

What is Intermodal?

Intermodal is the movement of cargo in shipping containers or trailers by more than one mode of transportation. Globally, 95% of all manufactured goods at one point are moved in a container.

The industry connects a number of freight stakeholders, including those listed below. At \$40 billion, the North American intermodal market is the largest in the world. It relies on a fleet of more than 700,000 chassis to move 34.5 million domestic and international containers traveling on its network.



Third-Party Logistics Providers

- **10,000+ 3PLs** manage logistics for shippers across North America.
- **6 MILLION intermodal shipments** are arranged by 3PLs annually.
- **\$11 BILLION in revenues** are generated annually by 3PLs managing U.S. intermodal.



Motor Carriers

- **7,000 trucking companies** deliver intermodal freight in North America.
- **60 MILLION intermodal drayage moves** are made annually.
- **400,000 drivers** are employed by U.S. drayage companies.



Railroads

- **10 North American carriers generate over \$20 billion** in revenue from intermodal.
- **17 MILLION intermodal loads** are moved by rail in the U.S. annually.
- **25 PERCENT of U.S. railroad revenues** come from intermodal freight.



Ocean Carriers

- **40+ steamship lines** call on North American ports to provide intermodal service.
- **17 MILLION TEUs** (twenty-foot equivalent units) is the container vessel capacity of carriers serving North America.
- **19,224 TEUs** can be carried on the largest containership today.



Container Ports

- **60 ports** handle containers in North America.
- **63 MILLION TEUs** are moved through North American ports annually.
- **1,000+ inland facilities** service intermodal freight.



Intermodal Association of North America

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v11.0

Benefits of Intermodal



Environmental Stewardship



Cargo Security



Cost-effective



Service Consistency



Visibility

Top commodities moved intermodally

Consumer goods

Electronics, toys, appliances, furniture, footwear, clothes and textiles.

Industrial and bulk goods

Chemicals, machinery, auto parts, engines, plastics and metals.

Agricultural goods

Grain, lumber, paper products, beverages, as well as refrigerated meats, seafood, fruits, vegetables and dairy products.

North American Intermodal Rail Network

