



Americas Commercial Transportation Research Co. LLC
11545 North Marr Road, Columbus, Indiana 47203
Telephone: (812) 379-2085, Fax: (812) 378-5997
E-Mail: trucks@actresearch.net

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Heavy-Duty Truck Net Orders Improve but Still Weak

COLUMBUS, IN – Net orders for heavy-duty Class 8 commercial vehicles rose to 7,900 units in February, up 20 percent from last month and also from February 2009, according to ACT Research Co. (ACT), the leading independent source of analysis in the market for trucks and other commercial vehicles.

In the latest release of the *State of the Industry: Classes 5-8 Vehicles*, ACT acknowledges the comparisons to prior month and prior year look impressive, but noted those two months were among the weakest on record. When viewed through a wider lens, the February net orders are still well below normal levels and consistent with expectations. The last of the pre-EPA2010 mandate build slots were filled in December. Medium-duty Classes 5-7 net orders showed similar trends, posting an increase of 12 percent from February of last year.

“The implementation of the EPA2010 emission mandate continues to hold down orders in the near term,” said Kenny Vieth, partner and senior analyst with ACT. “Looking at orders by geography confirms this as the non-mandate markets – Mexico and exports – are performing relatively well while Canada and the U.S. continue to be weak.”

ACT is the recognized leading publisher of commercial vehicle (CV) industry data, market analysis and forecasting services for the North American market. ACT’s CV services are used by all major North American truck and trailer manufacturers and their suppliers, as well as the banking and investment community. For more information on ACT, please go to our web site at <http://www.actresearch.net>.

Media Contact:
Joyce Wire
812-379-2085
jkwire@actresearch.net