

TRB FREIGHT ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

(Updated February 2003)

<http://gulliver.trb.org/publications/dva/FreightSummary.pdf>

ONGOING AND COMPLETED POLICY STUDIES

ONGOING:

Shipboard Display of Automatic Identification Systems (AIS) (forthcoming in 2003)

Freight Transportation Data: A Framework for Development

Freight Transportation Information Systems Security: A Scoping Study

Review of BTS' Survey Programs

Federal Role in the Marine Transportation System

COMPLETED:

**- [Freight Capacity for the 21st Century](#) [PDF: 638KB]
2002 (Special Report 271)

[Deterrence, Protection, and Preparation: The New Transportation Security Imperative](#) 2002 (Special Report 270) [PDF: 470KB]

*[Regulation of Weights, Lengths, and Widths, of Commercial Motor Vehicles.](#)
2002 (Special Report 267) recommends creation of an independent public organization to evaluate the effects of truck traffic, pilot studies of new truck designs, and a change in federal law authorizing states to issue permits for operation of larger trucks on the Interstates.

[Naval Engineering: Alternative Approaches for Organizing Cooperative Research.](#) 2002 (Special Report 266) Investigates and evaluates models that promote innovation, incorporate total systems concepts in naval engineering, and involve all stakeholders in the decision-making process. This study developed

following a planning workshop hosted by the Marine Board in May 2001, with support from the Office of Naval Research (ONR).

****Environmental Performance of Tanker Designs in Collision and Grounding: Method for Comparison.*** 2001. Provides a methodology for comparing two oil tanker designs in terms of the amount of environmental damage each might cause if involved in a grounding or collision.

Inland Navigation System Planning: The Upper Mississippi River-Illinois Waterway. 2000. (Water Science and Technology Board and TRB) Focus on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' economic analysis regarding proposed improvements, including economic assumptions, methods, and forecasts regarding barge transportation demand on the Upper Mississippi-Illinois River Waterway.

*****Policy Options for Intermodal Freight Transportation.*** 1998 (Special Report 252). Freight transportation is a joint enterprise of the private sector, government, and public enterprises; therefore it is important to review public sector programs that serve freight to determine who will they are keeping up with rapid change in industry.

*****Paying Our Way: Estimating Marginal Social Costs of Freight Transportation.*** 1996 (Special Report 246). A preliminary examination of whether shippers of domestic surface freight pay the full social cost of the services they use.

****Ensuring Railroad Tank Car Safety.*** 1994 (Special Report 243). Concluded that the safety record of tank cars carrying hazardous materials is good and that the processes in place for ensuring safety are fundamentally sound. Recommended data gathering, analysis, planning, and enforcement steps that would enhance these existing processes

****Compensating Injured Railroad Workers Under FELA.*** 1994 (Special Report 241). Compared the tort-based approach for compensating railroad workers who are injured on the job, which was established by the Federal Employers Liability Act of 1908, with no-fault workers' compensation systems applicable to most other workers. Identified opportunities for improving the FELA process.

****Hazardous Materials Shipment Information for Emergency Response.*** 1993 (Special Report 239). Examined a proposal for national central reporting system

for all hazmat shipments. Concluded that the proposal was unworkable but that serious shortcomings exist in information available to firefighters and others responding to hazmat incidents.

Landside Access to U.S. Ports. 1993 (Special Report 238). Examined impediments to landside access and evaluated and recommended appropriate strategies to reduce those problems.

Intermodal Marine Container Transportation: Issues and Opportunities. 1992 (Special Report 236). Examined regulatory and other practices that effect the growth and efficiency of intermodal container transportation including: ODS ship procurement restrictions, ship manning requirements, military cargo bidding practices, overweight containers, conflicts with environmental goals, customs clearance, cargo liability, equipment interchange, and overweight trucks transporting containers.

*****Data Requirements for Monitoring Truck Safety.*** 1990 (Special Report 228). Recommended expanded data collection and monitoring program for truck safety including augmenting data for fatal crashes involving trucks, adoption of NGA recommendations for uniform truck accident reporting, and ultimately the creation of a new National Monitoring System.

*****New Trucks for Greater Productivity and Less Road Wear.*** 1990 (Special Report 227). Examined a proposal by former FHWA Administrator for trucks that could operate at higher gross weights and reduce pavement wear by adding axles and reducing maximum axle loads. A specific regulatory regime was recommended.

****Truck Weight Limits: Issues and Options.*** 1990 (Special Report 225). Examined a variety of issues regarding the regulation of truck weights and recommended: a new bridge formula for regulating axle spacing and weights; no further expansion of "grandfather" rights; introduction of a special permit program for gross vehicle weights over 80 thousand pounds; increased safety enforcement, and regional cooperation in standardizing limits and permit practices.

