

**WPMA office will be closed: November 23-24, 2023****FEDERATED INSURANCE APPOINTS NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Federated Insurance Chairman Jeff Fetters recently announced that Nicholas R. Lower has been appointed the organization's new President and Chief Executive Officer effective January 1, 2024, upon the retirement of its current Chief Executive Officer, Michael G. Kerr.

Click [here](#) to read the press release.

The following information provided by:  
**EMA-Energy Marketers of America**

**ARE YOU TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD?**

The Energy Marketers of America announced an exclusive member service agreement with RINAlliance, so that every fuel marketer has an opportunity to leverage the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS).

"The partnership between EMA and RINAlliance is a natural fit," explains EMA President Rob Underwood. "RINAlliance was founded by and for the fuel marketers that EMA so proudly serves."

RINAlliance's mission and services are designed to remove barriers and optimize participation for every current or potential player in the RFS. More specifically, RINAlliance provides:

- RFS advisory and training services
- Fuels Program registration
- RFS compliance services
- A web platform for efficient RIN management
- RVO calculation and management strategies for fuel importers, and
- RIN marketing

"We take pride in being an extension of a fuel marketer's team," said RINAlliance President Reo Menning. "We meet companies where they are and assist with the strategies and steps they should take to leverage the RFS. Even if you don't take RINs, there are strategies that can help companies be more competitive."

Whether a fuel marketer is determining whether to blend and take renewable fuel with RINs, or whether they are a current RFS participant looking to improve RIN management, RINAlliance can help with strategies, tools and expert support.

Schedule your consultation today to learn more by visiting [www.rinalliance.com/contact](http://www.rinalliance.com/contact). Be sure to tell them you heard about RINAlliance through EMA or one of its Federation members.

## **TSA WARNS CDL DRIVERS TO APPLY EARLY FOR HME RENEWALS OR RISK TEMPORARY LOSS OF OPERATING AUTHORITY**

Drivers seeking to renew or obtain a hazardous material endorsement (HME) must undergo a Transportation Security Administration (TSA) security threat assessment. The security threat assessment includes driver security and criminal background checks and fingerprinting. Typically, the threat assessment process takes 45 days. However, TSA is recommending that all applicants for hazardous material endorsement (HME) renewals or first-time enrollments submit their applications and fingerprints *at least* 60 days prior to their expiration date. The TSA is experiencing increased demand for HME renewals and new enrollments and the processing times for applicants are exceeding the normal 45-day turnaround period. Drivers applying for renewal outside the 60-day processing period risk temporary loss of their authority to haul hazardous materials.

### **TSA HME Application Process**

Drivers may complete the [HME application online](#) or apply in person at the nearest TSA application center. Drivers can [schedule an appointment online](#) or by calling (855) 347-8371 weekdays, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. ET. Walk-ins are welcome at TSA application centers, but appointments take priority.

When applying at a TSA application center, drivers must be prepared to:

- Provide [required documentation](#) and fingerprints.
- Bring a current U.S. passport or a driver's license and birth certificate.
- Pay a non-refundable fee valid for five years with a credit card, money order, company check or certified/cashier's check. (New applicant: \$86.50; New applicant reduced rate: \$41.00). All reduced rate applicants must already possess a valid TWIC card and be licensed in a state that accepts the TWIC threat assessment in place of the HME threat assessment.

Drivers may [check the status](#) of their HME application online at any time.

**Important!** Drivers in Wisconsin, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Florida, Maryland, Kentucky, New York and Texas must go to their local Department of Motor Vehicles for HME application and fingerprinting. These drivers cannot use TSA application centers.

### **Additional Information**

Drivers requiring additional information can call the TSA HME Application Program at (855) 347-8371 or HME Customer Service at (833) 848 4759.

## **PRESIDENT BIDEN INVOKES THE PRODUCTION DEFENSE ACT TO FUND DOMESTIC MANUFACTURE OF ELECTRIC HEAT PUMPS**

Last Friday, President Biden invoked the Defense Production Act, a Cold War era statute enabling the president to expedite materials and services to protect national security, in order to stimulate the domestic manufacture of residential heat pumps with \$169 million in federal funding. The funding is part of the administration's drive toward electrification to reverse climate change, which the White House has identified as a serious threat to national security. Essentially, the administration is using extraordinary wartime powers to promote a political domestic policy agenda designed to eliminate fossil fuels, including heating oil, propane and natural gas, in favor of electrification. The \$169 million will go to 9 manufacturers of electric heat pump components to build domestic manufacturing facilities meant to replace foreign sourced components.

While the \$169 million represents a relatively small infusion of cash to stimulate the domestic manufacture of electric heat pumps, EMA nevertheless, opposes federal funding that favors one source of energy over all others. EMA is conferring with national, state and regional energy industry stakeholders to develop a coordinated response to this latest attack on fossil fuels. EMA will also engage with Congress and relevant federal agencies to voice its opposition to picking winners and losers in the development of national energy policy.

