop" to assist truck owners who need to comply with the ports' new emission reduction requirements.

The ports' Clean Trucks Program offers major financial assistance such as grants or leases to truck owners to purchase new vehicles or retrofit their old big-rigs in order to cut air pollution. Beginning October 1, trucking companies will be required to have "concessions" with the ports to dispatch trucks to port terminals. Also, beginning in October, the Port begins a progressive ban of older polluting trucks, starting with truck Model Year 1988 and older.

Truck drivers and trucking company representatives are encouraged to visit the Clean Trucks Center during grand opening week. On Friday, August 22 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, August 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. there will be special activities and free food will be served. Hours of operation during the Grand Opening week are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

"Clean Trucks Center Week will give stakeholders a chance to get all their questions about the Clean Trucks Program answered in one place," said James C. Hankla, President of the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners. "We'll have information on grants, leases, our Healthy Drivers program and more."

The CTC is a complex of temporary offices where licensed motor carriers and independent owner operators can apply for grants and leases for new trucks, register for their Transportation Worker Identification Card (TWIC), apply for financial assistance, and learn about the many new services that the ports have created for the drayage industry, such as the Port of Long Beach's "Healthy Drivers" health insurance program.

Truck owners and licensed motor carriers can call the Clean Trucks Center for information at 1-888-KLN-TRUX (1-888-556-8789). Or visit the Port's web site at www.polb.com/cleantrucks.

Contact: Art Wong, Port of Long Beach Assistant Director of Communications/Public Information Officer, (562) 590-4123, (562) 619-5665 (cell), or wong@polb.com for more information or photo opportunities. Or John Pope, Media Relations Manager, at (562) 590-4126.