****Providing Access for Large Trucks.*** 1989 (Special Report 223). Recommended guidelines for regulating access to the national network of highways that were designated for use by new truck configurations authorized by the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982.

Pipelines and Public Safety. 1988 (Special Report 219). In response to a NTSB request, identified gaps in preparedness for pipeline emergencies in developed areas and recommended improvements in preventative and mitigative measures.

* *Twin-Trailer Trucks*. 1986 (Special Report 211). Assessed the likely usage and impact of trucks pulling twin 28-ft trailers, which was authorized for Interstates and "designated" highways by the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982. Concluded that the use of twins would be concentrated in the segment of the industry handling less-than-truckload shipments and would have little overall effect on highway safety.

*Congressional request

**Self-initiated and partially self-funded by TRB Executive Committee

UPCOMING AND RECENT CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS

Upcoming:

Summer Meeting of the Ports, Waterways, Freight, International Trade, Planning, Economics, Finance, and Management Committees

Portland, OR:

Part 1 - July 13-16, 2003

28th Annual Summer Ports, Waterways, Freight & International Trade Conference

Part 2 - July 15-18, 2003

Joint Summer Meeting of the Planning, Economics, Finance, Freight, and Management Committees

Recent:

January 12-16, 2003

[TRB 82nd Annual Meeting](#)

Washington, D.C.

January 12, 2003

FMCSA Research and Technology: New Beginnings—Investments and Relationships

Washington, DC

January 12, 2003

Transportation Security Research: Establishing a National Priority

Washington, DC

January 12, 2003
Marine Transportation Systems Research
Washington, DC

November 18-19, 2002
Global Forum on the Marine Transportation of Energy Products
Houston, Texas

July 11-13, 2002
Joint Summer Meeting of the Planning, Economics, Finance, Management, Freight and Transit
Committees
Providence, Rhode Island

June 23-26, 2002
[27th Annual Summer Ports, Waterways, Freight & International Trade Conference](#)
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

STANDING TECHNICAL COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

For the statement of scope and list of members for any of these committees, use the [online committee search mechanism](#).

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|-------|---|
| A1B01 | Inland Water Transport |
| A1B02 | Freight Transportation Planning and Logistics |
| A1B04 | Motor Vehicle Size and Weight |
| A1B05 | Intermodal Freight Transport |
| A1B06 | Freight Transport Regulation |
| A1B07 | Urban Freight Transportation |
| A1B08 | Ports and Channels |
| A1B09 | Freight Transportation Data |
| A1B10 | Local and Regional Freight Transport |
| A1B11 | Military Transportation |
| A1B14 | Transportation of Hazardous Materials |
| A1B55 | Task Force on Agricultural Transportation |
| A1E15 | Ferry Transportation |
| A2M03 | Intermodal Freight Terminal Design and Operations |
| A5006 | International Trade & Transportation |
| A5021 | Critical Transportation Infrastructure Protection |
| A5T69 | Task Force on Trucking Industry Research |

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM PROJECTS

Information on specific projects is available at
<http://www4.trb.org/trb/crp.nsf/NCHRP+projects>

Completed:

- Project 8-30 *Characteristics and Changes in Freight Transportation Demand*
- Project 8-30A *Freight Capacity for the Next Century*
- Project 8-31A *Long-Term Availability of Multimodal Corridor Capacity*
- Project 8-32(1) *Innovative Practices for Multimodal Transportation Planning for Freight and Passengers*

Underway:

- Project 8-47 *Guidebook for Freight Policy, Planning, and Programming in Small and Mid-Sized Metropolitan Areas*
- Project 8-42 *Rail-Freight Solutions to Roadway Congestion*
- Project 8-43 *Methods for Forecasting Statewide Freight Movements and Related Performance Measures*
- Project 8-39 *Financing and Improving Land Access to U.S. Cargo Hubs*
- Project 15-21 *Review of Truck Characteristics as Factors in Roadway Design*
- Project 25-14 *Heavy-Duty Vehicle Emissions*
- Project 25-18 *Particulate-Matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀) Apportionment for On-Road Mobile Sources*

NCHRP Synthesis Projects

Information on specific projects is available at
<http://www4.nationalacademies.org/trb/synthesis.nsf/NCHRP+Syntheses>

Underway:

- Project 33-12 *Freight Transportation As A Good Neighbor*
- Project 32-01 *Dealing with Truck Parking Demands*
- Project 32-02 *Strategies for Managing Increasing Truck Traffic*

RECENT PUBLICATIONS (1996-2003)

[82nd Annual Meeting Compendium of Papers on CD-ROM \(2003\)](#)

TR Records:

