

# The **DATTCO** Traveler

A Quarterly Employee Newsletter



Fall 2019



## BEST WISHES FOR A SUCCESSFUL 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR!

A new school year is here, and we want to express our gratitude for the employees of our school bus division. It takes a huge network of folks to keep the wheels rolling and get students to and from school safely every day. We thank all of you - from monitors and drivers, to operations and managers, to fleet maintenance techs and safety - without you DATTCO would not have the reputation of being the reliable school transportation company it is today. Let's make it a stellar year!

We also want to welcome members of our newest school bus terminal - Hebron! Welcome to the team! Wishing you all an awesome year!

Last year we did well keeping accidents to a minimum - let's do even better this year! Check out our new mantra this year - DON'T RUSH! Always keep our mantra for this year in mind!

## School Bus Driver Kudos

*Here are some of the nice words that have been shared about our drivers this past year:*

Ms. Trish is by far the safest bus driver we have encountered. I see every morning that my child's safety is the most important thing to her. When she approaches and stops in front of our house she always puts a hand up for my daughter to wait or signals that she may cross the street. She is never rushed and waits until approaching vehicles have come to a complete stop before signaling for my daughter to cross. This is always done with a friendly smile. I realize her job is not easy - managing difficult behaviors on the bus while keeping all the kids safe - but Ms. Trish does it and does it well. - Moosup parent

I'm writing to let you know that Mac, is wonderful. Mac drives my son's bus to Chapman School in Cheshire. Every day, Mac arrives on time. When I say on time, I mean exactly on time very day. He always arrives with a smile. He greets all the kids and knows their names. The kids love him and the parents at my stop are so grateful to have him as our driver. We are confident that we are sending our kids to school with someone who genuinely cares about them! - Cheshire parent

I would like to thank Barbara for tracking my daughter down when I called DATTCO to inquire why she didn't get off the bus at BASREP. She suspected right away that she was on the Memorial Middle School Unified Sports field trip (that I had completely forgotten about), confirmed it, and within minutes, I received a call from the school saying she was safe and sound. If she had missed the bus, missed her stop, or worse, I feel reassured that she would have been found just as quickly and been in good hands. Thank you for your quick response and caring! - Durham parent

Read more on our Employee Portal, [www.DATTCO.com/employee-portal](http://www.DATTCO.com/employee-portal), under "Employee News"!



**Drive alert**  
**Obey all laws**  
**Never speed**  
**Think before you move**  
**Reduce risk**  
**Use your skills**  
**Slow down**  
**Have a safe ride**



# EMPLOYEE ACCOLADES

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

### IC Bus Diamond Dealer

We're proud to be recognized as one of IC Bus's top-ranking dealers in the Northeast, earning the Diamond Dealer recognition. To be selected, dealers must demonstrate excellence in improving sales, market share and customer satisfaction. Kudos to our sales team for helping DATTCO achieve this recognition! We couldn't have done it without you!

### Menard Earns a Spot in IC Bus's Champions Club

Sales representative Matt Menard has been very busy selling buses this past year. All the hard work has paid off with a spot in IC Bus's Champions Club! IC Bus selects winners from the top performing dealerships in each region of the US. Congratulations Matt for being our top IC Bus salesperson!

### Sean Butler Recognized by The Association of Fleet Maintenance Supervisors (MA)

At the Association of Fleet Maintenance Supervisor's annual awards night in February Seán Butler was presented with the Joseph Francis Award for his support of the association that goes above and beyond the normal call. AFMS said they are very proud to have Sean in the association and we couldn't agree more! Thank you, Sean, for going the extra mile! Congratulations on a well-deserved award!

## Motorcoach Driver Recognition

Congratulations to our Driver of the Year award recipients, Hector Medina, Motorcoach Driver of the Year, and Keanisha Johnson, Contract Services Driver of the Year. The Driver of the Year awards recognize driving professionals who best represent the company's long-held values of dedication, integrity, safety and superior service.

Veteran motorcoach operator John Davis was named Connecticut Bus Association's Driver of the Year. John, who has also been DATTCO's Driver of the Year twice, has driven over three million miles in his 32-year career.

Additionally, DATTCO presented 123 drivers with Safe Driver Awards. Four drivers were recognized for being accident-free for a decade or more; Michael Maino, 14 years (Fairhaven/Randolph Motorcoach), Scott Grant, 13 years (New Britain), Daniel Morin, ten years (New Britain), Ceon Smith, ten years (Bridgeport).

CONGRATULATIONS! We are so proud to have all of you on our team!

