

# Intermodal Freight Transport News

*A product of the Transportation Research Board's A1B05 Committee*

December 2001

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## Comments from the Committee Chair —

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Intermodal Freight Transport committee's newsletter. Please join me in extending thanks to all of the folks who have helped make this newsletter happen, especially the co-chairs of the Communications Subcommittee, Arno Hart and Ed Rosen, and Research Subcommittee member Jack Klodzinski.

The intent of the newsletter is to inform interested persons about the activities of the committee. This edition includes stories about forthcoming conferences and meetings, as well as other activities. We welcome your input on ways the newsletter content and layout may be improved.

I hope to see many of you at TRB's 2002 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, on January 13-17. A1B05 is co-sponsoring eight sessions, which are described in greater detail below. Committee members Paul Belella, Arno Hart, and Bryan Stone merit a special thanks for their efforts in pulling together sessions for the annual meeting. Please be advised that the A1B05 business meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 16, at 7:30 pm, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, Capitol Room. For further information about the annual meeting, see: <http://www4.nationalacademies.org/trb/annual.nsf> and <http://gulliver.trb.org/am/>.

That's all for now. The contacts regarding the newsletter are, Ed Rosen, [ehrosen@mindspring.com](mailto:ehrosen@mindspring.com), Arno Hart, [ahart@wilbursmith.com](mailto:ahart@wilbursmith.com) and Jack Klodzinski, [jgk18568@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu](mailto:jgk18568@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu) or me.

*Steve Kale, Chair, [steven.r.kale@odot.state.or.us](mailto:steven.r.kale@odot.state.or.us)  
Intermodal Freight Transport Committee*

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## TRB 2002 Annual Meeting

TRB will hold its 81<sup>st</sup> annual meeting on January 13-17, 2002, in Washington, DC at the following hotels: Washington Hilton, Marriott Wardman Park, and Omni Shoreham. Most A1B05 sponsored sessions, as well as the committee business meeting, will take place in the Omni Shoreham Hotel. For more information, see <http://www4.nas.edu/trb/annual.nsf/web/program?OpenDocument>. Marriott and Shoreham locations are accessible using the Washington Metro system via the Woodley Park station. Shuttle buses run regularly between all three hotels.

Please mark your calendar for the **committee business meeting on Wednesday, January 16, 7:30 pm, Shoreham Hotel**, and for the following sessions that A1B05 is sponsoring or co-sponsoring:

**Monday, January 14**

“Intermodal Freight along Trade Corridors: Peering into the Future,” 1:30-3:15 pm, Shoreham

**Tuesday, January 15**

Freight Issues, Needs, and Responses: A Decade of Experiences after ISTEA (four sessions)

1. “Freight Trends and Issues,” 8:00-9:45 am, Shoreham
2. “Assessing Freight System Needs,” 10:15-noon, Shoreham
3. “Evolving State Department of Transportation Freight Planning Initiatives,” 1:30-3:15 pm, Hilton
4. “Freight and Public Involvement,” 3:45-5:30 pm, Hilton

**Wednesday, January 16**

Freight Issues, Needs, and Responses: A Decade of Experiences after ISTEA (two sessions)

1. “Freight Transportation and Economic Development,” 8:00-9:45 am, Omni Shoreham
2. “Public- and Private-Sector Responses,” 10:15-noon, Omni Shoreham

**Wednesday, January 16**

“Watching This Space: A Dramatic Year in European Freight and Intermodal Transportation,” 2:30-4:00 pm, Omni Shoreham.

Please note that a number of other freight sessions will be held at TRB. For more information, see the following: [http://gulliver.trb.org/am/assembly\\_search.asp?q=freight&d=1&subject=&h=&pid=&p=yes](http://gulliver.trb.org/am/assembly_search.asp?q=freight&d=1&subject=&h=&pid=&p=yes).

***Also of Noteworthy Importance –***

**Sunday, January 14**

National Freight Forum: Freight Policy Options, Sunday, 1:30pm - 5:00pm, Shoreham  
Lillian C. Borrone, Consultant, and C. Michael Walton, University of Texas, Austin, presiding

*Sponsored by: National Freight Forum*

The National Freight Forum is a group of freight stakeholders, formally appointed by the National Research Council. The purpose of the Forum is to provide opportunities for collective discussions of freight transportation issues and future strategies and options for initiatives to enhance the nation's freight productivity--most notably in the areas of freight finance, planning and programming, operations, international trade transport, data and analytical methods, and human resources. This workshop is intended to draw upon a broad range of relevant perspectives on these aspects of freight transportation productivity. The emphasis of this workshop will be on institutional issues, including a discussion of appropriate private- and public sector roles and responsibilities in fostering freight productivity improvements. Special attention will also be devoted to research needs related to freight transportation.

