

What Full Automation Means for Drivers



Recent projections suggest that autonomous vehicles will add between \$3 - \$6 trillion to the U.S economy by 2050



In 2018 it has been hard to avoid hearing about technological advances in the trucking industry. Electric semi's, platooning, ELDs, and autonomous vehicles have become commonplace in many discussions around the industry.

However, you probably have heard more about autonomous vehicles than anything else. The big question though is how the self-driving technology will impact drivers. Over the next decade, policymakers project the world will look dramatically different as advances in automation will bring full autonomous commercial vehicles to the nation's roadways.

A recent report found that by 2050, autonomous vehicles will add between \$3 trillion to \$6 trillion in cumulative benefits to the U.S economy.

There are thoughts on both the positive and negative end of the spectrum regarding how the tech will impact the current driver workforce. The trucking industry is currently facing an unprecedented driver shortage, and many believe that the only way out is through autonomous technology.

Many analysts predict that the arrival of autonomous trucks will not eliminate truck driving jobs as people will still need to monitor the vehicles for quite some time. The technology is expected to increase efficiency, safety, and lower variable operating costs with increased MPG and a reduction in accidents.

What do you think? Will autonomous trucking tech bring the trucking industry into a new era of prosperity, or will it eliminate the people aspect of one of the world's most important jobs?

In The News

- FMCSA issues guidelines on Personal Conveyance (HDT)
- Shell takes new "Starship" semi-truck on cross country tour (FleetOwner)
- CVSA conducts Annual Roadcheck with a focus on Hours-of-Service (HDT)
- Freightliner debuts two new electric trucks (CCJ)

Driver Spotlight

For this month's Driver Spotlight we have Dawn Peters! Dawn has been driving for Sheehy Mail since December of 2017, and currently drives out of our Waterloo location. Dawn decided to join Sheehy Mail after her previous employer closed up shop and she hasn't looked back since. Dawn currently drives as a floater in Waterloo and goes wherever she is needed. Dawn says that she loves working for Sheehy Mail because of the people, the good equipment, and Sheehy's leadership. In her free time, Dawn enjoys raising beef cattle on her farm, attending cattle shows, and sewing. Dawn also sells bulk beef to anyone interested. This summer, Dawn's daughter Brooke is also interning with Sheehy Mail in Dispatch. Thank you Dawn for all of your hard work!



Personnel

Fed Med Card and CDL Renewals

The 4th of July holiday is fast approaching! If you haven't already done so, make sure to renew your Fed Med Card or CDL before the holiday approaches! We want to make sure that every driver is eligible to drive as we approach the holiday and move deeper into the summer months.

Driver Referral Bonus!

Refer a driver to drive for Sheehy Mail! June is the last month that you can refer a driver and earn up to \$1000. There is NO LIMIT on the number of referrals that can be submitted! Make sure to submit all referrals to Malonda Heinkel by emailing mheinkel@sheehymail.com or by calling 920-268-4712.

Postal Badges

Remember to always keep track of your postal badge! We have had quite a few drivers lose their postal badge recently, which means the badge will need to be replaced. If you lose your badge this will disrupt your post office access until a replacement arrives. If you lose your badge please let us know ASAP and we will help you get a replacement!

Safety

Roadside Inspections

As the summer months get into full-swing the DOT will be increasing the number of roadside inspections. In order to help make sure that you are prepared, check out some of these great tips that can help you come out of an inspection unscathed.

- 1) Always perform a detailed pretrip at the beginning of your day. This will help find issues before you get inspected.
- 2) Make sure your ELD is functioning properly, if not contact Dispatch immediately.
- 3) Always carry a spare paper log book. These can be found in your LoadTrek Manual in each truck.
- 4) Always know where the LoadTrek Manual is located in the truck for easy reference. If the manual is missing contact Dispatch immediately and reference the truck #.
- 5) Understand how to transfer your HOS log information from your ELD to the inspector.

