National Shipper Advisory Committee to Federal Maritime Commission (FMC)
Sub-Committee: Data & Visibility

Opening: Improve supply chain data visibility by defining required container intermodal data be published and accessible through web-based platforms, with historical chronology of intermodal container movements.

Recommendation: Require Rail Terminal Operators make intermodal data accessible online within 180 days, for all ocean containers moving on US railways.

To ensure real time transparency following minimum required data for ocean cargo moving through intermodal rail:
- Estimated railcar loading date
- Actual railcar loading date
- Estimated train departure date
- Actual train departure date
- Estimated train arrival date
- Actual train arrival date
- Estimated rail connection
- Actual rail connection
- Real time status at destination specific to container ground or on chassis
- Container available for pick up date and time
- Container last free container yard demurrage date
- Container last free equipment detention date
- Empty ingate return and container yard location
- Loaded container yard location

Failure of Rail Terminal Operators to provide time stamped chronological data of each ocean container movement in a timely manner should be considered an unreasonable practice.

To reduce data complexity and increase supply chain reliability, we, the unified National Shipper Advisory Committee, hereby recommend that the Federal Maritime Commission initiate rulemaking to define the required data sets Rail Terminal Operators must make available online, at the container level, for each of these movement milestones while the container is traveling on the US rail