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## TRB 2001 Summer Meeting

A1B05 participated in TRB's Vail summer meeting (July 19-21, 2001) with various TRB committees on data, economics, finance, freight transportation, and planning. A1B05 sponsored a freight planning session on Friday afternoon, July 20, preceded by the committee's summer business meeting in the morning of the same day. Jennifer Clinger was the moderator for the freight planning session; committee members Mark Berndt and Ted Dahlburg, along with committee friend Kate Quinn from FHWA, made presentations. Two other committee members--Ysela Llorca and Gerald Rawling--made presentations in other meeting sessions. Altogether, fourteen A1B05 committee members attended the Vail meeting. For more information on the Vail meeting, see [http://nationalacademies.org/trb/publications/conferences/vail\\_program.pdf](http://nationalacademies.org/trb/publications/conferences/vail_program.pdf)

Draft notes for the committee's summer business meeting are available for review at: <http://www.wilbursmith.com/a1b05/meeting.cfm>. Please send corrections to Committee Secretary Rob Ritter at [rob@enotrans.com](mailto:rob@enotrans.com) or Steve Kale at [steven.r.kale@odot.state.or.us](mailto:steven.r.kale@odot.state.or.us).

Enjoying a respite between Vail meeting sessions are Ted Dahlburg, Scott Drumm (committee friend), Jocelyn Jones, Paul Belella, and Steve Kale.



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## Triennial Self-Evaluation

TRB requires standing committees to critically evaluate themselves through preparation of a written report every three years. One of the purposes of the triennial self-evaluation is to identify areas, which committees can strengthen. Per TRB requirements, A1B05 submitted its triennial self-evaluation on March 1, 2001 (see <http://www.wilbursmith.com/a1b05/tseintro.cfm>). Results from the TSE are not yet available.

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## Subcommittee News

The five subcommittees discussed below are instrumental in moving A1B05 activities forward (see <http://www.wilbursmith.com/a1b05/subcommittees.cfm>). Members who are not already on a subcommittee are encouraged to contact the committee chairman, Steve Kale ([steven.r.kale@odot.state.or.us](mailto:steven.r.kale@odot.state.or.us)), with their first and second preferences for a subcommittee. For members who already are on a subcommittee, let Steve know if you would like to switch to another subcommittee. Below is subcommittee news.

**Internal Liaison:** Several members of the committee attended business meetings for other TRB committees at the TRB Summer Meeting in Vail, Colorado. This included reporting on A1B05 committee activities where appropriate. As part of the liaison effort, A1B05 is co-sponsoring seven sessions at the 2002 annual meeting. Co-sponsoring committees are: Intergovernmental Relations and Policy Processes (A1A03), Transportation and Economic Development (A1A06), Freight Transportation Planning and Logistics (A1B02), Urban Freight Transportation (A1B07), Ports and Channels (A1B08), Freight Transportation Data (A1B09), Statewide Multimode Transportation Planning (A1D01), Public Involvement in Transportation (A1D04), and Intermodal Freight Terminal Design and Operations (A2M03).

**External Liaison:** Committee friends Sara Jean Leitner, Iris I. Lin, F. Jordan Ludders, and Chang Guan worked with subcommittee chair Gerhardt Muller to update the "Links" page on the committee web site at <http://www.wilbursmith.com/a1b05/links.cfm>. The update includes links to the following: U.S. Federal Government, U.S. Congressional Committees, Transportation Research Board, Intermodal Documents, State Departments of Transportation, Port Authorities, International Government Related, Air Related, Rail Related, Road Related, Maritime Related, Trade Journals, International Associations, and General Transportation Related Organizations

**Communications:** The communications subcommittee updated information on the committee Web site at <http://www.wilbursmith.com/a1b05>. This has included developing a "new look" for the site as well as updating and expanding existing information. Subcommittee co-chair Arno Hart and colleagues at Wilbur Smith Associates continue to manage the Web site. Subcommittee co-chair Ed Rosen and Research Subcommittee member Jack Klodzinski produced the committee's first newsletter.

