

VIII. GLOSSARY

Bottleneck - A section of a highway or rail network that experiences operational problems such as congestion. Bottlenecks may result from factors such as reduced roadway width or steep freeway grades that can slow trucks.

Box Car - An enclosed railcar, typically 40 or more feet long, used for packaged freight and some bulk commodities.

Carload - Quantity of freight (in tons) required to fill a railcar; amount normally required to qualify for a carload rate.

Carrier - A firm which transports goods or people via land, sea or air.

Chassis - A trailer-type device with wheels constructed to accommodate containers, which are lifted on and off.

Class 1 Railroad – Railroads with an operating revenue of at least \$277.7 million in 2003.

Classification Yard - A railroad terminal where railcars are grouped together to form train units.

Commodity - An Item that is traded in commerce. The term usually implies an undifferentiated product competing primarily on price and availability.

Container - A "box" typically ten to forty feet long, which is used primarily for ocean freight shipment. For travel to and from ports, containers are loaded onto truck chassis' or on railroad flatcars.

Container on Flatcar (COFC) - Containers resting on railway flatcars without a chassis underneath.

Double-stack - Railcar movement of containers stacked two high.

Drayage - Transporting of rail or ocean freight by truck to an intermediate or final destination; typically a charge for pickup/delivery of goods moving short distances (e.g., from marine terminal to warehouse).

Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) - The combined total weight of a vehicle and its freight.

Hazardous Material - A substance or material which the Department of Transportation has determined to be capable of posing a risk to health, safety, and property when stored or transported in commerce.

Hump Yard

Hub - A common connection point for devices in a network. Referenced for a transportation network as in "hub and spoke" which is common in the airline and trucking industry.

Intermodal – Transfer of freight by two or more modes of transportation. Examples are: ship-rail, rail-truck.

Intermodal terminal - A location where links between different transportation modes and networks connect. Using more than one mode of transportation in moving persons and goods.

For example, a shipment moved over 1000 miles could travel by truck for one portion of the trip, and then transfer to rail at a designated terminal.

Just-in-Time (JIT) - Cargo or components that must be at a destination at the exact time needed. The container or vehicle is the movable warehouse.

Less-Than-Container Load/Less-Than-Truck Load (LCL/LTL) - A container or trailer loaded with cargo from more than one shipper; loads that do not by themselves meet the container load or truckload requirements.

Lift – The process of moving a container or trailer to and from a rail car.

Line Haul - The movement of freight over the road/rail from origin terminal to destination terminal, usually over long distances.

Logistics - All activities involved in the management of product movement; delivering the right product from the right origin to the right destination, with the right quality and quantity, at the right schedule and price.

Piggyback - A rail/truck service. A shipper loads a highway trailer, and a carrier drives it to a rail terminal and loads it on a flatcar; the railroad moves the trailer-on-flatcar combination to the destination terminal, where the carrier offloads the trailer and delivers it to the consignee.

Port Authority - State or local government that owns, operates, or otherwise provides wharf, dock, and other terminal investments at ports.

Rail Siding – A very short branch off a main railway line with only one point leading onto it. Sidings are used to allow faster trains to pass slower ones or to conduct maintenance.

Regional Railroad - Railroad defined as line-haul railroad operating at least 350 miles of track and/or earns revenue between \$40 million and \$277.7 million.

Right-of-Way (ROW) –

Short Line Railroad - Freight railroads which are not Class I or Regional Railroads, that operate less than 350 miles of track and earn less than \$40 million.

Signalization System – Indicates the type of traffic control on line, similar to traffic signals on roadways. The type of signalization system is an indication of the capacity of the line. It is possible to reduce the number of mainline tracks within a rail ROW and increase its capacity by upgrading the signalization system.

Strategic Rail Corridor Network (STRACNET) - An interconnected and continuous rail line network consisting of over 36,000 miles of track serving over 140 defense installations.

Ton-mile - A measure of output for freight transportation; reflects weight of shipment and the distance it is hauled; a multiplication of tons hauled by the distance traveled.

Trailer on Flat Car (TOFC) - Transport of trailers with their loads on specially designed rail cars.

Transloading - Transferring bulk shipments from the vehicle/container of one mode to that of another at a terminal interchange point.

Truck Load (TL) - Quantity of freight required to fill a truck, or at a minimum, the amount required to qualify for a truckload rate.

Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) - The 8-foot by 8-foot by 20-foot intermodal container is used as a basic measure in many statistics and is the standard measure used for containerized cargo.

Unit Train - A train of a specified number of railcars handling a single commodity type which remain as a unit for a designated destination or until a change in routing is made.

Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT) - A unit to measure vehicle travel made by a private vehicle, such as an automobile, van, pickup truck, or motorcycle.