

A photograph of a boat's wake on a body of water, with the text overlaid. The water is a deep blue-grey color, and the wake is a bright white foam. The boat's hull is visible on the left side of the frame.

Thoughts on the Future of the Inland Waterway System

Bruce Lambert

Presentation at the Arkansas Governor's Conference on
Waterborne Transportation

Oct 5, 2010

What Is ITTS?

- Evolved from LATTs Studies
- 12 State Departments of Transportation
 - Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia, Virginia
- “Forward Thinking” on freight planning and policy needs

Outline

The background of the slide features a light gray globe with a grid of latitude and longitude lines. Overlaid on the globe is a stylized compass rose with four large, light gray directional markers pointing towards the cardinal directions.

- The Waterway Message
- Thoughts Going Forward

The waterway message?

- We can handle more, greener
- We have no money
- Who is our audience?
 - Shippers
 - State and Local planners
 - Politicians

The Shipper

- Demands low-cost, reliable service
- Mode and geographically neutrality
- Wants “just in time” services – does not want or care about your “problems” (carrier or infrastructure)



Closures Cost Money!

NETS (IWR-USACE)

- Greenup 2003 Closure (52 days)- \$42 Million
- Hannibal Locks 2005 Closure (5 days)-\$5 Million
- Lock 27 Closures
 - (August 2007)-\$3.9 Million
 - (Oct 2005-Feb 2006)- \$2.7 Million
- McAlpine (August 2004)-\$6.3 million
- 2008 Flooding in Upper Miss?

GLOBAL Insight – Upper Miss 90 Day Closure

- \$118.6 million for Waterway freight
- \$482.8 million by rail
- \$1.50 billion by truck

State and Local Planners?

GOOD

Homepage | GOOD Video | GOOD Blog

THE STREET OF THE FUTURE IS A LIVABLE STREET

by CARLY CLARK and AARON NAPARSTEK

BEFORE AFTER NOW WHAT?



See any trucks, railcars, barges or planes?

Other Recent Studies Crossing Non-Traditional Boundaries

- Black Warrior Tenn-Tom Waterway System
- Minnesota Bridge Collapse
- Business Realignment Estimates - FHWA
- (NCHRP) Report 586: Rail Freight Solutions to Roadway Congestion
- Lock and Dam Closures
 - Chickamauga Locks
 - Emsworth, Dashields, and Montgomery
- Marine Highway Program

The Political Debate?

- National or Local?
- Equity or Efficiency?
- Are waterways pork?
- Are they worth political risk-exposure?
- What is my relationship to the water?



How much will an improved freight system cost?

- ASCE 2005 (first issued in 1988)
- AASTHO Freight Bottom Line
- Chamber of Commerce on Port Needs
- FHWA – Condition and Needs for Highways
- USACE – IWR – Dredging Needs Studies

- No consistent National Investment Model
 - various numbers, forecasts, etc., distort message
 - who blinks first and “loses”

Can We Help People Make Better Decisions?



Sometimes this is what it feels like...

Technology Can Help Promote the Waterway Industry

- Demonstrate Economic Importance
- Demonstrate Waterways Reliability
- Improve Safety and Emergency Response
- Equipment management
- Use Better Information to Manage and Gauge System effects of closures

PIANC?

- World Association for Waterborne Transport Infrastructure
- USACE – National Section
- INCOM, MARCOM, RECOM, ENVICOM, YPCOM

Objectives of WG32

- Intermodal applicability
- Comparability with other transport modes
- Performance measurement system appropriate for all kind of inland waterways
- Standardized approach (reference model)
- Internationally accepted and applied guidelines
- Standard reference document used by national administrations

Performance Indicators Categories

- A.1. Infrastructure
- A.2. Ports
- A.3. Environment
- A.4. Fleet and Vehicles
- A.5. Cargo and Passengers
- A.6. Information and Communication
- A.7. Economic Development
- A.8. Safety
- A.9. Security

Smarterivers

The background features a light blue and white color scheme. A faint, stylized globe with latitude and longitude lines is centered. Overlaid on the globe is a large, semi-transparent compass rose with four points. Additionally, there are several abstract, light blue geometric shapes, including triangles and a circle, scattered across the scene.

- New Orleans, LA
- Sept 13-16, 2011
- Call for abstracts out now
- Previous locations -Pittsburgh, Brussels, Louisville, Vienna

Freight In the Southeast Conference, February 9-11, 2011



Thank you

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