TOP WOMEN TO WATCH

Women In Trucking (WIT) applauds these top performers who have achieved significant accomplishments in their career and who go the extra mile to help improve gender diversity — at their own companies and/or industry-wide. This second annual list highlights notable achievements by some of the most remarkable women in our industry.

TINA ALBERT
Assistant Plant Manager
Peterbilt Motors Company

TAMI ALLENSWORTH
Senior Vice President, Customer Experience
J.B. Hunt
Trailblazer who now leads unit she helped create. Co-founded employee resource group GROW (Growing and Retaining Outstanding Women). Recently discussed the need for organizations like GROW with U.S. Department of Labor.

LISA ANGARA
Enterprise Architect Manager
Navistar
Spearheaded development of products to improve driver experience. Lead developer for application to streamline customer service experience. Mentors, encourages and uplifts women around her.

CATHY BAUDER
Driver, Owner Operator
Steven Davis Trucking
More than 25 years with a perfect driving record. Extremely supportive of fellow women drivers. Takes time to talk with them, offer advice and encouragement. Runner-up for Peterbilt’s SuperFan search.

COURTNAY BECKHAM
Sales Specialist
SelecTrucks of Atlanta/Peach State Trucks
In the top 3 percent of salespeople for over 10 years. Views truck sales as partnering, educating and supporting clients, so they can realize their dreams. Passionate about Women In Trucking.

MONA BEEDLE
Founder
Trucking Angels for Christ
Hosts weekly call to inspire women to overcome everyday obstacles they face out on the road as well as at home. Chaplain for Channel 21 Ministries and active with Trucker Buddy International.

For a downloadable PDF, visit WomenInTrucking.org/womentowatch2019
JOSEPHINE BERISHA  
Senior Vice President, Global Compensation and Benefits  
XPO Logistics  
Developed industry-leading compensation/benefits policies for women and families, including a highly progressive Pregnancy Care policy. Helped increase female LTL drivers at XPO in North America by more than 30 percent.

TRACY BIRD  
Branch Manager  
Trimac Transportation Inc.  
Strong leadership has led to increasing responsibilities and multiple promotions in Bird’s 17-year tenure at Trimac. With her guidance, her branch achieved biggest turnaround in the company’s western U.S. region.

MELISSA (MISSY) BLAIR  
Program Manager, Center for Transportation Training  
Pima Community College  
Promotes the industry to females of all ages — from outreach in elementary schools to adults. Helped increase female enrollment from 8 percent in 2017 to 14 percent in 2018.

DONNA BOESEN  
Customer Service Leader  
Veriha Trucking  
Passionate about ensuring success for both the company and its customers. Leads by example. Boesen’s productivity and response time exceed most, and she leaves a trail of dust behind her.

JENNIFER BRAUN  
Vice President, Kansas City Operations  
Trinity Logistics  
Progressed through the company to become first female Vice President of a Regional Service Center. Her innovative ideas played key role in its profitability. Highly respected by peers, team and executive leadership.

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WIT Honors Influential Woman In Trucking

Angela Eliacostas got an early start in the trucking industry, learning how to fuel, park and wash trucks for her father, a long-hauler who also ran a trucking company. Her logistics career began in earnest when she joined BBI Trucking Company as a young, single mother of four. She started out as a part-time billing clerk, worked her way up to general manager and then ventured out on her own.

In 2005, she launched All Girls Transportation and Logistics from a basement office. As CEO, she worked hard, stayed on top of trends and technologies, and delivered on her promise to “keep the world turning” for her clients.

Today, the company, now AGT Global Logistics, has a strong client base for its utility logistics management services and is consistently ranked as a top-50 Illinois and top-1000 U.S. certified women-owned business.

In recognition of her success, the Women In Trucking Association (WIT) presented Eliacostas with the 2018 “Influential Woman In Trucking Award” at the Accelerate! Conference & Expo in November.

Sponsored by Freightliner Trucks, the annual award recognizes women in the trucking industry who make or influence key decisions, have a proven record of responsibility, and mentor and serve as a role model to other women.

Eliacostas was selected from a field of highly qualified nominees, including finalists Brooke Willey, Vice President – Human Resources, CRST International, and Nozuko Mayeza, Managing Director, Tulsawiz Logistics.

Willey works with her team to create an atmosphere where CRST’s nearly 8,000 employees can achieve what she calls “job joy” — enjoying what they do in a productive, safe and meaningful environment. The sole female executive in the C-suite when she started at the company in 2010, she embraced her position at the executive table and has successfully helped to recruit other female executives.

Mayeza defied the odds and started a trucking company, virtually unheard of for a woman in South Africa. Today, she is a mouthpiece for WIT in South Africa. A finalist for the Women in Africa Awards 2018, she influences decision makers in both government and the private sector to give business opportunities to women-owned companies.