**Research:** The research subcommittee, under co-chair Paul Belella's leadership, coordinated the preparation of intermodal freight research statements in response to a request to develop a national freight research agenda. A1B05's research statements will be combined with research statements from other TRB freight committees and are expected to be discussed at a half-day National Freight Forum on Sunday, January 13, 2002, at the annual TRB meeting.

**Membership:** Subcommittee co-chair Jennifer Clinger prepared draft membership guidelines for consideration by committee members. The membership guidelines will be further discussed at the A1B05 business meeting on January 16, 2002.

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## Committee Member News

- On November 12, Mark Berndt, formerly Director of Freight Planning and Development at the Minnesota Department of Transportation, began working as Senior Freight Systems Planner for Wilbur Smith Associates in Minneapolis, MN. At Wilbur Smith, Mark's first project assignment is to assist with CVO/ITS elements of the I-10 National Freight Corridor Study. Mark will also be responsible for lending his freight expertise to other corridor and system planning activities, as well as marketing WSA transportation planning services in the Minnesota region.

- Leigh Boske, University of Texas at Austin, recently directed the development of a new book: *Maritime Transportation in Latin America and the Caribbean*. The book provides a comprehensive examination of the role maritime transportation and ports play in fostering international trade and economic development in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at UT Austin published the book as Policy Research Project Report Number 138; more information is available at the following website [http://www.utexas.edu/lbj/pubs/books/prp\\_138.html](http://www.utexas.edu/lbj/pubs/books/prp_138.html). The research was funded by the Organization of American States (OAS) and undertaken in cooperation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. This book is the companion edition to another OAS-funded research project: *Transportation in the Americas: Its Role in International Trade, Economic Integration and Sustainable Development*. Additional information can be found at <http://www.utexas.edu/lbj/pubs/books/transportation.html>. Finally, Leigh Boske and John Cuttino are the co-authors of *The Impacts of U.S.-Latin American Trade on the Southwest's Economy and Transportation System*. This book reviews current methods used to analyze the transport and economic impacts of trade (especially port economic impacts), and proposes a new method to measure cumulative economic impacts of freight flows along trade corridors. See [http://www.utexas.edu/lbj/pubs/books/us-latin\\_trans.html](http://www.utexas.edu/lbj/pubs/books/us-latin_trans.html).
- On November 26, Erin Flanigan became an Associate Vice President in the ITS Division at TransCore, where she will have responsibilities for the company's Midwest Region. Erin will be leading TransCore's efforts in the areas of ITS planning, design and implementation in the Midwest. Erin, based in Kansas City, Missouri, formerly was a Senior Associate for TranSystems Corporation.
- Jocelyn Jones, Baltimore Metropolitan Council, recently coordinated the completion of two consultant reports. The first report – “Changing Freight Transportation Requirements in the Baltimore Metropolitan Region” – summarizes results of consultant interviews of 14 companies in knowledge-intensive, technology-based, and “traditional” industries. The purpose of the survey was to gain information about the companies’ freight transportation requirements and how these needs are changing. The second report – “Freight Connectors Workshop and Field Views” – presents the results of a workshop where participants identified 45 potential small-scale improvements. MPO staff, freight stakeholders, and consultants performed field visits for projects at 13 sites to gain a first-hand understanding of potential problems. The information was used to establish a list of prioritized projects based on four weighted criteria. Projects with the highest ratings are likely candidates for future programming and implementation efforts. Both reports can be found at <http://www.baltometro.org> under “What’s New” or “Publications,” or by contacting Jocelyn at (410) 732-0500 Ext. 1049, or [jjones@baltometro.org](mailto:jjones@baltometro.org).
- Gerhardt Muller and Bill DeWitt have begun working on the 5th edition of *Intermodal Freight Transportation*, with a targeted publication date set for summer 2003. The new edition will be reorganized to follow a container from origin to final destination, and topics and issues will be cross-referenced between chapters.
- Bryan Stone, Stone Intermodal Consulting, participated in the EU-USA Forum in Intermodality in Genova, Italy, April 4-6, 2001. The 2001 forum was the fourth in a series of forums organized by the Eno Transportation Foundation, Inc. to discuss steps for improving intermodal freight transport between the EU and US. Among the topics discussed were capacity constraints, deregulation, e-commerce, electronic seals on intermodal units, environmental concerns, modal performance measures, and tracking and tracing of intermodal shipments. The next forum has provisionally been agreed for April 2002 in Jacksonville, Florida. Bryan, who is much involved in European rail deregulation, was recently in Hamburg, Germany for the annual European Intermodal Conference, where he chaired a leading edge session on recent entrepreneurial action, in the light of the new opportunities being created, to develop new intermodal applications.
- Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber has signed House Bill 3364 establishing a committee to advise the director of the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Oregon Transportation Commission on issues, policies, and programs that affect multimodal freight mobility. The committee replaces the

