

THE WESTERN WHEELS CONFERENCE



An Industry-Driven Event for Transportation Tech Educators

By popular demand, the Western Wheels Conference is returning to North Las Vegas for 3-days of training for automotive, heavy vehicle, and ag mechanic instructors.

When: January 7-9, 2027
Where: College of Southern Nevada
Cost: \$100 Early Bird, \$250 After Nov 15
Register: DAKTIC.com/western-wheels-conference

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SESSION TOPICS

AUTOMOTIVE

Automotive instructors will rotate through **ALL** of the following **hands-on technical training sessions**.

EV Conversions + Drive Train Basics (4-hours)

Learn the basics of high voltage safety, preparation of a chassis, components selection, design, and installation procedures through a guided hands-on workshop presented by Switch Vehicles.

Tesla Diagnostics Essentials (2-hours)

Bring a laptop/tablet and follow along with Scott Brown of Diagnostic Network, exploring Tesla's service info, wiring diagrams and electrical connector reference resources. Plus: live system checks like Autodiag, Service Tools, Vitals, Garage, CAN Viewer and more.

ASE Update: New Standards, Systems, and Apprenticeship Funding (2-hours)

Join Virginia Oden, ASE Education Foundation Assistant Vice President, and discover how you can put updated certification standards, a new portal, and a new apprenticeship grant to work for your program.

Advanced Engine Diagnostics (4-hours)

Take your diagnostic skills to the next level and set your students apart from the competition with the help of Consulab's seasoned Education Specialists.

EVENT DETAILS

Where: College of Southern Nevada
Building T, Room 120
3200 East Cheyenne Ave.
North Las Vegas, NV 89030

When: January 7-9, 2027
8:30 – 9am // Check-In, Coffee
9am – Noon // Technical Training
Noon – 1pm // Catered Lunch
1pm – 5pm // Technical Training

Includes: + Certificates for sessions completed
+ Coffee and donuts each morning
+ Catered lunch all three days

HEAVY VEHICLE

DAKTIC proudly presents **Rory McLaren**, world-renowned hydraulics expert, educator, and founder of the Fluid Power Training Institute.

Practical Hydraulics (16-hours)

The biggest heavy vehicle manufacturers in the world spend thousands of dollars per attendee for Rory McLaren's hydraulics workshops, and we have room for **30 attendees only**, so register today!

COMBINED

All attendees will join us for the following **professional development sessions**.

Bridging the Skills Gap (1-hour)

Join this round-table discussion to gain insights from your fellow instructors on how to bridge the ever-widening skills gap as an educator.

Lessons Learned at Weber State (1-hour)

Scott Hadzik shares lessons learned during his 7-years as chair of the highly acclaimed Automotive Technology Department at Weber State University.

Funding in the Fast Lane (1-hour)

A panel of experienced educators and former administrators share best practices for securing the funds you need to build a top-notch training program.

SKILLS RODEO

All attendees will compete in the first annual Western Wheels Rodeo! Inspired by the SkillsUSA student competitions DAKTIC proudly supports each year, this is an opportunity to **sharpen your own skills** while learning new ways to use in-class and extra curricular competitions to **level up your students**.

A 4-hour qualifying round of hands-on automotive mechanical and diagnostic challenges will be followed by a 2-hour final event in which the heavy vehicle attendees will join in the fun and **compete for prizes**.