How the Big Orange Is Turning Green:

Schneider’s 40+ Year Commitment to Sustainability

Schneider, a premier provider of transportation and logistics services, has been going green since 1978 – reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving fuel efficiency and changing global operational policies to reduce its carbon footprint. Today we are one of the most energy-efficient fleets on the road.

What started as an effort to ensure the company’s position as a low-cost provider of transportation and logistics services has evolved into a full-fledged commitment to reduce our environmental footprint. Highlights of Schneider’s longstanding commitment to sustainability include:

- Schneider began focusing on energy efficiency in 1978 when the company pioneered offering drivers incentives for idle reduction and fuel management. The program evolved in 1985 when Schneider built in performance metrics for drivers based on their ability to run energy efficiently. The practice of a “bonus” payout for achieving fuel management goals still exists today for Schneider drivers.
  - In 2017, Schneider paid $14 million in driver incentives for fuel management, safety and other efforts

- Schneider’s investment in low-emission engines has reduced particulate matter (PM) and nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions by more than 80 percent since 1988.

- Schneider engineers work with OEMs to specify equipment to run as efficiently as current technology allows – a practice that dates back to 1978.
  - Tractor design alone saves more than 27.8 million gallons of fuel and reduces carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by 2.2 million tons each year

- Schneider has employed a full-time, on-site team of engineers dedicated to equipment performance and efficiency since 1989. The company is one of only a handful in the industry to have a team of such experts in-house.

- In 2003, all company trucks were outfitted with no-idle heaters to reduce winter idling, making Schneider the first major truckload carrier to specify that feature in trucks. Most new tractors added to the fleet for solo drivers now also come standard with TriPac auxiliary power units (APUs). Year-round, Schneider idles its tractors less than half the industry standard and is committed to reducing emissions even further as technology becomes available.

- In 2004, Schneider became a charter member of the SmartWay® Transport Partnership, a voluntary collaboration between the Environmental Protection Agency and the freight industry. Schneider was the first truckload carrier to join the program.

- Schneider’s Logistics division received accreditation as a SmartWay® Transport Partner in 2008 for its responsible environmental management of its network third-party transportation carriers and for its commitment to improving their environmental performance.

- Schneider’s Bulk division has been a Responsible Care partner since 1995. Responsible Care is the chemical industry’s global voluntary initiative to continuously improve health, safety and environmental performance.
Schneider’s Intermodal division is, on average, two times more energy-efficient than over-the-road transport. Schneider works with the most energy-efficient rail providers.

- The company has purchased over 8,000 stackable containers since 2011 to enable additional freight conversion and further reduce carbon consumption.

Schneider received the SmartWay® Excellence Award for leadership in energy conservation and emission reduction practices in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 – the first four years the award was presented. The EPA resumed presenting the award in 2012, and Schneider was once again a recipient in both 2012, 2015, 2016 and 2017. Reserved for the top 2 percent of SmartWay’s 3,000+ members, it is the EPA’s highest recognition for organizations that significantly reduce the environmental impacts of the freight sector.

Schneider’s Supply Chain Management service has 934 SmartWay carriers in its network and continues to increase its use of SmartWay partners.

According to the company’s 2014-2016 SmartWay report card, Schneider reduced emissions of CO₂ by 4 percent, NOx by 7 percent and particulate matter by 23 percent in that time period.

Schneider’s driver training program instills in drivers the importance of fuel efficiency, the impact of their behaviors on the environment and the company’s overall operations. Today’s drivers are trained on state-of-the-art simulators that are designed to recognize good driving habits and include driving tips for improvement in areas such as fuel efficiency.

Schneider began testing natural gas trucks in 2011.

Today, 98.8 percent of Schneider’s fleet is 2010 EPA emissions standards or newer. In fact, 80.4 percent of its fleet meets 2014 emissions standards, and 31.1 percent of the fleet meets 2017 emissions standards.

Many carriers test products, but no one evaluates new technology like Schneider. The truckload carrier’s close working relationships with engine manufacturers provide access to new and emerging technologies for testing and implementation well before others in the industry. The company’s annual testing program has been in existence since 1989 and generates indispensable insights. Every year, an engineer and two drivers are dedicated solely to helping Schneider improve fuel efficiency and reduce emissions by testing engines and tires and validating other emerging energy-efficient technologies in the program. Schneider experts share their learnings with manufacturers in a joint effort to improve the technology the industry adopts.

In 2013, Schneider began implementing new tracking technology for trailers and containers to reduce empty miles and save fuel.

Between 2016-2017, new truck purchases allowed Schneider to reduce fuel consumption by 500,000 gallons.

In 2015, the company began to integrate trucks with automated manual transmission trucks and terrain-mapping predictive technologies into its fleet. These features will be standard on every Schneider truck by 2019.

Schneider participates in industry thought leadership and advocacy as a member of shipper sustainability councils and a participant in the University of Wisconsin’s alternate fuels research project. It is also an active participant in the North American Council for Freight Efficiency (NACFE), an organization dedicated to doubling the efficiency of the North American goods movement. Schneider participates in NACFE’s annual fleet study, which identifies best practices for fuel efficiency and encourages industry adoption.
Through investments, operational improvements and driver behavior, Schneider has improved fuel efficiency by 12.5 percent since 2008.

Schneider also recycles 12,000 batteries per year, retreads 92,950 tire casings per year and recycles 160,000 gallons of oil per year.

The company has trailer skirting installed on 100 percent of its Van Truckload fleet to increase fuel efficiency.

Schneider uses alternative fuels wisely, consuming more than 10 million gallons of blended biodiesel each year.

All Schneider facilities are models of energy efficiency.
  - Green Team in place to identify energy improvements including site-specific goals for energy efficiency
  - High-intensity discharge lighting with energy-saving bulbs; LED lighting being explored
  - Upgrade of data center A/C reduced energy consumption 25 percent at corporate office
  - Relamping of sites generated a 12.5 percent reduction in energy
  - Economizer systems for all HVAC equipment
  - Energy audits at all facilities
  - Corporate recycling program
  - Dust control methods put fewer chemicals in its yards
  - Sourcing of environmentally friendly products

Recent Schneider awards:
  - SmartWay Award of Excellence (Presented by EPA)
  - Green Supply Chain Enabler (Presented by Supply & Demand Chain Executive magazine)
  - CaseStack Green Carrier Award
  - Green Fleet of the Year (Presented by FleetOwner magazine)
  - CSX Environmental Award
  - Green Supply Chain Partner (Presented by Inbound Logistics magazine)
  - Top Green Providers (Presented by Food Logistics magazine)
  - Eco-Enterprise Award (Presented by Oracle)

Updated August 2018