# Terminal Productivity and Operations

PRESENTED TO
THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN PORT
AUTHORITIES
PORT ADMINISTRATION AND LEGAL ISSUES
SEMINAR, NEW ORLEANS



#### Disclaimer

THE OPINIONS REFLECTED IN THIS
PRESENTATION ARE THE AUTHOR'S ALONE
AND DO NOT REPRESENT THE POSITION OF
THE FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

#### INFORMATION YOU NEED

WHO?

WHAT?

WHERE?

WHEN?

WHY?

HOW?

# Who are your stakeholders?

**VESSEL OPERATORS** 

TERMINAL OPERATORS

LABOR

**TRUCKERS** 

IMPORTERS/EXPORTERS

INTERMEDIARIES

COMMUNITY

## What is the cargo?

WHAT TYPE OF CARGO?

**HOW MUCH?** 

DOES IT NEED SPECIAL TREATMENT?

IS IT LIKELY TO BE SUBJECT TO INSPECTION?

WHAT TYPE OF EQUIPMENT IS NEEDED?

WILL EQUIPMENT BE READY AND AVAILABLE?

# Where is it coming from or going to?

WHERE IS CARGO COMING FROM?

RAIL, TRUCK, BARGE?

WHERE IS IT GOING?

RAIL, TRUCK, BARGE?



# When is it coming or going?

**SEASONAL PEAKS** 

**MONTHLY PEAKS** 

WEEKLY PEAKS - VESSEL SCHEDULES, LFD

DAILY PEAKS - LABOR BREAKS; ON/OFF PEAK PRICING

**FORECASTS** 

# Why is it using this port?

NATURAL ADVANTAGES

SIZE OF LOCAL MARKET

SYSTEMS - INFRASTRUCTURE; INTERMODAL CONNECTIONS

**COSTS: TIME + EXTERNALITIES** 

# How is the cargo moving?

**VESSEL OPERATOR** 

**ALLIANCE** 

**TERMINAL** 

INTERMODAL CARRIER

# What is the FMC doing?

**REGIONAL PORT FORUMS** 

**CONGESTION STUDY** 

**CADRS** 

## **Shipping Act Prohibitions**

- UNDUE PREFERENCE OR PREJUDICE
- UNREASONABLE REFUSAL TO DEAL
  - UNFILED AGREEMENT

CASES TO WATCH:

K-LINE V. FMC (DC CIR.)

AUCTION BLOCK V. FMC (9<sup>TH</sup> CIR.)

MAHER V. FMC (DC CIR.)

# Office of Consumer Affairs & Dispute Resolution Services (CADRS)







#### Background: CADRS

- CADRS established as an <u>independent</u> <u>office</u> to provide:
  - Neutral and Confidential Forum
  - o Practical, Real Time Solutions to Problems
  - o Cost Savings
  - o Enhanced Business Relationships
  - o Experienced Neutrals with Industry Knowledge
- The Commission has encouraged the expansive use of CADRS' services to resolve industry-wide problems and disputes



#### Services Provided by CADRS

- Education and Outreach
- <u>ADR</u>: Voluntary, informal processes implemented to resolve conflict outside of a courtroom using a third party neutral. CADRS provides the following types of ADR services:
  - o Ombuds and Rapid Response
  - o Facilitation
  - Mediation
  - o Binding Arbitration



#### Securing Assistance from CADRS

- Request for assistance before or after onset of dispute
  - Ombuds/complaints hotline
  - Mediation in docketed FMC proceedings
- Service Contract Dispute Resolution Clauses:
  - o Mediation-Binding Arbitration
  - Mediation-Litigation



#### Benefits of Using CADRS to Resolve Disputes

- No cost for services provided by CADRS Staff
- Confidential
- Neutral
- Experienced transportation neutrals
- Preserve business relationships
- Control over outcome
- Practical collaborative solutions
- Quick Resolution
- Parties likely to follow through on agreement



#### EXAMPLES OF CADRS ADR ISSUES

- Disputes related to non-payment (multiple NVOCCs)
- Expenses caused by delays at terminal/vessel bunching/scheduling/CBP
- Maritime liens for past due amounts
- Multiple house bills of lading
- Cargo not allowed entry into export destination;
   resulting efforts to divert/return/abandon cargo
- Abandonment of cargo to mitigate damages



# Examples of Typical Problems Handled By CADRS

- Household Goods non-delivery; additional charges
- Rates and Surcharges applicability
- Service Contract Disputes
- Tariff Disputes
- Phantom Bookings and Rolled Cargo/cancelled calls
- Delays Equipment Unavailability/Gate Congestion
- Cargo Loss or Damage
- Demurrage and Detention
- Fees and Delays Related to Inspections/Exams



#### Obtaining Assistance from CADRS

#### Helpful Information:

- o Contact information for all parties to dispute
- o Brief description of the problem or dispute
- Relevant documentation

#### CADRS Contact Information:

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(202) 523-5807 (local)
(866) 448-9586 (toll free)
(202) 275-0059 (fax)
complaints@fmc.gov
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#### Thank You!

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