Doing all of these steps can help keep you from being put "out of service".

Dispatch

“I don’t deserve this award, but I have arthritis and I don’t deserve that either.” - Jack Benny

Unlike Jack Benny, you definitely deserve some recognition for the hard work that you’re doing. Unfortunately, sometimes it seems like no one notices the extra effort you’re putting in on a weekend or pre-dawn early morning. Or perhaps you’re just doing your job, coming in day-after-day without a hitch. You might not hear from the home office for weeks. Then, when you finally get a call, it’s because there’s a problem!

In the military, the age-old joke is that higher headquarters is the real enemy. It’s not much different for professional drivers, who may sometimes ask if dispatch is really on their side. In truth, of course, trucking is - and must be - a team effort. Drivers, mechanics, and office staff all have to pitch in to achieve success for the company.

In any workplace it’s possible to get frustrated with your co-workers. When that that frustration strikes, here are some guidelines to remember:

Sheehy Dispatchers and Office Staff should:

- Treat every driver with dignity and **respect**
- Provide drivers prompt, clear **communication**
- Build **predictable schedules** so drivers can plan their lives
- **Make the right choices** for our customers and drivers
- Help drivers provide our customers quality **on-time service**



Sheehy Drivers should:

- Be **patient and professional** with customers and dispatchers
- Take responsibility for your schedule - **check your assignments** every day and make no assumptions
- For every assigned load make sure to work hard to **be on-time**
- **Make the right choices** for our customers and for the next driver
- Above all else, **drive safely** and represent Sheehy well in everything you do

Your hard work is very much appreciated by Sheehy Mail Contractors, even if you may not hear it often enough. Thank you for what you do and stay #SheehyProud.

THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Accounting

4th of July Payday

The Accounting Department would like to remind all drivers that that next payday will be on **Friday, July 6th** instead of **Thursday, July 5th** due to the Independence Day holiday. If you have any questions please let us know!

Putting Name On Paperwork

Help us out and make sure to always place your name on your paperwork! On all Bills of Lading we need you to print your first and last name legibly so we can match up the BOL with the proper load. Please make sure to also turn-in your paperwork at the end of your route so we can make sure that it gets routed to Waterloo.

Sheehy Mail Quick Quiz

Last month's question asked on average (for OTR drivers) how many nights do you think truckers spend away from home in a given year? The answer: 300

It is well known that truck drivers cover more miles on the road than anyone else. At Sheehy Mail our drivers cover more than a 100,000 miles per year easy. On average, how many miles per year do you think the average truck driver is expected to cover.

- A) 100,00 miles
- B) 125,000 miles
- C) 175,000 miles
- D) 200,000 miles



Reminders For Drivers

Tagging Out Trucks

If you ever need to tag out a truck due to maintenance issues please make sure to notify Dispatch! When you tag out a truck make sure to write what the issue is on the tag to help the shop quickly identify what needs to be repaired. If we know what the issue is we can get it fixed much quicker! Please contact Dispatch or any one of the shops if you have any questions.

No Smoking Policy

Remember that Sheehy Mail has a very strict no smoking policy. There is absolutely no smoking allowed in any Sheehy Mail truck. This policy is in place to respect the health of all Sheehy Mail drivers. Please respect your fellow non-smoking drivers and help us promote a clean working environment!

If you need to smoke while driving please do so in a safe location outside of the truck when the truck is parked. If a customer has a designated smoking area please make sure to abide by their rules and regulations. We appreciate your support in upholding this policy!

Connect With Us!

Sheehy Mail Contractors Inc.
PO Box 35
127 Central Avenue
Waterloo, WI 53594



Follow Us On Social Media!



www.facebook.com/sheehymail



[@sheehymail](https://twitter.com/sheehymail)



[@sheehy_mail_contractors](https://www.instagram.com/sheehy_mail_contractors)



www.linkedin.com/sheehymail