

EUFMC

WILLIAMSBURG, VA

EST. 1953

2026 EUFMC EDUCATION REPORT

EUFMC (Electric Utility Fleet Managers Conference) is an educational conference attended by representatives of fleets from across the U.S. and Canada that operate, manage and maintain utility equipment. The annual conference is held at the Williamsburg Lodge and Conference Center in Williamsburg, Virginia.

In 2026, more than 600 registrations for the 73rd annual conference included a new record for fleet representative registrations. Attendees included professionals from 97 investor-owned utilities, 33 utility contractors, 21 utility cooperatives, 9 municipal operations, and 15 other fleets that operate, manage and maintain utility equipment. Among the fleet attendees were 65 new fleet representatives and 11 new companies.

Also in attendance at EUFMC 2026 were 336 supplier representatives from about 100 companies that offer vehicles, equipment, products, and services for utility fleet operations, and 94 spouses, 5 retirees and special guests, and 3 members of the industry media.

EQUIPMENT EVENTS

The EUFMC Equipment Show featured 96 exhibitors. The conference Drive-Thru Demonstration included 45 presentations showcasing 86 vehicles and pieces of equipment for utility fleet operations.

NETWORKING EVENT

EUFMC's fourth annual Women in Utility Fleet gathering was held for nearly 60 women fleet professionals and women representatives from manufacturers and suppliers of services for utility fleets registered for the 2026 conference.

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

Driving Safety, Sustainability & Technical Expertise

The EUFMC General Session is a two-day comprehensive educational program featuring presentations by industry experts, manufacturers and fleets. All registered EUFMC attendees have access to copies of the educational presentations. On the 2026 agenda were the following:

From the Grid to the Garage: How Industry Disruption Is Reshaping Utility Fleets

Peter Waldrab, Vice President Safety and Technical Training, LG&E and KU

In this Keynote Address, the discussion centered on how explosive load growth, more volatile and destructive weather, heightened customer affordability concerns, and a rapidly shifting regulatory landscape are transforming how utilities equip the people who build, maintain, and restore the grid.

Driving Efficiency and Innovation: Leveraging Tools, Resources, and AI for Smarter Processes

Beth Daiber, Ameren Illinois Company; Vladimir Ostoici, ENMAX; Robert S. Baker, Florida Power & Light Company; Peter Michaud, EUFMC Director, NB Power

Panelists explored the transformative benefits of adopting tools and resources that streamline workflows and enhance operational efficiency, and shared real world examples from utilities leveraging internal systems to modernize processes and improve day to day operations. The session also highlighted the growing interest in integrating AI-driven solutions to further advance efficiency and innovation.

ANSI Update

Todd Carlson, EUFMC Senior Vice President, Southern California Edison

Attendees heard about the latest updates to ANSI standards and why staying informed is critical to safety.

Future Proofing the Fleet Garage: Emerging Technologies & Best Practices in Workplace Safety

Dale Hendricks, Ameren Missouri; Joel Botma, Arizona Public Service; Greg Loew, EUFMC President, Avista Utilities

Fleet panelists explored how emerging technologies and modern safety practices are reshaping the future of fleet garage operations. They shared how they intentionally designed their new facilities to improve workflow, enhance technician safety, and support long term operational growth. Attendees gained practical insights into building safer, smarter, and future ready garage environments.

Through the Camera Lens: The Future of Fleet Safety

Ben Badal, Southern California Edison; Patrick Layton, Quanta Services; Lissa Brady, EUFMC Director, San Diego Gas & Electric

Two fleet leaders at different stages of their camera implementation journey discussed real world insights, best practices, and lessons learned from planning, deploying, and optimizing camera programs. Attendees gained practical guidance on improving safety outcomes, engaging drivers, and navigating organizational change.

Workforce Planning in Motion: Navigating Staffing Challenges in Fleet Operations

David Johnson, PAR Western Line Contractors

One utility fleet detailed plans for rapid growth by restructuring teams, developing internal talent, and strengthening leadership pipelines. The fleet professional also explored strategies like cross training and mechanic apprenticeship programs that can ensure continuity and reduce disruptions.

Safety: Philip's Legacy...what legacy are you leaving?—The Dangers of Distracted, Impaired & Unsafe Driving

Mike Lutzenkirchen, Executive Director, Lutzie 43 Foundation

Details were provided on the Lutzie 43 Foundation's 43 Key Seconds to Educate and Reinforce Safe Driving Behaviors, a customizable program companies can take advantage of to help make sure employees arrive to work each day and return home again safely. Each EUFMC attendee received the Lutzie 43 Foundation 43 Key Seconds Essential Package.

Worksite Risk Mitigation & Hazard Awareness: Smarter Job Hazard Reviews with AI Support

Josh McDonald, Entergy

Attendees heard how a fleet is strengthening worksite risk mitigation through improved hazard awareness and Job Hazard Assessment (JHA) practices. The presentation also included practical methods, digital systems, and emerging AI enabled tools that help employees identify hazards, assess risk, and document job hazard reviews more consistently and efficiently.

