

February 9th, 2011

Hello –

This is an informal note on the practice of slow-steaming. For the business I am in, an increase to the transit time due to slow steaming does not have a negative impact on our shipments as long as the true transit time is accurately understood in advance.

We are not concerned with the average transit time as much as the standard deviation or variability of transit times on any given lane. If the variability in transit times is high, our supply chain suffers.

If slow steaming as a practice is allowed as long as carriers always slow steam on certain lanes and the real transit time is understood clearly by all parties, the practice should be allowed. Ocean transportation is slow transportation and usually not time sensitive any way. The real damage occurs with transit time variability.

You are welcome to contact me for any further information.

Thank you,

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