



MarTREC UTC Project Information Form
 USDOT Tier 1 University Transportation Center
 Agency ID or Contract Number 69A3551747130

Project Title: The Changing Legal Landscape of Intermodalism
Project Abstract (Brief Description): This project investigates the ongoing legal challenges surrounding chassis. In 2020, Intermodal Motor Carriers Conference (IMCC) of American Trucking Associations and the Ocean Carriers Equipment Management Association (OCEMA) were involved in negotiations to resolve what IMCC charged were high-priced and inferior quality chassis at many of the nation’s ports. IMCC alleges that OCEMA and 11 international ocean carriers violated the Shipping Act of 1984 by inflating intermodal chassis prices at dozens of ports. IMCC said this has cost the trucking industry \$1.8 billion over the past three years. IMCC filed a lawsuit with the Federal Maritime Commission’s (FMC) judicial division. On January 29, 2021, the Federal Maritime Commission judge, Judge Erin Wirth, overseeing the \$1.8 billion case rejected OCEMA’s appeal to have the case stayed. Additionally, United States International Trade Commission and the US Chamber of Commerce have ongoing anti-dumping investigations about chassis and subassemblies from China (particularly CMIC). Intellectual Merit: Chassis are considered the linchpin of the intermodal system. Legal challenges at a variety of federal agencies could fundamentally alter the dynamics of intermodalism and the associated supply chains that rely upon it.
Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented) - Place any photos here <i>To be determined upon conclusion of the project:</i>
Impacts/Benefits of Implementation (actual, not anticipated) <i>To be determined upon conclusion of the project:</i> The economic loss associated with chassis mismanagement in the United States is in the billions of dollars. Helping the maritime, drayage and terminal operators understand the changing environment in which chassis must legally operate will be essential to avoid disruptions in the transportation system and domestic supply chains
Web Links: martrec.uark.edu
Budget (Funding) Amounts & Source(s) (US DOT +Match(s) =Total Costs): MarTREC \$69,771.44 + UNO \$34,788.00=\$104,559.44
Project Start and End Dates: 07/01/21-09/30/23. Complete
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Principal Investigator Institution (University): University of New Orleans