



**TRAIN THE TRAINER 2023**



## **The Power of Teacher Externships: Enriching Education Through Corporate Partnerships**

*Pictured Bendix-Barbara Gould and NGT-Lindsey Trent*

In the dynamic landscape of education, the role of teachers goes beyond imparting knowledge to students. To equip them with real-world insights and innovative teaching methodologies, teacher externships have emerged as an invaluable opportunity. A teacher externship is a collaborative endeavor between educational institutions and companies that provides teachers with immersive professional development experiences in corporate settings. I was part of an externship with Bendix and the Education Service Center of Lorain County where 25 educators learned about trucking, the supply chain, and how they can prepare students for careers in this field. This article explores what teacher externships entail and highlights the compelling reasons why companies should consider hosting them.



A teacher externship typically involves teachers spending a portion of their summer break working within a company. This is a way to gain firsthand exposure to industry practices, technologies, and workplace culture. It allows educators to bridge the gap between classroom theory and practical application by enhancing their instructional effectiveness while enriching their students' learning experiences. Laura Eland, Career Connections Coach at Lorain County JVS said, "This entire presentation has been super enlightening. I had no idea about the scope of different jobs within the trucking

industry. I am excited to bring this knowledge to students and help them see where they might fit into this type of career path.”

### **Benefits for Companies:**

1. Strengthening the Workforce: Hosting a teacher externship enables companies to contribute directly to the development of a skilled and adaptable future workforce. By sharing their expertise, professionals in the company can empower teachers with current industry knowledge, technological advancements, and market trends, equipping them to prepare students for the evolving job market.

2. Building Meaningful Partnerships: Teacher externships foster mutually beneficial relationships between companies and educational institutions. Through this collaboration, companies gain insights into educational needs, instructional approaches, and emerging educational technologies. This knowledge can help companies tailor their products, services, and initiatives to align with educational goals and requirements.

3. Enhancing Corporate Social Responsibility: Hosting teacher externships showcases a company's commitment to education and community development. For Bendix, who has a significant focus on corporate responsibility, this is a tangible way to impact the education system by investing in the professional growth of teachers, who are instrumental in shaping future generations.

4. Recruiting and Retaining Talent: Companies that participate in teacher externships often gain access to a pool of talented, passionate educators. By providing teachers with authentic learning experiences, companies can attract potential employees who possess a deep understanding of educational practices and are passionate about their subject areas.

Teacher externships serve as a bridge between the classroom and the professional world, providing teachers with transformative experiences that positively impact their instructional practices. Laura, who admittedly never considered trucking as a viable industry for her students because her knowledge of trucking was very limited said, “Now I look at it and know that in addition to driving jobs, there is logistics, mechanics, and engineering of the systems that goes into it. For me as an educator to relook at some things that I may have had a limited view on, and now be able to connect the dots to real-life applications and know that there are so many career paths that are available in trucking, that is invaluable.” Companies that host teacher externships benefit from strengthening their workforce, building partnerships, demonstrating corporate social responsibility, and potentially identifying future employees. By actively participating in teacher externships, companies invest in education, contributing to the development of a skilled and empowered generation of students, and ultimately, the growth of society as a whole.

*Lindsey Trent*

President & Co-Founder, Next Gen Trucking Association



**RIHM MONTHLY**  
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**NEXT GEN  
TRUCKING**



Article Feature: The Industry's Road to the Future (Page 3)

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## Rihm Monthly Magazine - June 2023 - Magazine

Article feature: The Industry's Road to the Feature on page 3! Check it out.

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# NGT FOUNDING INVESTORS



# NGT SPONSOR INVESTORS



A very special thank you to these companies.



## Train-the-Trainer 2023

One thing is for certain: replication can be a powerful force. On June 2-3, Next Gen in Trucking hosted our first *Train-the-Trainer* event at Patterson High School. Seven participants, representing schools from across the US, spent two days learning the Next Gen program and how to best implement it at their respective school districts.

Highlights of the event included:

- Inspirational welcome message from Patterson Joint Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Reyes Gauna
- Program walk-through that included advisory board implementation, marketing and recruiting best practices, creating engaging and meaningful lessons, and how to develop and grow leadership skills within the student body
- Overview of ELDT and the FMCSA Training Registry by Wade Bricknell of SambaSafety
- Incorporating golf carts into a training program and the certification process
- The benefits of driver simulation training by Enrique Mar of Advanced Training Systems
- Question and Answer session with several graduates of the Patterson High School program

We are so proud of this first group to become Next Gen certified and look forward to continuing the replication process until all youth in the US are provided with the educational opportunities to learn about the trucking industry while in high school. Special thanks to our event sponsors: J.J. Keller, Gogotech, and Advanced Training Systems for your support in helping us make this event possible.