## **CONTINUE TO URGE CONGRESS TO SUPPORT HE CREDIT CARD COMPETITION ACT!**

EMA continues to urge all jobbers and retailers to reach out to their Senators and ask them to VOTE YES on the Credit Card Competition Act. This bill would reduce swipe fees and allow retailers a choice of network to handle the transaction through competition which would save Americans and businesses around \$15 billion in swipe fees per year. Our industry's share of that comes to around \$9,000 per store per year.

**[CLICK HERE TO URGE SENATORS TO SUPPORT THE CREDIT CARD COMPETITION ACT](#)**

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### **WEEKEND READS**

[US EPA opens \\$2 bln in grants to environmental justice communities](#)

[Why Rewards Cards Are Bad for Everyone](#)

[Losing its spark: Three reasons EV producers are struggling to sell customers on the future](#) | Washington Examiner

[World Oil Demand Continues to Exceed Expectations](#) | Rigzone

[OPEC+ to consider whether more oil cuts needed – sources](#) | Reuters

## FEDERATED INSURANCE:

### Risk Management Corner

Your business' success lies in your careful decisions – and that includes how you approach the [safety and risk management of your workplace](#). Without functional equipment or a clean, organized workplace, the risk for injuries and losses can increase. At the end of the day, [maintaining your tools and equipment](#), along with tackling regular housekeeping, can help.

Federated® clients who are interested in learning more about these important topics can check out [mySHIELD®](#) for sample checklists, safety manuals, guides, and other resources. [Reach out to your local marketing representative](#) for additional information.

Please always feel free to contact your **Federated** regional representative or EMA's National Account Executive **Jon Medo** at 800.533.0472 for any additional information or risk management questions.

*This article is for general information and risk prevention only and should not be considered legal or other expert advice. The recommendations herein may help reduce, but are not guaranteed to eliminate, any or all risk of loss. The information herein may be subject to, and is not a substitute for, any laws or regulations that may apply. Qualified counsel should be sought with questions specific to your circumstances. © 2023 Federated Mutual Insurance Company.*



The **WPMA NEWS** currently serves EIGHT independent petroleum and convenience store associations.

[CLICK HERE FOR THE CURRENT ISSUE OF THE WPMA NEWS MAGAZINE](#)

Interested in a previous *WPMA News* issue? Click [HERE](#).



### EMA JOURNAL - The Official Publication of the Energy Marketers of America

Check out the EMA Journal anytime online by clicking [here](#).

The EMA Journal summer issue is now available.

## THANK YOU **WPMA EXPO 2024** TOP SPONSORS

Presidential

as of November 21, 2023



Premier



Diamond



### PLEASE NOTE UPCOMING DATES FOR WPMA EVENTS

December 6, 2023 - OFA Holiday Party - Portland Golf Club - Portland, OR

December 7, 2023 - WA Holiday Party - Topgolf - Renton, WA

February 13, 2024 - Utah UPMRA Day on Capitol Hill - 12:00 - 1:30 pm - Salt Lake City, UT

February 20-22, 2024 - WPMAEXPO - Mirage/Hard Rock Resort - Las Vegas, NV

April 25-26, 2024 - Nevada (NPM&CSA) Big Dogs - Red Rock & Siena Golf Course - Las Vegas, NV

June 4-5, 2024 - Montana (MPMCSA) Convention - Fairmont Hot Springs Resort - Fairmont, MT

June 17-19, 2024 - Washington Energy Convention - Suncadia Lodge - Cle Elum, WA

August 7-9, 2024 - Idaho (IPM&CSA) Convention - Coeur d'Alene Resort, Coeur d'Alene, ID

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## REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE FOLLOWING EVENTS

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### OREGON HOLIDAY PARTY

Click [here](#) to register for the Oregon Holiday Party at the Portland Golf Club in Portland, Oregon held December 6, 2023.



### WASHINGTON HOLIDAY PARTY

Click [here](#) to register for the WA Holiday Party at Topgolf in Renton, Washington held December 7, 2023.



### WPMAEXPO

Click [here](#) to register for the WPMAEXPO at The Mirage Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada held February 20-22, 2024

A promotional banner for the WPMA Scholarship Opportunity. On the left, it says "THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING TO BE THANKFUL FOR" in a decorative font with leaves. In the center, it says "SCHOLARSHIP \$4,000 OPPORTUNITY!" in large, bold letters. To the right is a classical column icon and the text "WPMA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION". On the far right, a red box contains the text "CLICK HERE for WPMA SCHOLARSHIP 2024 Information".

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**Petro Pete:** I bought the world's worst thesaurus yesterday. Not only is it terrible, it's also terrible.

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