



INSTITUTE FOR TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION STUDIES

PROMOTING REGIONAL AWARENESS FOR IMPROVING FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION

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NEWS UPDATE

October found ITTS doing many different things. As you noticed, ITTS is moving to the New Orleans Board of Trade. ITTS also provided assistance to Mississippi DOT on developing a series of videos on the importance of waterways to the State and some presentation assistance. ITTS continued its speaking engagements, including participating in an Industry Outlook Panel at the Journal of Commerce Breakbulk Conference and a separate presentation on the navigation closures and economic analysis at the Waterways Council meeting.

ITTS also made a presentation on port planning at the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). The group is considering developing a regional level port traffic forecast model, which may be of use to the ITTS because of the corresponding trade between the region and Latin America and the Caribbean. ITTS participated in a FHWA Talking Freight webinar on the Panama Canal expansion. Furthermore, ITTS has been working with the Memphis Conference. I hope to see you in January!

Freight in the Southeast – “Moving Our Region’s Business”

Working with the Tennessee Department of Transportation as the host state, and the University of Memphis, ITTS is organizing its first conference on freight movements in the Southeast. The meeting will be held on January 25-27, 2010 at the FedEx Institute of Technology on the University of Memphis campus.

Freight Transportation is important to promoting economic development and ensuring economic opportunities for the region’s future growth. The Southeastern U.S. has experienced significant growth in freight traffic. Regionally, the southeast has benefited from foreign direct investment, perceptions of business friendly environments, and access to relatively less congested transportation networks. The region is also very dependent upon exports to provide markets and jobs for its industries. The region is served by all the Class I railroads, the largest navigation system of the Nation (the Ohio, Mississippi and Tennessee river systems and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway), some of nation’s largest freight airports, but also with a highway system that links our markets to each other and the world. The SASHTO region (the current ITTS member states) has served as a leader in creating regional partnerships for planning and policy, going back to the LATTs study. Clearly corridor thinking will be more important in future policy discussions in the U.S.

There are new trends that could influence traffic patterns in the region. These include the expansion of the Panama Canal, changes in foreign investment in the region, the development of alternative fuels, trends in supply chains, and changing trade policies. Given the uncertain timing of the economic recovery, the region needs to continue to supporting of commercial freight movements to ensure commercial freight operations assist in the region’s long term economic growth. The conference seeks to inform participants about the underlying trends shaping the region’s major industries, and

Continued on page 3



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Lambert’s Lagniappe	2
What Is	2
ITTS Partner	4
Calendar	4



ITTS will be moving to a new office.

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The Institute for Trade and Transportation Studies provides research data and expert opinions to its Members concerning the effects of commercial freight movements on domestic and international activities, with reference to infrastructure and transportation needs, and safety implications.

The ITTS members include the Alabama Department of Transportation, the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, the Florida Department of Transportation, the Georgia Department of Transportation, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, the Mississippi Department of Transportation, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, the Puerto Rico Department of Transportation and Public Works, the South Carolina Department of Transportation, the Tennessee Department of Transportation, the Virginia Department of Transportation, and the West Virginia Department of Transportation.

Please share this newsletter with your friends and coworkers. Any comments, suggestions, or additions should be sent to Bruce Lambert at 540-455-9882 or bruce@ittsresearch.org.

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To subscribe, please visit the website:

www.ittsresearch.org

▶ LAMBERT'S LAGNIAPPE

*la-gniappe |lan'yap|:
something given as a bonus or extra gift.*

It's October, and the entire world is crazy. For sports, it's the middle of football season, or should I say, the middle of the question regarding a playoff series for football or the BCS in general. Here in Louisiana, the Saints possibility going to the Super Bowl is a leading story every day in the paper. For other sports, we are experiencing the hopes of a new season or the failures of the end of one. The World Series is going on. Basketball and hockey are also just starting their seasons.

In transportation, we are discussing what activities happened (or did not happen) during the Christmas shipping season and the timing of the economic recovery. The TIGER Grants have all been submitted, and everyone is hoping for progress on the reauthorization of the SAFETEA-LU or the highway bill. The ARRA funds have all been obligated, with some estimates regarding

how it generated jobs related to infrastructure spending.

It seems to be a time when everyone is waiting for something magical to happen, from the sports world to transportation. But despite the uncertainties of the economy and how our "team" is doing, there are some relationships that continue to exist. All of these things mentioned above require several things to happen. You have to have the right team, the right coach, the right objective, but mostly commitment (physically and financially.) The Stimulus program demonstrated that the transportation industry is ready to carry out the necessary investment in our roadways and waterways, if given the chance. In some ways, the teams are ready to play; they are only waiting for the officials to show up with the game ball and a whistle! ■

What is... Dwell Time

The old saying that time is money means everything in transportation. Transportation equipment mostly generates revenues when it is carrying or working cargo. However, there are reasons for the equipment to come to rest in a terminal or a facility. For example, a container will need to arrive at a terminal prior to a vessel sailing; the container may be held up due to customs or other inspection delays once it has been off loaded; or any of a thousand things (strikes, accidents, etc.). Dwell time refers to the time a container generally stays in a terminal, and serves as one indicator for the terminal's performance. This activities include such factors as crane productivity (if the cranes are slow, the cargo takes longer to get off the ship), yard and gate operations.

