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Minnesota Beer Truck Driver Named Winner of National “Share Your Story” Contest

Bernick’s Lead Route Driver Wins Trip to NBWA’s Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C.

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – The [National Beer Wholesalers Association \(NBWA\)](#) has chosen David Ohnstad, lead route driver at [Bernick’s](#) in Minneapolis, Minn., as the winner of this year’s [Share Your Story Contest](#).

The contest invites the 135,000 men and women in the beer distribution industry to share what they love about their jobs, the business and the communities where they live and work. NBWA received submissions from a wide variety of hardworking employees – from truck drivers, inventory specialists and graphic artists to sales representatives, warehouse workers and administrative personnel – all who play an important role in making the U.S. independent beer distribution industry the best in the world.

“The men and women who entered this year’s contest show the passion that beer distribution employees have for their jobs. It’s apparent that they all enjoy the work they do and are proud to be part of this great industry,” said Rebecca Spicer, NBWA Senior Vice President, Communications and Public Affairs. “Every entrant highlighted the opportunities they have in their role and the growth they’ve enjoyed since starting their jobs; and that’s an important part of why so many distribution employees have been in the industry for years and will be for many more years to come.”

“David Ohnstad’s entry really stood out for the passion that he has for his job and the career he wants to build at Bernick’s,” Spicer added. Ohnstad joined Bernick’s as a lead route driver in 2014 after deciding he wanted to get back into driving following a brief break.

“When I started I thought I knew how to put in an honest day’s work; shortly after I learned what that truly was,” Ohnstad said. “At the end of the day there is no better feeling than coming back to the warehouse with an empty truck and seeing the stops being picked for tomorrow’s deliveries, and to do it all over again.”

Ohnstad added, “Bernick's has allowed me the opportunity to be cross trained well beyond my current duties to include our warehousing systems, sales, and supervisory duties, so that when the day comes that I am unable to drive anymore, I am set for a future within the company.”

Beer distributor employees who have never attended [NBWA's Legislative Conference](#) were invited to enter the contest by liking [NBWA's Facebook page](#) and providing a short explanation of why they love working in the beer industry. Participants were also encouraged to share their submissions on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) to receive bonus points.

As this year's winner, Ohnstad will receive a complimentary trip to the 2018 [NBWA Legislative Conference](#), April 22 – 25 in Washington, D.C., to learn more about policy issues impacting the beer industry and consumers. Ohnstad also will have the opportunity to attend meetings on Capitol Hill and educate congressional staff on the role beer distributors play in their community.

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The [National Beer Wholesalers Association](#) (NBWA) represents America's [3,000 independent beer distributors](#) with operations in every state, congressional district and media market across the country. Licensed at the federal and state levels, beer distributors get bottles, cans, cases and kegs from a brewer or importer to stores, restaurants and other licensed retail accounts through a transparent and accountable regulatory system. Distributors build brands of all sizes -- from familiar domestic beers to new startup labels and imports from around the world – and generate enormous consumer choice while supporting [135,000 quality jobs](#) in their home communities. Beer distributors work locally to keep communities safe by sponsoring programs to promote responsible consumption, combat drunk driving and work to eliminate underage drinking.