



## From ATA's Technology & Maintenance Council

We wanted to alert you to a possible scam that is being targeted to the ATA Technology & Maintenance Council's membership, regarding the purchase of attendee lists. A number of attendees and exhibitors of the ATA TMC's Annual Meeting and Transportation Technology Exhibition have been receiving e-mails and/or phone calls stating they may purchase the TMC Annual meeting's attendee list. These emails and calls are not coming from ATA, the companies emailing are not associated with ATA, and we believe they are SCAMS.

Though TMC does distribute an Annual Directory of attendees onsite, TMC attendees and exhibitors know that the TMC bylaws (Article 10.8) and meeting rules strictly forbid the distribution, access to non-TMC members, or use of the list for any reason such as commercial purposes, unless written permission is obtained from TMC after the approval of TMC's Executive Committee. Any violation of this Article is cause for immediate termination of TMC membership and prohibition against future TMC meeting participation.

Additionally, the hotels with which we contract are forbidden by contract, law and their privacy policies to sell/distribute lists of TMC guests to third parties outside of their corporation.

These spam e-mails often are in direct violation of the CAN-SPAM Act and are sent from overseas.

ATA (on behalf of TMC) has been sending cease and desist orders but as soon as one goes out, another e-mail solicitation (under a different name) appears.

We are not alone. This is an issue faced by meeting organizers worldwide.

We encourage you to respond to these solicitations with a demand that you and your company be taken off their e-mail list immediately.

If the e-mails continue, the Federal Trade Commission advises that you forward unwanted or deceptive messages to:

- the Federal Trade Commission at [spam@uce.gov](mailto:spam@uce.gov). Be sure to include the complete spam e-mail.
- your e-mail provider. At the top of the message, state that you're complaining about being spammed. Some e-mail services have buttons that allow you to mark messages as junk mail or report them spam.
- the sender's e-mail provider, if you can tell who it is. Most web mail providers and ISPs want to cut off spammers who abuse their system. Again, make sure to include the entire spam e-mail and say that you're complaining about spam.

If you try to unsubscribe from an e-mail list and your request is not honored, **file a complaint** with the FTC at <https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/#crnt&panel1-1>.

Thank you and please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.