APPENDIX A - RAILROAD TERMINOLOGY

Abandonment	The permanent ceasing of operations on a track, route, or service
Alignment	The geographical line upon which a route, or a specific track, is centered
Automatic Block System	A system of traffic control where the presence of a train completes a circuit between the rails that causes the signal to indicate its presence to a following train.
Break Bulk	The unloading and distribution of a portion or all of the contents of a ship, rail car or truck.
Block Signals	Traffic signals that govern the movement of trains so that a safe distance between them is maintained.
Class 1 Track	The speed limit is 10 mph for freight trains, and 15 mph for passenger trains. See **Track Classes.**
Class 2 Track	The speed limit is 25 mph for freight trains, and 30 mph for passenger trains. See **Track Classes.**
COFC	Container-on-flat-car; intermodal service where only the "box" is carried on a rail car. The bogie (wheel set), and in some cases the chassis is left behind.
Common Carrier	An entity held out to the general public to transport property and/or passengers for compensation in intrastate, interstate or foreign commerce, with varying degrees of regulation, in accordance with the Interstate Commerce Act, as amended.
Covered Hopper	A rail car that carries bulk commodities in one or more closed compartments, to protect them from moisture and other forms of contamination
Direct Train Control	A traffic control procedure wherein trains are operated in accordance with instructions, usually in writing, that are received directly from a dispatcher
Double-Stack Freight Service	The transport of two intermodal containers, one atop the other, on one platform of an intermodal rail flatcar. A vertical clearance of 20'6" is normally required for two high cube containers.
Drayage	Pick-up or delivery by truck to or from a rail intermodal terminal
Excepted Track	A track of less than Class 1 standards where limited operations are permitted. Speed must not exceed 10 mph, revenue passenger operations are prohibited, and no train may contain more than 5 cars placarded for Hazardous Materials. See **Track Classes.**
Haulage Rights	Rights granted by one railroad to another to provide for the movement of the tenant's cars in the grantor's trains, usually for a fee (see **Trackage Rights**)
Hazardous Materials	Substances or materials that the U.S. Secretary of Transportation has determined are capable of posing an unreasonable risk to human health, safety, and property when transported in commerce, as designated under 49 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 172 and 173.
Interchange	The physical point and contractual agreement by which two or more railroads connect for the purpose of exchanging freight traffic.
Interlocking	An arrangement of switch, lock, and signal devices located where railroad tracks cross, join, or separate. The devices are interconnected so that their movements must succeed each other in a predetermined order, thereby preventing conflicting movements.
Intermodal Facility	A paved or unpaved site consisting of tracks, lifting equipment, and a control point for the receiving and dispatching of trailers and containers between rail and highway, or between rail and marine modes of transportation.
Just-In-Time (JIT)	An element of a manufacturing or production process in which the inventory and materials handling of components is minimized by means of relying on the carefully scheduled arrival of components from suppliers.
Lighter	A flat-bottom boat designed for cross-harbor or inland waterway freight transfer.
LTL (Less-Than-Truckload-Lot)	Shipments weighing less than the truckload minimum which normally require truck terminal trans-loading prior to and following the line haul segment.
O-D Pair	A reference to the terminals where a given shipment originates and is destined

Rationalization	The process of sizing a rail network to meet changed demands for service.
RoadRailer®	A manufacturer's patented technology for dual mode rail-highway trailers that can be coupled for rail movement without utilizing a standard railcar, but rather are coupled together with two-axle rail wheel sets. See Triple Crown Services.
Roll-On/Roll-Off (Ro/Ro)	A feature designed in a specially constructed vessel that allows cargo to be loaded and unloaded through doors in the vessel's hull. This feature allows cargo to be rolled in and out of the vessel.
Route Miles	The length of the route, or routes, regardless of the number of parallel tracks.
Through Train	A train operating between principal terminals or yards, usually with few stops to set off, pick up, or switch freight cars.
TOFC	Trailer-on-flat-car; intermodal service, commonly known as "piggyback," where the entire trailer, including the bogie (wheel set), is carried on a rail car.
TOFC Trailer	A highway trailer with a reinforced frame to permit lifting from the bottom without structural damage. Conventional highway trailers cannot withstand such lifting without damage.
Ton-Mile	Basically, one ton transported a distance of one mile. The standard measure of output for freight transportation, reflecting the collective weight of shipments and the distance they are hauled.
Track Classes	Ratings of track condition in accordance with Federal Track Safety Standards. See **Class 1, Class 2,** and **Excepted track**
Track Miles	The collective length of all of the tracks on a route, or routes.
Trackage Rights	Rights granted by one railroad to another to operate on the former, usually for a fee, usually with the tenant's crews and locomotives, and usually without rights to serve customers along the line (see **Haulage Rights**)
Traffic Control System	A signaling system where a dispatcher at a remote location controls signals and switches, and the routing of trains.
Tri-Level Rail Car	A flatcar with a superstructure supporting two decks above the deck of the car, used for transporting motor vehicles, normally between 12 and 15 vehicles per railcar.
Triple Crown Services	Advanced truckload services, mainly utilizing RoadRailer® equipment. When in truck mode, RoadRailers® operate on regional highways; when in rail mode, RoadRailers® operate principally via Norfolk Southern lines.
Truckload Lot (TL)	The quantity of freight necessary to qualify for a TL rate, normally in excess of 10,000 lbs.. Truckload operations normally permit the bypassing of intermediate terminals.
Unit Train	A train consisting entirely of one commodity, or of containers/trailers, that bypasses intermediate switching yards between origin and destination
Yard (Freight)	Trackage within a specified area used for storing cars, or for making up trains.