Normally, ports grant some "free" days for the cargo to move off the dock, as posted in the Port Tariff. (Each port establishes its own tariff based on port charges, space, etc.) If the cargo stays too long, the cargo may be charged demurrage (a storage fee) for taking up space. Demurrage rates are assessed as the stockpiling of containers can restrict a terminal's operation.

Despite terminal dwell time, the shipper will also consider the carrying costs of the cargo. This is the internal costs, such as financing and inventory costs, associated with a particular shipment. Any delays can add costs that the shipper must absorb. Thus dwell time is part of the considerations given by shippers in selecting various routes and ports, as managing time reflects the ability to mitigate risks and unforeseen costs. ■



Freight in the Southeast

Continued from cover

their associated needs regarding freight transportation for both domestic and international cargos. The conference will focus on both current and anticipated transportation needs based on these key regional industries.

Here is the tentative agenda but please visit the ittsresearch.org website for more information and updates. We are trying to arrange for some optional tours of regional freight terminals. Information on the registration and hotel information will be posted at ittsresearch.org. ■



Freight in the Southeast Conference – January 25-27, 2010 Preliminary Agenda

Monday, January 25th

1:30 – 2:00 Introductions and welcome

2:00 – 3:30 The Economic Situation and Logistics

Session Goal: The current economic crisis has been felt in the transportation sector, as volumes declined after peaking in early 2008. While volumes are below the unprecedented levels of a few years ago, transportation is one of the sectors being studied for signs in improvement in the economy. Recently, some stabilization of rates has occurred, while volumes have shown some slight recovery. The panelists will discuss their thoughts on the economy, especially the relationship of transportation, as a bellwether for future activity in the region.

3:45 – 5:00 The future of the Auto Industry in the Southeast and its Relationship to Transportation

Session Goal: The growth in the auto industry in the South has been one of the region's success stories. The ability to move materials into and from the plants is critical to their operations, as is the development of regional supply networks. Given the current malaise in the auto industry, the session will discuss how infrastructure decisions influence automotive operations and plant locations.

**7:00 – 10:00 ITTS Peer Exchange Dinner
(By invitation only)**

Tuesday, January 26

8:00 – 9:30 Foreign Investment in Southeast

Session Goal: The region received direct foreign investment based on its quality of life and business friendly attitude. Over the next few years, foreign investment will remain important, but the relationship of transportation needs of these firms will determine the attractiveness for various sites.

10:00 – 11:30 Latin American Review

Session Goal: Latin America remains a large market for many of the coastal states in the Southeast. The potential expansion of free trade agreements in the region (Colombia and Panama) and the surging Brazilian economy could indicate one area of

growth for the region. Furthermore, the U.S. already exports a large amount of agricultural materials to Cuba and the opening of the Cuba market may generate more trade (and transportation needs) in the region's highways, railroads, airports and maritime facilities.

1:00 – 2:30 The Transportation of Energy

Session Goal: The future direction of energy policy, shaped by discussions on climate change and "cap and trade" suggest possible changes to the energy sector in the Southeast and its resultant transportation needs. The Southeast is very reliant on coal for energy production. The use of alternative feedstocks (such biomass or cellulosic materials) could create opportunities for rural markets.

3:00 – 4:30 Serving the Energy Corridors

Session Goal: With the push to reduce emissions from trucks and other transportation modes, the implication on new strategies will be critical to meeting reduced emission goals. These solutions require states to also determine how to manage oversize and overweight corridors necessary to move wind turbines, and other heavy industrial pieces related to developing alternative energy sources.

Wednesday, January 27 (This is focused on State DOT's)

8:00 – 11:00 Freight Reauthorization

Session Goal: Discuss Reauthorization of the SAFETEA-LU, focusing on freight related proposals. By focusing on the corridors for goods movement, the session also hopes to discuss the implications for planning and program development.

11:00 – 11:30 Wrapup and Final Thoughts

**12:00 – 4:40 Freight Data and Modeling Workshop
(by invitation)**

Session Goal: Discuss research efforts on freight corridor model planning.

If you are interested in attending or serving as a non-financial sponsor, please contact Bruce Lambert at 540-455-9882 or bruce@ittsresearch.org.

