Wisconsin Central Group



An ad hoc Rail Freight Stakeholders Coalition

www.centralcorridors.com/wcg/

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Toward A Remote & Intermodal Terminal Network Strategy?

CN/WCG Intermodal Committee

1. Purpose: Consider how intermodal will contribute to:

- Long term goal, more sustainable, competitive density on CN/WC lines; and
- A 5-year, prioritized strategy moving toward the long term goal.

2. Intermodal lexicon:

- "Remote" 3/5 pack(s); scheduled days; blocks, balance; manifest service.
- "Terminal" (must optimize operations to overcome other challenges)
 - Min. 100 car intermodal trains; 5-7 days; blocks & balance; 10k' track(s);
 - In/out train and dray operations, minimum congestion, conflicts.

3. Full SC visibility & transparency, optimizing dray and train service?

- Project remote & terminal location network, shipper vol. & OD profiles?
- Tailor dray to network, flexibility to dray to match available OD blocks?
- Shortest dray to matching blocks?
 - Optimize dray trips per driver HOS, load/unload, avoid congestion?
 - But, hot load bypass direct to RR connections, Joliet & other gateways?
- Cut-offs, scheduling (fixed & real time) transparent to shipper, dray and RR?
- Sourcing railcars, chaises and containers? Constraints and compatibility?
- Potential role of shipper association model? RR membership/sponsorship?

4. Linked anchor shippers (OD blocks) foundation/build-up priority, e.g.:

- FRP, Park Falls; PCA, Tomahawk; Wausau Papers, Rhinelander?
- GBay GP, P&G, Shopko, Pinnacle, Schrieber, other survey identified?
- By area Minneapolis/Chippewa Falls; central WI; Fox Valley; etc.?
- Consider options for international/domestic together & reefers?
- Consider TOFC for closed loop, high vol. lane? Reefer interim solution?
- Nature of necessary shipper "commitment"?
- Intermodal emissions reduction, plus potential use of NGVs for drays?
 - Public-private funding for rail or ancillary equipment, facilities?
 - Payload & other incentives based on emissions/roadwear dividend?

5. RR routing:

- Manifest to/from intermodal trains, international/domestic?
- Efficiencies and opportunities afforded at crew change points?
- Blocks to/from key gateways, e.g. Memphis, CSX Northwest Ohio hub.

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