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Nomads of the Interstates: Portrait of the American Trucker

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Poster Presentation P18

NOMADS OF THE INTERSTATES: PORTRAIT OF THE AMERICAN TRUCKER

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In order to meet the demands of an economy that thrives on consumerism, American truck drivers are burdened with the responsibility of delivering products quickly and efficiently. This responsibility ultimately compels them to live like nomads, who spend long exhausting hours on the road, and who do not return home for months at a time. Through photographs and ethnographic interviews, this poster presentation illustrates the rich culture that exists among American truckers, and furthermore highlights the tribulations of the trucker that stem from a nomadic existence. The research suggests that truck drivers are a severely underappreciated and misunderstood group of people, who are a necessary component of the nation's economy. The aim of this poster presentation is to generate cultural awareness and respect for these fascinating people, who exist on the margins of society.