▶ ITTS CALENDAR

This list highlights upcoming conferences related to transportation that may be of interest to the ITTS member region. For any corrections or suggestions, please contact Bruce Lambert at bruce@ittsresearch.org

November 2–4, 2009

The Global Soybean Transport Conference

For more information, please go to <http://events.soyatech.com/conference.php?cid=9>.

November 8–10, 2009

American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association 2009 Southern Region Meeting

Panama City Beach, Fla.
Contact: Kathy Cassidy at 202-628-4500 or kcassidy@aslrra.org
http://www.aslrra.org/meetings_seminars/Southern_Region_Meeting/

November 12th 2009

3rd Annual Freight Conference Registration - Public/Private Partnerships

Memphis, Tennessee
<http://www.memphis.edu/ifti/>

November 12–13, 2009

Transportation Research Board (TRB) Developing a Research Agenda for Transportation Infrastructure Preservation and Renewal
Washington, DC
<http://www.trb.org/calendar/>

November 14–18, 2009

102nd Annual Meeting & TransComp Exhibition

National Industrial Transportation League
Anaheim, California
For more information, <http://www.nitl.org/annual.htm>

November 15–19, 2009

National Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Safety Conference

New Orleans, Louisiana.
For more information, contact Jessica Franklin at 979-845-5817 or j-franklin@tamu.edu, or visit <http://tti.tamu.edu/conferences/rail09/>

November 16–18, 2009

Brownfields 2009 Conference

New Orleans, LA
<http://www.brownfieldsconference.org/en/index.aspx>

November 17–19, 2009

American Association of Port Authorities, Facilities Engineering Seminar & Expo

Charleston, S.C. Contact: The American Association of Port Authorities, 703-684-5700, info@aapa-ports.org or <http://www.aapa-ports.org>.

November 18–19, 2009

AASHTO Standing Committee on Water Transportation

Washington, D.C.
Contact Chris Smith at 202-624-5839 or CSmith@aashto.org

November 19–20, 2009

Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association 2009 Annual Conference

Savannah, GA
<http://www.atlintracoastal.org/>

December 2–4, 2009

The International WorkBoat Show

New Orleans, LA
<http://www.workboatshow.com> or call 800-454-3007.

December 13–15, 2009

2009 Transportation Policy and Finance Summit

The International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association (IBTTA)
For more information, please visit <http://www.ibtta.org/Events/eventdetail.cfm?ItemNumber=3855>

December 6–7, 2009

Smart Infrastructure Summit

Washington, DC
<http://www.acius.net/wiki.aspx/Conferences/Upcoming?view=overview&id=133> or
Contact Marc-Anthony Sénat at 312 780 0700 Ext: 220 or via email at manthony@acius.net.

January 10–14, 2010

TRB 89th Annual Meeting

Washington, DC
Contact: The Transportation Research Board <http://www.trb.org/meeting/2010/default.asp>

January 26–27, 2010

AAPA and Port of Tampa – Shifting International Trade Routes

Tampa Florida
<http://www.aapa-ports.org/Programs/seminarschedule.cfm?itemnumber=17153>

February 11–12, 2010

21st Annual Port Of Tampa Steel Conference

Tampa, Florida
<http://www.tampaport.com/News-Events-Calendar/Events/21st-Annual-Port-of-Tampa-Steel-Conference-February-11-12-2010>

February 21–24, 2010

RILA Logistics Conference

Orlando, Florida
<http://www.rila.org/events/conferences/Pages/Logistics.aspx>

February 28, March 04, 2010

AASHTO Washington Legislative Briefing 2010

Washington, DC
<http://www.transportation.org/meetings/246.aspx>

▶ ITTS PARTNER

ECLAC Division of Natural Resources and Infrastructure, Infrastructure and Transportation Unit

A part of the United Nations, ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean) focuses on the needs of its 44 member States and eight non-independent territories in the Caribbean. The Infrastructure and Transportation Unit supports the countries of the region by focusing on the management of services and infrastructure related to transportation. The Infrastructure and Transport Unit seeks to modernize the port sector in the region, by conducting analysis on shipping trends and port operations. ECLAC also studies urban transportation and trade facilitation activities related to infrastructure improvements. Recent meetings include discussions on integrated policies on infrastructure, transport and logistics, transport for Landlocked Countries, road safety, highways weights and dimensions, and transport and logistical systems in several countries throughout South and Central Americas, and the Caribbean.

Most of ITTS's work with ECLAC has centered on maritime transport. Recent ECLAC activities have focused on studying the implication of the current economic crisis on regional shipping patterns, rankings of container activity in the region, and meeting on developing regional port forecasts.

While the website is in Spanish, most of the materials are also available in English. For more information, please visit the website at <http://www.eclac.org/transporte>. Additionally, ECLAC has an important website for port and maritime information, bilingual, containing regional and global data, please visit this website at: <http://www.eclac.org/perfil>

