

TIRE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

2025-26 BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINEES



STEPHEN CALLAHAN — *Vice President, Inbound Sales, Liberty Tire Recycling, LLC*
Supplier, Recycler | Wholesale, Retread/Repair, Recycling

Stephen brings more than 24 years of experience in the scrap tire industry, where he has built a career focused on improving the end-of-life journey for tires through collaboration, innovation, and sustainability. His work spans across retail and commercial tire dealers, wholesalers, retreaders, manufacturers, government agencies, and fellow recyclers—each partnership aimed at creating more responsible and effective tire recycling solutions. Stephen is an active member of TIA, serving on the Environmental Advisory Council, where his passion for environmental stewardship and industry collaboration continues to grow. He is also a Director for the Ohio Tire & Automotive Association and was formerly a Board Member of the Jefferson Hills Borough Environmental Advisory Council in Pennsylvania. With a deep commitment to advancing sustainable practices and fostering partnerships across the industry, Stephen views serving on the TIA Board of Directors as a significant and meaningful opportunity. He is eager to contribute his expertise and energy to further TIA's mission and support the industry's evolution toward a more sustainable future.



JEFF CAMPBELL — *VP, Chief Supply Chain, Tire Discounters Inc.*
Dealer | Retail, Commercial/Truck

Jeff Campbell brings nearly three decades of tire industry experience to his role as Chief Supply Officer at Tire Discounters. Throughout his career, he has held key leadership positions at NTW, NTB, Sears, and Monro, building a strong foundation in supply chain management, operations, and strategic growth. A respected leader in the industry, Jeff served on the AMRA Board for nine years—seven of those as Chairman—where he played a pivotal role in expanding membership and increasing member engagement. Now in his first year on the TIA Board, Jeff continues to bring that same spirit of collaboration, innovation, and mentorship to the table. With 10 years of board experience, Jeff is recognized as a mentor and advocate for industry progress, especially in the areas of training and safety. He believes strongly in the power of education—for both employees and customers—as a cornerstone of success in the tire business. His passion for the industry and commitment to excellence drive Tire Discounters' mission of delivering outstanding service and customer satisfaction.



JOHN EVANKOVICH — *Director of Operations, Sam's Club Tire and Battery Centers*
Tire Dealer | Retail, Retread/Repair, Recycling

John Evankovich is the director of Sam's Club Tire and Battery Centers, overseeing more than 580 retail outlets across the U.S. He has worked at Sam's Club for over 35 years, starting as a tire installation technician. In 2009, he received the Sam's Club Achievement in Service Award for outstanding contributions to customer experience, and four years later, he was recognized with the Sam's Club Carpe Diem Award for achievements in consumer and workplace safety. John also holds a Certificate in Human Resource Employment Practice and Law. As the TIA president in 2019, he emphasized his strengths in building relationships with stakeholders and collaborating to improve business operations to meet mutual goals. He describes himself as a student of the industry with a passion for consumer safety and environmental sustainability and is highly engaged in government relations. "As an industry veteran and long-time TIA member, I understand the power of collaboration within our industry to ensure our voice is heard on a legislative level," he said. "TIA allows me to utilize my industry experience and understanding of the legislative process to help further the initiatives that impact all of us. I'm a long-time advocate of consumer safety and protecting our environment. TIA gives me the opportunity to be involved in developing training and best practices to help all tire retailers."



DARRELL JACKSON — *Sr. Mgr. Learning and Development, Big O Tires*

Dealer | Retail

With over 43 years of experience in the tire industry, Darrell brings a wealth of knowledge and hands-on expertise to the training department. Before transitioning into training, he successfully managed multiple tire retail locations, building a strong foundation in both operations and customer service. Darrell holds numerous certifications from leading tire manufacturers, including Michelin and Continental, and has earned a Professional Instructor certificate from Friesen, Kaye and Associates. Additionally, he is recognized as a Master Trainer by the Association for Talent Development (ATD), underscoring a deep commitment to instructional excellence. An active member of the Automotive Maintenance and Repair Association (AMRA/MAP), Darrell also contributes to industry standards through service on one of its technical committees.



MICHAEL JACOBSEN — *Vice President of Manufacturing, Purcell Tire Company*

Dealer, Retreader | Commercial/Truck, Industrial, Retread/Repair, OTR, Farm/Agriculture

With 29 years of dedicated service to Purcell Tire Company, Michael Jacobsen exemplifies loyalty, perseverance, and strategic leadership in the tire industry. Starting his career in 1996 as a retread plant management trainee—without any prior experience in the field—Michael's rise to Vice President of Manufacturing is a testament to his commitment and adaptability.

