Phillip Hutchens Jr - Comments

The trade off is not worth the reward. With autonomous coming in many fields it has negatively impacted the American workers. If autonomous is allowed to be deregulated as is currently happening you open the window to a whole new group of problems. A couple of huge factors are that autonomous has to be in contact with a network. If there is no driver on board like these autonomous companies are predicting for the near future and the network goes down who controls the vehicle. We currently have alot of dead areas nationwide where there is no reception. What happens if the computer controling the truck suddenly crashes like our computer systems do all too often today. There is no driver on board so how do these units know how to enter a scale house or when they are pulled over. Once again we are back to the fact an unproven entity is being fast tracked. The current infrastructure is in poor conditions. Autonomous trucks don't know when something is malfunctioning like a human does that drives that truck daily. As drivers we look our truck over everytime we stop. Many times problems are caught in advance because of the keen eye of drivers that know their equipment. I realize companies are looking at this technology as a cheap replacement for drivers but where do these driver relocate to? Who pays the taxes that keep this country moving when these drivers lose their jobs? How do small companies compete when large companies deploy these units? These are all questions you have to ask yourself because the day these hit the road you have the general tax paying public that doesn't trust autonomous to answe r to. These units have only been proven in near perfect conditions. They can't run thru snow, ice, and other major hurdles drivers deal with daily. They can't differentiate the difference in whether they should run the truck in the ditch or hit the soccer mom that pulled out in front of them with a car full of kids. Robotics will never be able to replace human interaction. Another problem I see is when this technology malfunctions and it will who is responsible the company or the developer? Technology was meant to help us not to REPLACE us. We need to stick to using systems that have benefits for the working class tax paying Americans. Ladies and gentlemen that are reading this you are holding the power of many peoples lives and livelihoods in your hands. Many people can die from the rout we are on and many people will loose everything they ever worked for. Please use caution when making your decision because it lies on your conscience when bad things happen.