“It is exciting to see so many remarkable women leaders in our industry,” says Ellen Voie, WIT President and CEO. “We’re honored to recognize Angela as the 2018 ‘Influential Woman in Trucking.’ She definitely will be an inspiration for Women In Trucking members.”

Eliacostas plans to be a vocal advocate for the WIT mission. “I’m happy to show that dedication and perseverance lead to success in both business and in life, whether you’re in work boots or heels.”
FEATURE: Top Women To Watch

DEBRA BRUNTON
Group Director Maintenance Ryder
Recently promoted, Brunton is the first woman to hold this position. Active sponsor of Women’s Leadership forums at Ryder. Mentors women who are starting out in the trucking industry.

ANGIE BUCHANAN
Vice President, Operations Melton Truck Lines
Recently named TCA’s “Safety Professional of the Year” and promoted to Vice President of Operations. Her HR leadership helped Melton gain recognition as a top workplace by The Oklahoman and WIT.

CYNTHIA CHAMPION
Transportation Safety Manager Martin Transport, Inc.
Named a “Rising Star” by the National Safety Council and “Responsible Care Partner of the Year” by the American Chemistry Council. An outstanding ambassador for women considering a career in transportation.

DAWN COCHRAN
Professional Driver Old Dominion Freight Line
2018 Indiana State Truck Driving Champion for the 5-axel class. Sole female finalist across ALL classes in the National Truck Driving Championship last August. Tireless advocate for women in trucking.

APRIL COOLIDGE
Driver/Trainer Walmart
Sets example for safe, conscientious driving. As a captain for Walmart’s Arkansas Road Team and 2019 – 2020 America’s Road Team nominee, Coolidge encourages women to seek opportunities in the trucking industry.

KELLY CARGILL CROW
External Communications Manager FedEx Freight
Actively participates in diversity efforts and promotes the accomplishments of women at FedEx both internally and externally. Passionate about shaping the industry through communications leadership.

MEZZALINA (LINA) DEJONGH
Branch Manager Trimac Transportation Inc.
Hard work and strong leadership skills have propelled Dejongh through the ranks at Trimac. Increased billable miles by 47 percent and driver count by 12 percent and added a profitable new product line.

SHAYNE FANNING
B2B Communication & Events Michelin North America, Inc.
Played a key role in development of Michelin’s Women’s Network and piloted its first-ever B2B Women’s Summit for marketing and sales professionals. Spearheaded top-tier sponsorship of WIT’s Accelerate! Conference.

SHIRLEY FOLEY
Vice President DTS Logistics, LLC
As an immigrant with no prior industry experience, Foley started as an office manager and worked tirelessly to master the business. Helped grow monthly sales 1000 percent. Treats employees like family.

KRISTEN FORECKI
Vice President, Operations Convoy
Leadership marked by unflagging positivity, a willingness to roll up her sleeves and help, and the ability to bring out the best in her team. Founding executive of Women at Convoy.

TRISH GARLAND
Corporate Vice President, Strategic Services Estes Express Lines
Highest-ranking female senior executive at Estes and leader at the helm of a significant transformation of corporate strategy and culture. Has helped blaze the trail for females entering the industry.

2019 TOP WOMEN TO WATCH continued from page 13

BROOKE WILLEY
Vice President Human Resources CRST International
“Blaze your own trail.”
- Brooke Willey

Congratulations, Brooke
For being named a finalist for the 2018 Influential Women in Trucking award, sponsored by Freightliner Trucks and the Women in Trucking Association!
Congratulations.

We are proud to celebrate Kelly Cargill Crow, Communications Manager, FedEx Freight, for being named a 2019 Women in Trucking “Top Woman to Watch in Transportation”.

Trimac Transportation Inc. extends our heartfelt congratulations to branch managers Tracy Bird (Rock Springs, WY) & Mezzalina (Lina) DeJongh (Pensacola, FL) for being named a “2019 Top Woman to Watch in Transportation” by WIT’s Redefining the Road. Tracy and Lina are sisters, and each has followed a path to their own success! Tracy & Lina have almost three decades of combined success within the industry and our company. Congratulations Tracy & Lina!
2019 TOP WOMEN TO WATCH

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EMMA GELACEK
Safety Manager
Garner Trucking
A 25-year driving veteran, Gelacek now helps Garner’s management team understand the true issues out on the road. Helps facilitate Driver Advisory Board and create driver-focused programs that improve recruiting/retention.

MARY ANN HUDSON
Executive Vice President
Bibby Transportation Finance
Driving radical change with focus on easy-to-access services for owner-operators who are constantly on the move. Generated 70 percent more new business in 2018 by providing adaptable financing solutions.

