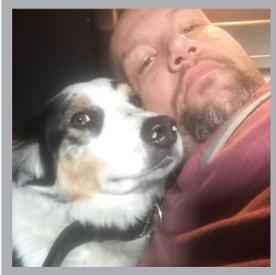




From the Kitchen to the Cab: Chef Turned Trucker Thrives on the Road

An Apex Client Success Story



Alvin Seger, Owner
AWS Transport LLC
Alton, Illinois



Alvin's Apex History

Chef-turned-trucker Alvin Seger began his AWS Transport trucking company through the Apex Startup Program in February 2016. He became an Apex factoring client in April 2016. In the last year, Alvin took advantage of Apex's financial services to take care of various trucking expenses. Alvin is on the road 250 days out of the year and sticks to 500-600 miles round trip for each load he hauls. We talked with him about his Apex experience while he was in Belleville, Michigan delivering a load.

Working with Apex

"Apex is there to make sure that I succeed as I carry my own weight," he said. "I have thought about this experience of starting a business and I know that it would not have lasted without Apex's assistance. It is all going to work out for me; I feel it. I have always been able to work well with Apex. I don't think I could work as well with any company other than Apex."

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The Chef Years

"I spent 13 years as a chef. I trained with other chefs. I never went to culinary school, but I was a chef with a catering company and then got promoted to executive chef. I did catering for weddings, for the March of Dimes, did some fine dining, etc. I managed a restaurant as well, and worked at a medical center as a special nutrition chef."

Why Trucking

"When I got my GED, I qualified for a scholarship because my score was so high," Alvin said. He enrolled for classes at a local community college with the intention of changing careers. He immediately started inquiring about trucking, which had already been on his mind to explore.



"The teachers at the community college were great and I asked them if they had ever done trucking. I wanted to switch careers from cooking to be a truck driver. I can make good money. I wanted to travel. I wanted to be my own boss. I didn't need to go back to school for a very long time."

Alvin wanted the excitement of a new adventure, but he didn't want to start at the bottom financially. "I could not go back into an entry level position making \$7 an hour. Trucking was right for me. It's an immediate job and it was good startup money."

Apex Startup Experience

"I wanted to start this company in 2015, but I didn't understand everything I needed to do," he said. In frustration, Alvin began to search the internet for help. "I went online and found Apex. The Startup experience was great. They found the answers to all the questions I had. Every time I called, I always got a person on the phone. If not, I always got a call back. They helped me form the business. Every time I called and needed to know something, they pointed me in the right direction. They made it a lot easier for me. They had my MC and my DOT numbers within 10 days. I was determined to get it done. I have never seen anybody get it done quite as fast as Apex."

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Working with Account Executive Aeron Lopez



"Aeron is awesome; she has been wonderful. When I get an idea in my head about something that I want to do with my business, I run it by Aeron. She gives me great advice, and she helps me

organize and prioritize my business. I have so much flexibility thanks to Apex and Aeron."

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Trucking is Life

Alvin is a one-man, one-truck business. That means he's the driver, the office manager and the CEO all rolled into one. "Doing it on my own there is a lot more that I have to be on top of, and it can be a struggle. Sometimes I hate trucking, but I always come back to it. If you're not moving forward, you're not moving at all. I believe that there's a golden goose at the end of this trail. There is nothing else I am focused on now more than trucking. I am moving forward. My life is trucking. Even when I'm off, I'm not really off. I'm just not in the truck."

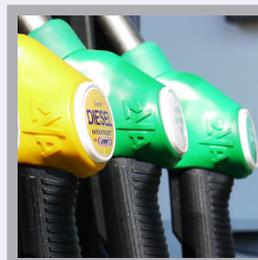
Alvin's Tools for Success:



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Apex Startup Program



Learn More:
Apex Factoring Services



Learn More:
Apex Fuel Card