

RICKENBACKER INTERMODAL FACILITY

Updated: January 2010

WHAT IS IT, AND WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

In March 2008, Norfolk Southern's Rickenbacker Intermodal Facility opened in northern Pickaway County. This facility serves as the northern termini of Norfolk Southern's Heartland Corridor project, which will create a double-stack container route between the Port of Virginia and Columbus, Ohio. The Heartland Corridor is scheduled to open in the



third quarter of 2010. Currently, the Rickenbacker Intermodal Terminal occupies approximately 175 acres and has the capacity to handle more than 250,000 containers (lifts) annually. However, as the Heartland Corridor opens, and container volumes increase the facility has the capability to expand to 500,000 lifts per year.

CHALLENGES

Rickenbacker has posed a unique challenge to Ohio. As the success of Rickenbacker continues, so does the danger that it will become victim of its success by not investing for the future accordingly. Challenges exist to maintain the region's competitive advantage. Bottlenecks threaten the efficiency and productivity of this sector of our economy. A prime example of this is Alum Creek Drive. This road serves as the

only Intermodal Connector linking the Rickenbacker area with the Interstate System. Its interchange at I-270 was built as a rural interchange, and the first intersection heading to Rickenbacker is located within 500 feet of the interchange. The proximity of the interchange and intersection results in a hazardous and congested situation that was beginning to hinder development.

WHAT IS CENTRAL OHIO DOING ABOUT IT?

Central Ohio's public and private sectors have partnered in addressing critical infrastructure needs in the Rickenbacker area. This partnership allowed the community to quickly respond to the challenges exhibited by Alum Creek Drive. In 2008, the partners worked to collapse the project schedule to be more responsive to the areas needs, and to successfully pursue Ohio Bipartisan Job

Stimulus funding. Improvements to Alum Creek Drive/Groveport Road intersection, and the interchange at I-270 will begin in Summer 2010. Overcoming this challenge is a testament to the flexibility and responsiveness of the partnership throughout our community to act quickly to capture and capitalized on unique opportunities like the Rickenbacker Intermodal Facility.

Regional Benefits

Rickenbacker's high-speed international and multimodal logistics hub is a strategically planned cargo complex that serves several key business segments, including international airfreight, freight forwarding, corporate aviation, e-commerce fulfillment and distribution.

In the first ten years the facility will have save shippers over six hundred-sixty million dollars, reduce truck mileage in Ohio by 49 million miles, resulting in a significant emissions reduction. The long term impact of this development will be over 20,000 direct and indirect jobs created, and have a 15.1 billion dollar impact on the region.