TRACY JAHNEL
Controller
Sterling Transportation Services
Actively seeks out professional growth opportunities for Sterling staff. Works with non-profit Angel Share to create pathways to logistics and transportation employment for young adults aging out of foster care.

TAMARA JALVING
Vice President, Human Resources
Holland
Encourages diversity and the recruitment and development of females. The first woman to hold a Vice President position at Holland, Jalving is paving the way for women in the freight industry.

CHELSEA KENDRICK
Customer Education Manager
KeepTruckin Inc.
Recognized leader who sees needs and takes initiative to fill them. Helped to establish and manage company’s new Customer Education department. Dedicated to understanding and advocating for the customer.

TRACY JONAS
Operations Manager
JX Enterprises, Inc.
Consistently strong performer in a variety of positions. Recently promoted. Known for taking on challenges and tackling them quickly. Passionate, knowledgeable about the industry and a powerful advocate for women.

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CONGRATULATIONS MARY ANN HUDSON

Bibby Financial Services is proud to acknowledge Mary Ann Hudson, EVP and Managing Director of Bibby Transportation Finance and member of our North American Executive Leadership Board, for her career achievements as a strong leader in the transportation industry. Mary Ann exemplifies our passion for doing the right thing for our clients and we are pleased she has been honored as a “Top Woman to Watch in Transportation.”

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B2019 TOP WOMEN TO WATCH

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TINA LEWIS
Director, Legal Services
TVC Pro-Driver
Positive, strong work ethic, skilled in working with drivers and companies. Manages multi-lingual department that is nearly 90 percent female. Expanded company focus by kickstarting CSA/DataQ Challenge department.

MARY MALONE
Vice President, Business Development
Stay Metrics
High-performing leader who focuses on the unique strengths of each staff person and brings innovative ideas to the table. Encourages the full participation of women at all levels of the transportation industry.

KRIS MANZANO
Senior Director of Sales, Enterprise & Mid-Market Team
KeepTruckin Inc.
Opened KeepTruckin’s first Nashville office, growing it to over sixty full-time employees in less than a year. Drove the charge to get competitive maternity and paternity leave policy for all employees.

JUDY MCTIGUE
Assistant General Manager – Operations
Kenworth Truck Company
Promoted multiple times within the past two years to positions of increasing responsibility due to her outstanding dedication and diligence. Encourages and promotes women within the transportation industry.

MACKENZIE MELTON
Recruiting Manager
Garner Trucking
A veteran driver, Melton uses her firsthand knowledge to find ways to recognize and motivate drivers and ensure they’re treated fairly. Helped to develop Proactive Communication Program for new hires.

MELISSA NISHAN
Vice President, Driver Recruiting
Epes Transport System, LLC
Company’s first female Vice President. Led charge to improve driver onboarding experience, increasing driver applicant flow by about 50 percent within nine months. Encourages women in the trucking industry.

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President
Insight Technology, Inc.
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MICHELLE RICHARD
Vice President, Human Resources
Saia LTL Freight
Recent initiatives include revamping Saia’s wellness program, implementing a driver-friendly Applicant Tracking System, creating a female driver focus group and implementing programs to increase employee engagement.

KATLIN OWENS
Corporate Communications Manager
CFI
Created the company’s SheDrivesCFI program to advocate for professional drivers and the industry, and recently expanded CFI’s Women in Leadership to all female employees. Strong advocate for female co-workers.

JENNIFER PIATT
Elite Support and Diversity Manager
Stoops Freightliner
Always up for a new challenge, Piatt has risen through the ranks at Stoops. Her current focus? Creating a diversity program and growing a culture that supports women for the company’s dealerships.

ERIKA RIOS
Retail Sales Consultant
Arrow Truck Sales
Her transportation career started in high school. Valuable resource for women who want to learn about the industry. Driven to provide excellent customer satisfaction. Earned 2018 Diamond Level Sales Award.

AMANDA RODRIGUEZ
Account Manager/Regional Sales Consultant
Navistar, Inc.
First female sales consultant and account manager for Connected Services. Her passion is infectious, especially among new female employees. Takes a personal interest in her customers’ success.

CONGRATULATIONS!
Old Dominion would like to congratulate Dawn Cochran from our Indianapolis service center on being recognized by Women in Trucking as a Top Woman to Watch in 2019! Dawn is a selfless advocate for women considering a career in trucking. Her contributions of safety and professionalism are invaluable to the industry.

Visit odfl.com/careers

Congratulations to Courtnay Beckham, Sales Specialist for SelecTrucks of Atlanta/ Peach State Trucks

Recently named a “2019 Top Woman To Watch in Transportation” by WIT’s Redefining The Road.