Today, he oversees operations at eleven retread plants across the country, leading a team of more than 180 employees. His career reflects a deep-rooted belief that long-term commitment, paired with hard work and vision, drives meaningful progress. Under his leadership, Purcell has embraced continuous improvement, operational excellence, and a forward-looking approach to manufacturing.

In 2024, Michael served on the OTR Retreading Panel at the TIA OTR Tire Conference, where he, along with others, brought attention to a critical industry challenge: the knowledge gap surrounding OTR tire retreading and repairing. As a passionate advocate for education and industry awareness, he champions the role of organizations like TIA in empowering businesses and consumers with the insights needed to make informed, sustainable decisions.

Michael continues to work toward elevating the visibility and value of retreading and repairing as essential components of cost-effective and environmentally responsible tire solutions.



AL KLINGE — *Managing Director/CEO/Vice-President, Klinge Group of Companies*

Supplier | OTR

Al Klinge brings a dynamic blend of frontline experience and strategic leadership to the tire industry. As Managing Director of the Klinge Group of Companies, he has led digital innovation with the creation of Total Tyre Control Web and developed industry-leading training programs in Australia that exceed regulatory standards—because the industry deserves better.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Al introduced remote presence technologies that kept operations moving and KLINGE thriving. He has serviced the world's largest tires, built technician training from the ground up, and championed digital tools for mines, service providers, and tire dealers alike.

A frequent speaker at TIA events, Al is proud of the recognition and feedback he's received from the TIA community. Deeply grounded in safety and people, he is passionate about advancing the industry and continuing the legacy his family began in partnership with TIA—ready to lead with purpose into the future.



BRIAN LAUGHLIN — *Key Account Manager - Mining and Industrial, Technical Rubber Company*
Supplier, Manufacturer - Tire or Other | Retail, Commercial/Truck, Industrial, Retread/Repair, OTR, Recycling, Farm/Agriculture

Brian Laughlin brings over 25 years of global experience in the tire and industrial rubber industry, with deep expertise in technician training, product development, and sustainability. Starting his career as a Technical Trainer, Brian has led hands-on training initiatives across five continents, working directly with distributors and end users to raise tire repair standards worldwide. He modernized TECH's training programs by integrating TIA Commercial and Automotive Service Certifications and co-developed the Earthmover Tire Repair Certification program. Brian has supported new retread plant startups, authored TECH's OTR training manual, and helped introduce Salvadori tire recycling equipment to North America—advancing sustainable practices across the industry. A frequent speaker at the TIA OTR Conference and Global Tire Expo, Brian is a four-time recipient of TRC's Core Value Award and served three years on the NIBA Education/Technical Committee. He is passionate about technician education, safety, and industry collaboration, and is committed to helping shape the future of the tire industry through innovative and sustainable solutions.



SETH MURPHREE — *Truck Service Risk Advisor, Travel Centers of America*
Dealer, Retreader | Commercial/Truck, Retread/Repair

With over 15 years of experience in the commercial tire industry—primarily in the truck stop sector—Seth Murphree brings a deep understanding of field operations and a passionate commitment to safety. Currently serving as a Truck Service Risk Advisor at TravelCenters of America, Seth has built a reputation as an authentic leader who drives cultural transformation by listening, learning, and taking action. His journey into safety began after attending a TIA training class that opened his eyes to unsafe practices he had unknowingly followed.

Since then, he's dedicated his career to helping technicians recognize and break those same habits, using his own experiences to guide others and ultimately save lives. Seth's ability to connect with technicians, peers, and senior leaders alike has made him a trusted influencer in driving positive change. He takes pride in sharing his knowledge to support others, always grounded in the belief that understanding how work is really done is key to making a lasting impact—for the industry and for the people who keep it moving.



JASON ROOK — *President & CEO, Independent Tire Dealers Group, LLC*
Dealer | Retail, Commercial/Truck, Industrial, Wholesale, Retread/Repair, OTR, Recycling, Farm/Agriculture

Jason Rook brings over 20 years of tire industry experience across retail, commercial, wholesale, and manufacturing. He began in his family's auto body and tire business in rural Missouri and later rose to become CEO of Dobermann North America, managing operations in seven countries and leading the revival of the Dobermann brand in the USA and the creation of the K9 tire line. Now President & CEO of ITDG, Jason is passionate about expanding access to safety training and industry opportunity. He advocates for global safety standards and supports the Right to Repair movement across the U.S. A seasoned importer and industry voice, Jason has testified before the Senate Subcommittee on tariff issues and maintains strong relationships with independent manufacturers worldwide.