existing Oregon Freight Advisory Committee established in August 1998. Steve Kale, who has been providing technical support for the existing committee, is expected to continue serving in that capacity. For more information, see: <http://www.leg.state.or.us/01orlaws/0240.pdf>. Steve also has been updating ODOT's intermodal-freight Web site at: <http://www.odot.state.or.us/intermodal-freight/>.

- Jack Klodzinski and Haitham Al-Deek are currently working on phase 3 of an ongoing FDOT intermodal freight project at the University of Central Florida. Phase I examined the feasibility of identifying the number of trucks generated by vessel freight imports and exports at the Port of Miami in Florida. Phase 2 examined four more seaports (Port of Jacksonville, Palm Beach, Everglades, and Tampa) with the application of Artificial Neural Networks to model daily truck traffic using daily vessel freight data. Phase 3 develops highway networks utilized by trucks to transport freight in and out of the urban port areas. Port Canaveral has also been added to the study. The truck assignment is being modeled using both CORSIM and VISSIM simulation packages.

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## Committee Member Changes

Earlier this year, A1B05 welcomed the following people as new committee members —

- Peter Beaulieu, Manager, Freight Mobility, Puget Sound Regional Council, Seattle, WA
- Mark Berndt, Wilbur Smith Associates (formerly Director, Freight Planning and Development, Minnesota Department of Transportation), Minneapolis, MN
- Leigh Boske, Associate Dean, LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas, Austin, TX
- Patrick Casey, Director, Business Forecasting and Planning, TTX Company, Chicago, IL
- Kevin Chang, Project Engineer, King County Department of Transportation, Seattle, WA
- Ted Dahlburg, Manager, Urban Goods Program, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, Philadelphia, PA
- Jocelyn Jones, Senior Transportation Planner, Baltimore Metropolitan Council, Baltimore, MD
- Jack Klodzinski, Research Engineer, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL
- Rob Ritter, Director, Policy Activities, Eno Transportation Foundation, Washington, DC.

Jennifer Clinger is now the Committee's vice chair. Jennifer formerly was the committee secretary. Rob Ritter is the new committee secretary.

After a combined total of 40 years of involvement with A1B05, six committee members rotated off the committee. The contributions of the following individuals are very much appreciated: Harold Cerveny, Frank Harder, George List, James Roach, Nathan Smith, and Kimberly Witherow.

The committee now has 25 regular members, two international members, and two "under 30" members (see <http://www.wilbursmith.com/a1b05/people.cfm>).

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## New Topics for 2002 NCHRP Synthesis Program

January 31, 2002 is the deadline for submitting new topics for the FY 2002 National Cooperative Highway Research Program on "Synthesis of Highway Practice." Researchers for synthesis projects search out and synthesize useful knowledge and prepare reports on current practices in the subject areas of concern. The resulting product is a compendium of the best knowledge available on measures found to be successful in resolving specific problems. For each project, TRB establishes a panel to guide the researchers in organizing and evaluating the data collected and to review the synthesis report. Four A1B05 members—Ted Dahlburg, Jocelyn Jones, Steve Kale, and Charles Poltenson, Sr.--currently are serving on the panel for one of the synthesis projects in the 2001 program: "Freight Transportation As A Good Neighbor." For more information on the 2002 synthesis program, see <http://www4.nas.edu/trb/synthesis.nsf/Reference/NCHRP+Overview>. A form for submitting ideas for future synthesis projects is available at <http://www4.nas.edu/trb/synthrep.nsf/SynthesisStatement?OpenForm>.