

NEBRASKA - First-time Nebraska SuperTech competitor Travis McCool of RDO Truck Center in Omaha took the top spot in the Nebraska Trucking Association SuperTech competition July 18. The 24-year diesel technician said he's honored to represent Nebraska.

"The challenges were pretty tough," McCool said. "So, I was surprised to win. It's great." McCool, a 24-year technician, and his wife, Theresa have two daughters, Alexandria and Genevieve.

More than 80 SuperTech competitors registered to take the qualifying online, ASE-style test. The top 16 from the online test advanced to the hands-on skill stations final round hosted by Central Community College in Hastings July 18. Most hands-on challenges change every year. After the competition, judges gather competitors to complement skills and provide feedback on areas for improvement.

Four students were chosen from Nebraska community colleges as well. As the Nebraska 2019 SuperTech winner, McCool will receive transportation and lodging to represent Nebraska at the National SuperTech competition in Raleigh, N.C. Sept. 15.

SuperTech was developed to advance career education and worker competency in transportation, distribution and logistics. Showcasing the proficiency of commercial vehicle technicians highlights the field as a career that's important to Nebraska's growth as a North American distribution hub.

For additional information, please contact Dave Zelnio, director operations & communication, Nebraska Trucking Association, 402-476-8504 ext. 105 or dave@nebtrucking.com.

Overall Winners

1. Travis McCool, RDO Truck Center Omaha
2. Morgan Barnes, Truck Center Companies - Norfolk
3. Tim Blake, Truck Center Companies - Columbus

Rookie Winner

Travis McCool, RDO Truck Center Omaha

Student Winners

1. Treston Ketelsen, Metro Community College
2. Trenton Meyer, Southeast Community College
3. Tanner Knight, Northeast Community College

Station Winners

Air Brakes - Morgan Barnes, Truck Center Companies- Norfolk
Vehicle Inspection - Morgan Barnes, Truck Center Companies- Norfolk
Electrical - Brian Klecan, NMC- Lincoln
Detroit Engine - Grady Martin, Interstate Power Systems- Omaha
Power Steering - Travis McCool, RDO Truck Center Omaha
Shop Skills - Brian Klecan, NMC- Lincoln
Tires - Brett Heitman, Werner Enterprises - Louisville
Precision Measurement - Geoffrey Novak, Interstate Power Systems- Omaha
Cummins Engine - Tim Blake, Truck Center Companies - Columbus
Drive Train - Travis McCool, RDO Truck Center Omaha

Winner of the \$100 drawing held for contestants was Mike Vails.

Thanks to our SuperTech judges

Air brakes - Randy Polak and Jack Friesen

Vehicle Inspection - Sgt. Jay Human and Trooper Matt Adams
Electrical - Andrew Schiessl and Randy Haines
Detroit Engine - Nate Schreiner and Jason Capps
Power Steering - Bill McKay and Tony Milenkovich
Shop Skills - Matt Wagg and Corey Lang
Tires - Mark St. Aubin and Mike Hanner
Precision Measurement - Ian Dunn and Nolan Reed
Cummins Engine - Kevin Bertsch and Karlon Knuth
Drive Train - Mike Hollst and Ross Welton

Thanks to SuperTech sponsors

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Scoring

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