

The Intermodal Founding Fathers Oral History Program will preserve the rich history of the intermodal freight transportation industry for posterity, research, and educational purposes.

Oral History Guide

Intermodal Transportation Institute

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Oral History Program

The Intermodal Founding Fathers Oral History Program aims to preserve the rich history of the intermodal freight transportation industry for posterity, research, and educational purposes. During the last 50 years, revolutionary changes have impacted the movement of freight and precipitated a restructuring of North America's freight transportation system.

The University of Denver Intermodal Transportation Institute (ITI) and its Board of Directors hosted the Intermodal Founding Fathers of North America Conference July 27-29, 1999. This historic conference provided the backdrop for more than 40 industry pioneers to be interviewed as a part of this important oral history program. This was a "not to be missed" opportunity to record the history of the intermodal freight movement in the words of those who created it.

The Intermodal Founding Fathers Oral History Program strives to create a unique record of the legacy of these trailblazing industry leaders who have had such a significant impact on today's transportation system. The project has lasting value to the transportation industry, students, and scholars by providing the opportunity to view and read about the wisdom and vision of those early pioneers, stated in their own words. The timeliness of this project highlights the importance of preserving historical records and materials to ensure that those who wish to may study history and hopefully not "be doomed to repeat it."

The Intermodal Founding Fathers Oral History Program began with the Intermodal Founding Fathers of North America Conference; however, it is a separate project that requires its own funding. The Intermodal Transportation Institute sought to raise \$1 million to support this project. There are three reasons the Intermodal Transportation Institute opted to take the lead on this project to record and preserve the history of this industry.

First, the Intermodal Transportation Institute was established in order to educate the next generation(s) of transportation leaders. To that end, it has developed an innovative, 12-month Master of Science in Intermodal Transportation Management program, which began on August 23, 1999. This graduate program is unique and focuses on developing and operating intermodal systems — both freight and passenger. It is truly an interdisciplinary program with a broader focus than the traditional fields of logistics, business, or engineering. This rigorous graduate program requires commensurate educational materials. Since there are few materials available, the Intermodal Transportation Institute seeks to collect the primary source material directly from the founders of the industry.

Second, several intermodal pioneers have already passed on. Others cannot remember their experiences as well as they might have even a few years ago. Literally every day, the rich and unique heritage of this industry is being lost. And finally, the Intermodal Transportation Institute seeks to preserve this historical record because there is no other effort underway.

The Intermodal Transportation Institute is committed to promoting an intermodal transportation system through its education programs and research projects. In addition to recognizing the necessity to gather and preserve the historical record of the intermodal founding fathers, the Intermodal Transportation Institute, in collaboration with the National Freight Transportation Library, Inc., is already preserving historically significant

transportation collections, such as the 60,000 volume historical library of the former Interstate Commerce Commission and the 3,500-volume US Railway Association collection.

The oral history project initially consisted of video and audiotaped interviews of the more than 40 individuals who attended the conference who contributed to the development of the intermodal freight system. Trained professionals, with a background in human relations and history will conduct the interviews. The interviews will be edited, transcribed, and preserved in the Intermodal Transportation Institute Transportation Library Collections, which are managed and maintained by the Anderson Academic Commons at the University of Denver.

Following the completion of the interviews, the oral history project proceeded in phases. Initially, the project focused on the material acquired at the Intermodal Founding Fathers of North America Conference.

In Phase One, the material was transcribed, archived, and preserved in the Anderson Academic Commons. Subsequently, the transcribed and annotated interviews were placed on the ITI Website for public access (www.du.edu/transportation). The interviews were made available in 2000. In addition, the Proceedings of the Intermodal Founding Fathers of North America Conference was published in the Summer 2000 issue of the Transportation Law Journal. The audio and videotapes of these industry pioneers are now on deposit in the Intermodal Transportation Institute's Intermodal Oral History Program Collection at the Anderson Academic Commons at the University of Denver.

Phase Two will consist of the development of educational materials, including textbooks, articles, and films. The original videos will be condensed into a 50-minute video summary of the history of the intermodal freight industry. The development of a two- to three-hour film that describes the history in more detail will follow. Textbooks, case studies, and other written materials will also be developed.

Subsequent phases will expand the scope of oral history interviews. Altogether, the Intermodal Transportation Institute would like to interview 200 industry leaders. This oral history collection will be available to other researchers and scholars with legitimate historical or educational objectives. It will also be available to the industry.

Intermodal Founding Father Oral History Program

Patrick Sherry - *Project Coordinator*

Steven Fisher - *Archives Curator*

Lawrence H Kaufman - *Industry Consultant*

Intermodal Transportation Institute Oral Historians

Equipment

Gretchen Diem

Kay Drucker

Maritime

Michael Ferrier

Andrea Petzel

Early Customers

Rayna Godfrey

Lauri Korinek

Railroad Operationals

Jane Bucher-McCoy

Kristen Kofoed

Vanessa Rollins

Motor Carrier

Jason Prinster

Greg Schlosser

Tomoko Yamazaki

Early Developers

Anne Hamilton-Baker

Carolyn Quayle

Terminals

Rick Ginsberg

Shannon Huebert

Railroad Commercial

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Honorary Fellows

Kim Cragg Campbell

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Selecto-Flash, Inc., and IDCS

Thrall Car Manufacturing Company

Oral History Friend

American Steel Foundries

Comtrak Logistics

MOL Intermodal, Inc.

Union Pacific Railroad Company

Fellows

The following distinguished intermodal freight industry leaders are Honorary Fellows of the Intermodal Transportation Institute (ITI). They accepted the invitation to become ITI Honorary Fellows and participate in the Intermodal Founding Fathers Oral History Program, which began with the Intermodal Founding Fathers of North America Conference on 27-29 July 1999 in Snowmass Village at Aspen. Most were able to attend the conference and be interviewed.

Allen, John C.

Ascencio, Raymond F.

Bentz, Brooks A.

Boone, Fredrick E.

Bruns, Michael J.

Buford, Curtis D.

Connors, Charles T.

Cunningham, James G.

DeBoer, David J.

Frey, Edward W.

Gellman, Aaron J.

Gimpel, Nolan R.

Gray, John J.

Greenwood, William E.

Haverty, Michael R.

Hayes, Roy L.

Howard, F.H.

Hubbard, William B.

Hunt, J.B.

Ingram, Robert S.

Kaye, Charles F.

Keller, Peter I.

Lake, Tim, Sr.

Lanigan, John J. (Jack), Sr.

Lawless, Ronald E.

Logan, Henry V. (Hank)

Lowman, George

Maisch, Robert H., Sr.

Matney, R. C.

Miller, Gordon C.

Nieman, Stephen C.

O'Neal, A. Daniel

Orris, Donald C.

Passa, Lester M.

Randall, Hugh L.

Richter, Frank

Schultz, Charles L. (Chuck)

Seehaver, J. Paul

Shattuck, Jim

Shea, Walter

Sheer, Maury S.

Short, Reginald B.

Snow, John W.

Steiner, Richard H.

Sze, Andy Hok Fan

Tendler, Marty

Tuchman, Martin

Valentine, D.P. (Dave)

Volkers, Gordon A.

Welch, Nat

Wykle, Kenneth R.

Yeager, Phillip C.

The audio and videotapes of these intermodal industry pioneers are on deposit in the ITI Intermodal Oral History Program Collection at the Anderson Academic Commons, University of Denver.