

Local firm to exhibit patriotic sleeper at trucking show

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LAGRANGE - A unique truck sleeper from Indiana Custom Trucks, located on S.R. 9 north of LaGrange, is sure to catch the eye at the Mid-America Trucking Show, scheduled for Thursday-Saturday in Louisville, Ky.

ICT will exhibit its conservative and patriotic values with a 102-inch Sundowner factory conversion sleeper, featuring the artistry of "Hairy did it" with The Lizard Company of Angola.

The sleeper provides ample room and comforts for the trucker but exhibits different life-like patriotic scenes on three sides. A bald eagle is depicted in each scene.



"A lot of people were feeling patriotic after 9/11, and we had the opportunity to bring that feeling back," said Elwin D. Eash, president of Indiana Custom Trucks.

The vivid paintings depict a marching patriot; George Washington in prayer; the White House; the Lincoln Memorial; Mount Rushmore; and the Statue of Liberty, a tear in her eye, holding a patriotic flame as the Twin Towers burn in the background.

ICT began with conversion trucks in 1990 and grew to be a leader in the trucking industry in custom built sleepers. Currently, 42 employees build two sleepers per week. Construction is done in two buildings on 11 1/2 acres. ICT utilizes local suppliers and mobile home and recreational vehicle vendors in the area.

"The sleepers are made to last 2-3 million miles. Costs for a unit range anywhere from \$5,000 to over \$100,000. Those in the \$50,000-60,000 range are more common," Eash said.

"Our business has grown through truckers, truck shows and advertising through word of mouth from satisfied customers," he added.