



Helping businesses export
goods to buyers and import
products from suppliers

International Trade and Logistics Initiative

The Challenge

International trade is a large and vital part of the Oregon economy. Oregon exporters and importers face increased challenges moving goods to and from global markets due to dynamic changes in the international maritime industry and the 2015 departure of Hanjin and Hapag-Lloyd container service from the Port of Portland's Terminal 6.

*"The movement of goods
in and out of Oregon is
essential to the state's
health now and in
the future."*

Governor Kate Brown

The Response

In April 2015, Governor Brown launched the International Trade and Logistics Initiative — to work with small- and medium-sized businesses across Oregon in an effort to problem-solve solutions to their trade related freight logistics challenges.

The International Trade and Logistics' Steering Committee engaged transportation and trade experts to conduct research on the economic impact of the loss container service on Oregon shippers, and reach out to the shipper community to develop answers to their respective needs and concerns. More than 300 people participated in eight community forums in Portland, Redmond, Hermiston, Ontario, Albany, Medford, Grand Ronde, and Wilsonville as part of the effort to put forward a comprehensive set of recommendations to help Oregon businesses and transportation providers. Legislative hearings held in mid-November provided another opportunity for shippers to make their concerns heard.

Collectively, the stakeholder engagement and analytical research generated a number of proposals to help Oregon shippers in the near-term, and catalyze long-term improvements to the state's transportation system. The transportation and business challenges provided the foundation for the recommendations grouped into the following four sets of actions, including some steps that have already been taken:

1. Resolution of Terminal 6 Labor-Management Issues and Restoration of Weekly Container Service.
2. Operational Enhancement and Actions to Improve the Existing Logistics System.
3. Strategic Investments in Freight Logistics to Sustain Service.
4. Policy Actions to Enhance Oregon Trade and Improve the Transport of Goods.

The recommended actions, coupled with current shipper support, are intended to help Oregon businesses that are facing increased transportation costs, longer transit times, reduced reliability, greater business risks, loss of markets and market share, and other business impacts. The goal is to help Oregon businesses move freight to markets and compete globally.

A report on the Initiative—along with the recommendations for action—is available online at:
www.oregontradesolutions.com/report/

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