PeachStateTrucks.com
2019 TOP WOMEN TO WATCH

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JANE ROSAASEN
Plant Manager – Mount Holly Truck Manufacturing Plant Daimler Trucks North America Mentor for up-and-coming women at Daimler Trucks and advocate for women in the industry. Active supporter of company’s Executive Women’s Roundtable and Women’s Interactive Network.

ROXIE SANFORD
Director, Driver Services Winnipeg Motor Express Brought new energy to the company’s driver services team. Dramatically improved driver recruitment/retention as well as the safety program. Ensures that women in the organization are given fair and equal opportunity.

CRYSTAL SEQUIN
Vice President, Distribution Channel Strategy Navistar, Inc. Worked her way up from Technical Writer to Vice President. Strong leader who consistently includes strong, intelligent women on her team and encourages them to think freely and offers guidance for growth.

LEAH SHAVER
Chief Operating Officer The National Transportation Institute Recognized expert helping to shape how the industry responds to the driver shortage. An active WIT board member, Shaver helped develop the WIT Index to monitor the percentage of women in the industry.

SHANNON SPENCE
Trailer Sales Representative Stoops Freightliner - Quality Trailer The only woman in the Indianapolis truck/trailer sales market, Spence ranks in the top five in sales at Stoops, generating $11 million in sales last year. Strong ambassador for the trucking industry.

AMANDA THOMPSON
Vice President, Human Resources U.S. Xpress With a driver-first mentality, Thompson spearheaded transformation of company’s driver training program from a traditional classroom-style program to a multi-platform ongoing career development center.

MELISSA TOMLEN
Senior Vice President, Accountability & Performance YRC Freight Committed to paying it forward to women across the company. Executive sponsor of WE at YRC, an employee resource group focused on women which includes a multi-year women’s leadership development program.

CARIANNE TORRISSI
Partner Goldberg Segalla LLP Specializes in the defense of trucking companies. Learned the business from the ground up as a third-generation member of a trucking family. Member of steering committee for her firm’s Women’s Initiative.

Congratulations to Nozuko Mayeza Managing Director, Tulsawiz 2018 WIT “Influential Woman In Trucking” Finalist

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2019 TOP WOMEN TO WATCH

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SAUNY TUCKER
Vice President
Art Pape Transfer
DBA/ Tucker Freight Lines
Transformed company culture by recognizing the value of female employees and their vital role in the success of the organization. Company size has nearly doubled since Tucker became majority owner.

CONNIE VAUGHN
Government Relations Manager
McKee Foods Corporation
First woman Chairperson of the Tennessee Trucking Association. Experience and in-depth knowledge in governmental affairs and trucking positions her to make great inroads for women in the industry.

ELAINE WEACKLER
Customer Service Representative
Veriha Trucking Inc.
Tops the leaderboard for customer service metrics by focusing on doing the right thing for her customers and for Veriha. Readily shares her experience and recognizes efforts of other team members.

MEGAN WELLS
Director of Employee Services
Veriha Trucking
Recently promoted to the newly created Director role, Wells is the heart of Veriha's employee relations and a main driver of corporate culture. She inspires employees to bring their "A" game every day.

HEATHER WILSON
Chief Commercial Officer
BMO Transportation Finance
An inclusive leader with a passion for innovation and creating a best-in-class employee and customer experience. Active member of BMO’s Executive Diversity & Inclusion Steering Committee and 2019 WIT board member.

New Column for WIT eNews: Ask the Influential Woman in Trucking

Who better to answer industry questions than a successful businesswoman who also was named WIT’s 2018 “Influential Woman in Trucking”?

Angela Eliacostas, Founder and CEO of AGT Global Logistics, will offer advice and words of encouragement as she participates in WIT’s new column beginning in March.

Eliacostas has made it her mission to give back and will personally respond to questions concerning the trucking and logistics industries. Her column will be featured in the WIT eNewsletter and blog and on the AGT Global Logistics blog. Her goal is to increase her outreach with WIT throughout the upcoming year and to support the organization’s efforts to encourage the employment of women in the trucking and logistics industries.

In addition, Angela looks forward to talking with the women who are featured as WIT Members of the Month, being a mentor in the WIT Mentoring program and attending the Accelerate! Conference & Expo Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 2019 in Dallas.

“Winning the ‘Influential Woman In Trucking’ award is a great honor,” Eliacostas says. “I’m a proud member of Women In Trucking and have witnessed the growth of the organization. It’s a great time to be a woman in the world of trucking, and I look forward to teaming-up with the association and promoting their initiatives in 2019.”

WIT’s goal is to feature the new recipient of the “Influential Woman In Trucking Award” each year through their own perspectives and experiences in this column.