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## Press Release

Contact: Lisa Spencer FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Phone: (613) 244-4800 9 A.M. EDT, November 17, 2005

## CTHRC OPENS ACCREDITATION TO ALL SCHOOLS

Ottawa – In response to industry's need for an increase in skilled drivers, the Canadian Trucking Human Resources Council (CTHRC) has expanded its Accreditation process.

The former process, which until recently, only accredited schools in Canada that delivered the Council's entry-level driver training course Earning Your Wheels, will now review all curricula and accredit those that meet the standards.

"We've led the way in the insurance field by accepting higher quality training in lieu of driving experience to reduce drivers' rates," said Mr. Tim Courtney, Vice-President of Underwriting for Markel Insurance Company of Canada. Courtney hopes that more schools will start to deliver to Industry Standards. "We hope that this encourages new drivers (and schools) to invest in high quality training."

"The Canadian Trucking Alliance is in full support of training to national occupational standards," said Bob Dolyniuk, General Manager of the MTA and Regional Vice President of the CTA. "We encourage all schools to embrace the national occupational

Canadian Trucking Human Resources Council standards to supply the trucking industry with a more professional and skilled workforce."

The CTHRC has completed an extensive labour market study that indicates that the Canadian trucking industry will require 37,000 new, qualified drivers every year for the next five years to meet the current demand. Carriers across Canada echo the sentiment that most of the entry-level drivers they meet are not ready to get on the road and that skilled drivers are what they're looking for.

"Qualified drivers bring with them a measure of expertise and confidence that translates directly into fewer accidents and mishaps," reported a case study, conducted by the Conference Board of Canada released September 2005. "This in turn leads to reduced expenses for operating and maintaining vehicles."

Schools that are interested in having their curriculum certified to industry standards are asked to contact the CTHRC directly. Their curriculum will be reviewed by an independent accreditation body who will decide whether or not the program meets the standards set out and validated by the trucking industry.

The CTHRC is an incorporated non-profit organization with a volunteer board represented by stakeholders from the Canadian trucking industry. The key objectives of the CTHRC are to:

- Attract new people to the trucking industry's workforce by raising awareness of opportunities;
- Help meet the demand for skilled workers by increasing the pool of applicants; and,
- Promote better human resources management so skilled workers can reach their career potential.

For more information, visit www.cthrc.com.