**Dave Dein**

Vice-President & Co-Founder, Next Gen Trucking Association

# Student Spotlight

## A FAMILY TRADITION

Wilber Torres grew up with trucking in his blood. His father is an owner-operator who has grown his company from one to three trucks over the last couple of years. Wilber is not only a dedicated student, the first in this year's class to obtain his Commercial Learner's Permit even before graduating from high school, but he is also responsible for the daily operation of his father's trucking company. When Wilber is not focused on school work he is researching and securing loads, handling billing, assisting with basic maintenance and repairs, and the countless list of other chores needed to keep a trucking company in business. The quality that sets Wilber apart is not his hard work, but his humbleness. He doesn't see what he is doing as work, but rather a love he has for trucking. His enthusiasm is literally contagious and I'm so proud that I got to play a small part in his trucking journey.



**WILBER TORRES**  
PATTERSON HIGH SCHOOL



Skills that pay the bills ... and redefine success | Peyton Holland | TEDxRaleigh

The path to success is a 4-year degree



Love's gift helps school CDL program teach about distracted/impaired driving

Love's Travel Stops recently made a donation to the Patterson High School Truck Driving Program that enabled the California school to create a

... or is it? By 2020, 10 million jobs will go unfilled because there are not enough people with the skills needed to fill them. For decades, we've told a story that places more value on a degree hanging on the wall than the skills needed to build that wall.

distracted/impaired driving course utilizing the program's golf cart. In 2017 Patterson High School in Patterson, California became one of the first high schools in the nation to offer CDL training as a Career and Technical Education elective course.

[Watch Now](#)

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JUNE 2023

# MEET US HERE:

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**June 2-3:** NGT Train the Trainer Workshop  
(Patterson, CA)

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**June 4-5:** JCA Truck Driving Championships  
(West Sacramento, CA)

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**June 19-23** Skills USA National Competition  
(Atlanta, GA)

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**June 21:** San Joaquin Valley Zero Emission  
Vehicle Showcase and Ride+Drive (Fresno, CA)

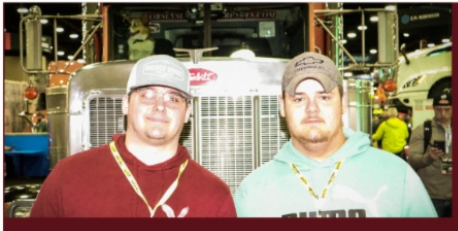


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**June 28:** Technology Student Association  
(Louisville, KY)

# NGT MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Over the past 45 years, Mercer Transportation has become one of the nation's leading owner operator trucking companies. What started as an idea written on a napkin has grown into a fleet of over 2,200 independent contractors with the resources and expertise to be successful. Our logistic support, freight network, and other resources help independent contractors run successful and profitable businesses. We are one of the best owner operator companies in the nation because we have the experience and understand what it takes to succeed in this industry.



**Next Gen students checking out the Mercer booth at MATS 2023**



**Mercer, Kentucky Trucking Association and Next Gen with a group of Diesel Tech students from a Louisville High School**

At Mercer, we also understand the importance of educating our next generation on the many opportunities within our industry. We believe in the value of education and career development for these future transportation professionals. That is why we are proud to partner with the Next Generation in Trucking Association, in an effort to encourage students to become more familiar with the transportation industry and its growing opportunities.

Through programs like Next Gen Trucking, we are able to offer students the resources to learn from our experienced drivers, managers, and technicians. We have experts who share their insights and expertise on various aspects of trucking. We also provide students with hands-on experience in our facilities where they can see how we operate and maintain our fleet of owner operators.

**"BY PARTNERING WITH NEXT GEN, WE HOPE TO INSPIRE STUDENTS TO PURSUE THEIR INTERESTS AND PASSIONS IN TRANSPORTATION..."**

Community involvement alongside education is a high priority at Mercer Transportation. One of our own here at Mercer is a board member on the Kentucky Trucking Education Foundation, the scholarship fund of KTA. Mercer has matched donations alongside KTA to programs that are training students for a career in the transportation industry. We also plan in the near future to begin a mentoring program for young people interested in eventually becoming owner operators.

Our goal is to grow the transportation industry by arming our future drivers, owner operators, diesel techs, managers, etc. with the knowledge to feel confident and successful in whatever transportation career they choose. By partnering with Next Gen, we hope to inspire students to pursue their interests and passions in transportation, and to show them the benefits and rewards of working in this dynamic and essential sector. We believe that by investing in the future of our industry, we are also investing in the future of our company and our community.



## NextGen TALK Podcast Episode #4

In this episode, Lindsey Trent talks with Hans Galland and Kay Makishi of Beyond Trucks. They discuss issues relating to the trucking industry's need to implement more technology and the impact it has on the employees and operations. As we move into the next generation of leaders within a company, change can be hard. However, if there is a focus on technology, processes can become easier leading to higher visibility and more profitability.

Connect with Hans: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/hansgalland/>

Connect with Kay: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/kaymakishi/>

[Listen to the podcast](#)

# NEW MEMBERS



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