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Coalition for Transportation Productivity Expands – Merging with Americans for Safe & Efficient Transportation

CTP & ASET Unite as One Organization to Promote the Safe & Efficient Transportation Act & Greener, More Efficient Shipping

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Sept. 13, 2010) – The Coalition for Transportation Productivity (CTP), a group of more than 160 shippers and allied associations dedicated to responsibly increasing federal weight limits on interstate highways, today announced a merger with Americans for Safe and Efficient Transportation (ASET). The organizations will unite under the name CTP – bringing about 40 new shippers, carriers and organizations into the group. CTP will continue to promote the Safe and Efficient Transportation Act (SETA), House and Senate legislation that would permit states to raise interstate weight limits.

“ASET is proud to be part of CTP, and looks forward to the passage of SETA and the creation of a safer, more efficient transportation network,” said Walter Bay, Chairman of ASET and President and CEO of Tandem Transport. “Our united effort, combined with strong bipartisan support in the House and Senate, positions SETA to finally move forward in the next Congress.”

“The Coalition for Transportation Productivity is excited to join with Americans for Safe & Efficient Transportation to advocate for carefully crafted truck weight reform,” said CTP Chairman Harry Haney, Chairman of CTP and Associate Director of Transportation Planning for Kraft Foods. “As we look toward the future, we are also very grateful to ASET’s former executive director, Jake Jacoby, for his leadership and steadfast work to build and maintain momentum for truck weight reform. We wish him all the best as he moves on to accept the position of Vice President for the Truck Renting & Leasing Association.”

Like CTP, ASET is a national, broad-based coalition of shippers, motor carriers, manufacturers and related state and national organizations committed to delivering goods safely, efficiently and economically. Under the merger, ASET and CTP will combine their executive committees and membership, expanding CTP to more than 200 members. Veteran government relations strategist John Runyan will continue as CTP’s Executive Director.

About the Safe and Efficient Transportation Act (SETA)

The Safe and Efficient Transportation Act (H.R. 1799 / S. 3705) would permit states to set interstate weight limits of up to 97,000 pounds for trucks equipped with six axles instead of the typical five. Without making the truck any larger, the additional axle maintains safety specifications, including stopping capability and current weight per tire. SETA would safely

make the shipment of heavier cargo more efficient, as many trucks meet the current 80,000-pound federal weight limit with significant space in their rigs. Under SETA, shippers could safely utilize extra cargo space and reduce truck loads, fuel, emissions and vehicle miles traveled for each ton of freight shipped.

SETA was originally introduced in the House of Representatives by Reps. Michael Michaud (D-ME) and Jean Schmidt (R-OH). It currently has 54 cosponsors. In August, Sens. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho), Herb Kohl (D-Wis.) and Susan Collins (R-Maine) introduced identical Senate legislation.

About the Coalition for Transportation Productivity

The Coalition for Transportation Productivity (CTP) is a coalition of shippers and allied associations dedicated to addressing the safety, economic and environmental challenges facing our nation's freight transportation network through carefully crafted truck weight reform. For more information, visit www.transportationproductivity.org.

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