State of the Industry: Trends Driving Changes in OEM Product

Eric Rice, Ford Pro U.S. Sales; Michael Young, Daimler Truck North America; David Hillman, International Motors; Kyle Crawford, Peterbilt Motors Co.; Todd Carlson, EUFMC Senior Vice President, Southern California Edison

Panelists presented details on key trends reshaping OEM product lineups across the Class 3–8 market, from evolving powertrain technologies to shifts in chassis design. They discussed what's driving these changes and how manufacturers are responding to regulatory pressures, customer demands, and advancing technology.

Driving Spec Modernization Through Fleet–Manufacturer Collaboration

John Bistriz, Altec; Joe Caywood, Terex Utilities; Brian Johnson, EUFMC Director, Alabama Power Company

With collaboration between fleets and manufacturers modernizing equipment specifications, panelists discussed balancing customer requests with producing cost effective, buildable products, and how evolving needs, new technologies, and safety expectations influence today’s specs. Attendees gained insights into streamlining specs, improving production timelines, and partnering with OEMs to meet performance, safety, and budget goals.

Strategic Fleet Procurement: Tackling Rising Costs and Future Planning

Christi Oca, JEA; Robert “Nick” Atkins, Dominion Energy; Fortunato Gulino, EUFMC Director, Consolidated Edison

Fleet representatives shared how they are tackling rising procurement costs and long lead times by rethinking sourcing strategies, diversifying manufacturers, and working closely with vendors and upfitters. They discussed how data-driven rightsizing, standardized replacements, and cross department coordination help optimize utilization and reduce overall costs. Attendees gained practical insight into planning ahead, managing disruptions, and building a more resilient procurement strategy.

Roundtables

Peter Michaud, EUFMC Director, NB Power

EUFMC Roundtables provide fleet representatives and suppliers the opportunity to exchange information and discuss mutual challenges, find solutions, and develop best practices. Fleet representatives are surveyed in advance about discussion topics suggested by industry experts. Questions covered in 2026 included:

1. Does your company have a formal idle policy?
2. If yes, what idle percentage is your utility targeting?
3. What challenges does your utility have in recruiting technicians?
4. What technician retention challenges does your company have?
5. How is your utility recruiting technicians?
6. What training and support do your technicians get?
7. What priorities matter most for fleet procurement in light of rising costs and future planning?
8. How diversified is your fleet of line (bucket) truck manufacturers? (e.g., do you source from multiple companies?).
9. Does your utility have a fleet of spare line (bucket) trucks?
10. How standardized are your line (bucket) truck specifications?
11. When ordering new line (bucket) trucks, how much lead time do you account for?

12. How is your utility currently managing vehicle and equipment diagnostics? What diagnostic tools and platforms is your shop utilizing?
13. What diagnostic workflow process is used by your technicians?
14. What challenges is your company having with diagnostic tools and information?
15. In the event of a major storm or disaster that results in a communication breakdown, what is your organization's primary backup communication plan?
16. Utility fleets are implementing Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) to prevent crashes proactively. These systems utilize radar, cameras, and AI to identify hazards and alert drivers. Is your utility adopting ADAS?
17. Did your utility see a reduction in accidents?
18. If yes, what percentage of the reductions are you seeing in vehicle accidents?
19. Driver fatigue is a significant risk for utility operators who work long or irregular hours. Is your utility monitoring driver fatigue and distraction?
20. If yes, what are you monitoring that could indicate fatigue?
21. Fatigue monitoring systems can trigger incab alerts in real time. Is your utility triggering cab alerts?
22. What are the most common causes of fleet-related incidents within your organization today?
23. What percentage of your fleet's maintenance is performed in-house?
24. What vehicle maintenance is usually done in-house?
25. What vehicle maintenance is commonly outsourced?
26. How does your fleet currently manage parts ordering?
27. How do you track inventory levels?
28. Does your utility charge IRS mileage rates for employee commutation?

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Becoming an Idea Factory: How to Turn Yourself (and Your Organization) Into an Innovation Machine

Kyle Scheele—known as the patron saint of crazy ideas—shared his approach to success as the EUFMC 2026 Dinner Speaker. Through authentic humor, he provided advice about how to harness your capacity for innovation and tips on how to get more and better ideas out of yourself and your team.

ABOUT EUFMC

The objective of the EUFMC, a non-profit association, is to provide educational and technical information pertaining to the design, procurement, application, operation, management and maintenance of utility equipment used by fleets. The conference provides a forum where fleet professionals can exchange information and discuss mutual challenges, find solutions and develop best practices through close cooperation with manufacturers and suppliers of vehicles, equipment, products and services for utility fleet operations. For more information, visit www.eufmc.com.