### Motorcoach Driver Kudos

"I wanted to express my gratitude for your assistance in providing our charter bus for the trip. All members of the Windsor Locks Police Department were impressed with your company. I appreciate your professionalism and look forward to utilizing DATTCO for our next charter. Thank you very much for all that you did for us!" - Windsor Locks Police Department

"DATTCO was the best company we have used. I love DATTCO and everything about them. Drivers were on time and courteous every time." - Fairfield Schools Ski Team

"I wanted to let you know that our Mohegan Sun charter trip this past Saturday night was a big success! We were super pleased with the DATTCO bus. The bus driver was a gem, and everything ran smoothly and on-time. Thank you so much, we'll be back next year for sure!" - Lisa

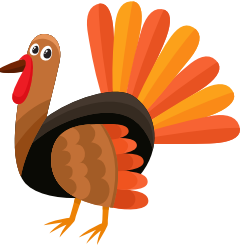
Read more driver kudos on our Employee Portal, [www.DATTCO.com/employee-portal](http://www.DATTCO.com/employee-portal), under "Employee News"!



# SALES & SERVICE SCOOP

## The Service Department has Moved to 315 South Street

The Sales & Service service department, formerly located at 29 Hudson Place, has moved to 315 South Street! This relocation project has been in the works for four years, and with the help and effort of Accelerated Property Management, we finally got the job done! Moving the service department to 315 South Street unifies the Sales & Service division, bringing it into the same building as the Parts and Vehicle Sales department. The project included a new, sparkling shop with five bays, an expansive bus yard, delivery bay, and plenty of customer and service parking. Thank you to everyone who worked on this project and made the transition as smooth as possible!



## DTEC Graduate Moore Promoted to Lead Technician

Congratulations to Walter Moore on his new assignment as lead technician in our Manchester location. Walt has been with DATTCO for nearly 5 years, starting as a student in the first year of our DTEC program. Since graduating that first year of DTEC training, he has had experience in several DATTCO locations including Sales and Service shops in New Britain, Middletown, New Haven, Durham, and with Accelerated Property Management. Walt has shown a dedicated work ethic and attention to detail, and we are confident he will succeed in his new position. He is a shining example of the type of employee that our DTEC program was intended to develop!

## CT Skills USA

DTEC hosted the 2019 Connecticut Technical High School Diesel Mechanic Competition as part of the Connecticut Skills USA State Conference. The competition required students to work through 10 stations, each one developed to test a different skill they have been learning during the school year; electrical, brake adjustments, front-end inspections and identification of engine components were just a few. The competition was a success and we hope to host it again in the future!





# In Other News...

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### Community Engagement Events

Your colleagues have been busy supporting our local communities. Here are just a few things that have happened since our last newsletter was issued. We would like to give a HUGE THANK YOU to those who volunteered their time and effort to make these events a success!!

- Stuff-A-Bus to benefit TEEG, Thompson
- Middletown provided transportation for attendees and volunteers of Wreaths Across America, State Veterans Cemetery
- DATTCO employees donated over 950 books to Children's Book Drive for Manchester Women's Club to build Little Free Libraries across the city.
- Transported residents of the East Hartford Family Shelter to the annual Sneaker Event for the Homeless at Dunkin Donuts Park
- Stuff-A-Bus for American Cancer Society, East Hartford
- Mayor's Clean Up Day, East Hartford
- Stuff-A-Bus for the Weekend Snack Program, Burrillville
- "Flags In" at State Veterans Cemetery, Provided transportation for Homefront Connect
- Stuff-A-Bus to benefit Plainville Community Food Pantry
- A Reason to Ride motorcycle run for Veterans, Plainfield

We are always looking for ways to give back to our communities. If you have an idea, please contact Eliza Baron in the Marketing Department: 860-229-4878 ext. 5690, [Eliza.Baron@DATTCO.com](mailto:Eliza.Baron@DATTCO.com)

## DATTCO & CT Tourism

In partnership with state tourism districts, DATTCO has wrapped 4 buses with graphics showcasing some of the states top attractions. The first bus was unveiled at the Governor's Conference on Tourism at the CT Convention Center. These buses will remain part of our fleet, carrying passengers throughout Northeastern U.S. and Canada for several years.



### Did you know? DATTCO Has an Employee Referral Program?

#### Earn up to \$200 for referring DRIVERS to DATTCO!

All full-time or regular part-time employees are eligible to receive a bonus through the employee referral program. Employees can receive a bonus of \$100 for referring non-CDL drivers or \$200 for CDL drivers (with required endorsements). All candidate referrals must put the name of the employee who referred them on their application.

Have your family & friends go to [DATTCO.com/jobs](http://DATTCO.com/jobs) and apply today!

Need more details? Ask your manager or refer to pages 22 & 23 of the DATTCO Employee Handbook.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Stay Tuned for the next Safety Starts with Me Contest!

We will soon be announcing a new Safety Starts with Me contest – The Safety Selfie Photo Contest! Details will be sent to managers and posted in all terminals during the month of October.

The DATTCO Traveler is a quarterly newsletter brought to you by your Marketing Department.

If you would like to contribute material to the next newsletter, contact Eliza Baron at

[Eliza.Baron@DATTCO.com](mailto:Eliza.Baron@DATTCO.com) or ext. 5690 or Elyse Fernandes at [Elyse.Fernandes@DATTCO.com](mailto:Elyse.Fernandes@DATTCO.com) or ext. 5674.