- No. 1790 *Freight Transportation 2002*
- No. 1782 *Marine Transportation and Port Operations, 2002*
- No. 1780 *Land Development and Public Involvement in Transportation, 2001*
- No. 1763 *Multimodal and Marine Freight Transportation Issues, 2001*
- No. 1742 *Intercity Passenger Rail; Freight Rail; and Track Design and Maintenance, 2001*
- No. 1725 *Freight Travel Behavior, Route Choice Behavior, and Advanced Traveler Information Systems, 2000*
- No. 1719 *Transportation Data, Statistics, and Information Technology, 2000*
- No. 1707 *Freight Transportation Research, 2000*
- No. 1686 *Truck Safety Research, 1999*
- No. 1653 *Issues in Freight Transportation Analysis and Planning, 1999*
- No. 1613 *Freight Transportation: Planning, Motor Carrier Size and Weight Issues, International Trade and Hazardous Materials Transport*
- No. 1602 *Truck, Marine, and Intermodal Freight and Hazardous Materials Transportation, 1997*
- No. 1522 *Freight Transportation Data and Planning Issues, Trucking, and Marine Transportation, 1996*

NCHRP Reports:

- No. 431 *Valuation of Travel-Time Savings and Predictability in Congested Conditions for Highway User-Cost Estimation, 1999*
- No. 421 *Economic Trends and Multimodal Transportation Requirements, 1999*
- No. 416 *Alternative Approaches to the Taxation of Heavy Vehicles, 1998*
- No. 404 *Innovative Practices for Multimodal Transportation Planning for Freight and Passengers, 1998*
- No. 401 *Guidance Manual for Managing Transportation Planning Data, 1997*
- No. 399 *Multimodal Corridor and Capacity Analysis Manual, 1998*
- No. 388 *A Guidebook for Forecasting Freight Transportation Demand, 1997*

Synthesis Reports:

- No. 298 *Truck Trip Generation Data, 2001*
No. 286 *Multimodal Aspects of Statewide Transportation Planning, 2000*
No. 230 *Freight Transportation Planning Practices in the Public Sector, 1996*

Conference Proceedings:

- No. 25 *Global Intermodal Freight: State of Readiness for the 21st Century, 2001* (also available electronically via TRB website).
No. 22 *Symposium on Risk Management in the Marine Transportation System, 2000*
No. 19 *National Symposium on Contaminated Sediments: Coupling Risk Reduction with Sustainable Management and Reuse, 1999*
No. 17 *Intermodal Transportation Education and Training, 1998*
No. 12 *National Conference on Setting an Intermodal Transportation Research Framework, 1997*
No. 11 *National Conference on Intermodalism: Making the Case, Making It Happen, 1996*

TR Circulars:

[Transportation Research Circular EC048](#), "*Freight Transportation Research Needs Statements*," December 2002 (PDF: 466 KB/ 43 Pages)

- No. 491 *Inland Waterway Technical Studies, 1999*
No. 459 *Intermodal Freight Terminal of the Future, 1996*

TRNews:

- No. 221 Theme Issue on Inland Waterways, July/August 2002
No. 216 Theme Issue on E-Commerce, September/October 2001
No. 211 Theme issue on Transportation Security, November/December 2000
No. 209 Theme Issue on Ferries in the 21st Century, July/August 2000
No. 203 Theme Issue on Transportation Safety: Air, Marine, Transit, Rail, July/August 1999
No. 196 Theme Issue on Ports and Waterways, May/June 1998

Other Marine Board and NRC Publications:

- *A Process for Setting, Managing, and Monitoring Environmental Windows for Dredging Projects (2001)*
- *Spills of Nonfloating Oils: Risk and Response, 1999*
- *Meeting Research and Education Needs in Coastal Engineering, 1999*
- *Reducing the Logistics Burden for the Army After Next: Doing More with Less, 1999*

- *Applying Advanced Information Systems to Ports and Waterways Management, 1999*
- *Oil Spill Risks from Tank Vessel Lightering, 1998*
- *Double-Hull Tanker Legislation: An Assessment of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, 1998*

FREIGHT-RELATED SESSIONS AT THE 2003 TRB ANNUAL MEETING

- Is Freight Transportation Too Cheap?
- Current Issues in Intermodal Freight Transportation Planning and Modeling
- Maritime Freight Data Myths, Gaps, and Truths
- Freight Terminals: Location, Operations, and Access
- Incorporating Freight into Statewide and Metropolitan Planning
- Outreach to the Public on Freight Issues, Benefits, and Needs
- Handling Trade Growth: Is the U.S. Supply Chain Ready?
- Global Freight Data Standards in an E-Business World
- International Trade Flows: Managing Border Impacts
- International Urban Freight and Logistics Solutions
- National Freight Transportation Data Program Development
- Freight Transportation Data Research Issues
- Urban Freight Issues and Strategies
- Factors Affecting the Transport of Hazardous Materials
- Economic Competition and Heavy Vehicle Safety
- Truck Forecasting, Logistics, and Outsourcing
- Dedicated Truck Lanes
- Planning for Future Air Cargo Requirements

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