

# FREIGHT MARKET PERSPECTIVE

**Change is the Only Constant** 

1H 2016



@CARRIERDIRECT



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# OUR METHODS FOR RESULTS

By merging a leading practitioner knowledge base with tested consulting methods, we partner with our clients to create and implement world-class strategy and operational solutions for substantial and lasting impact









# CARRIERDIRECT CLIENTS

CarrierDirect is a trusted partner of large, industry-leading companies and young, disruptive platforms alike. The most common theme among all of our clients is a driving desire to out perform their competitors



































## COMMENTS FROM CARRIERDIRECT

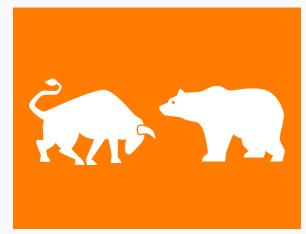
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## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**







II. FREIGHT BULLS AND FREIGHT BEARS



III. WINNING THE FREIGHT FIGHT

## **CHANGE IS THE ONLY CONSTANT**





## MAJOR ECONOMIC INDICATORS

The economy is generating an unsettling mix of positive factors (GDP growth, retail sales growth, exchange rates) and negative factors (price of oil, labor force participation rate), nodding to excessive uncertainty in the marketplace



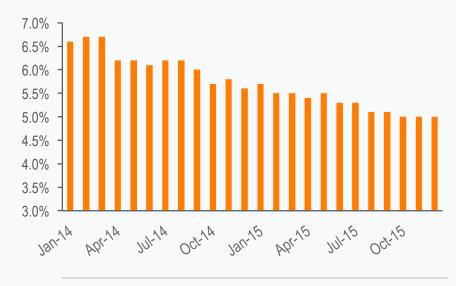
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, American Trucking Association, Energy Information Administration, Bloomberg, The World Bank, Bureau of Economic Research, MasterCard



## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

The unemployment rate, which measures the percentage of civilians in the labor force that are not employed, is a positive indicator for the economy, highlighting that people looking for jobs are frequently able to find them

- Though unchanged for 3 months, unemployment has steadily decreased since the Great Recession
- Low unemployment is a good indicator, but fewer people are in the job market



12-month percent change Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics



## **EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX**

The employment cost index increased in 2015, helping to prop up consumer confidence while simultaneously heightening concerns of upcoming inflation, which may lead to increase lending costs for businesses

- Non-seasonally adjusted compensation costs up 1.7%
- Wage growth points to a better economy, while also increasing the prospects of upcoming inflation



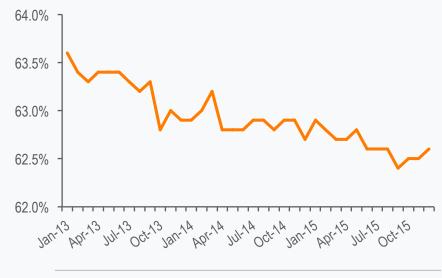
Service providing industries, 12-month percent change Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics



## LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

The alarming labor force participation rate is lower than ever (this year marked a 38 year low), though it's buoyed by positive employment costs, steady unemployment rates and a multi-year high of manufacturing output per hour

- The decline is compounded by both retiring baby boomers and educationseeking Millennials
- 2015 set the 38-year record low for the labor force participation rate



12-month percent change Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics

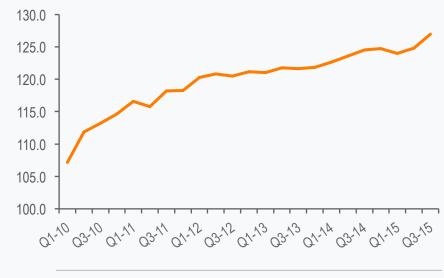


## LABOR PRODUCTIVITY INDEX

While fewer people are participating in the economy (labor force participation rate on page 9), businesses are benefitting from greater productivity and that labor force participants tend to be the better performers across the population

#### **Durable Goods**

- Labor productivity is at an all time high of 126.9
- Manufacturers need less workers, helping to offset the 4-decade low labor force participation rate

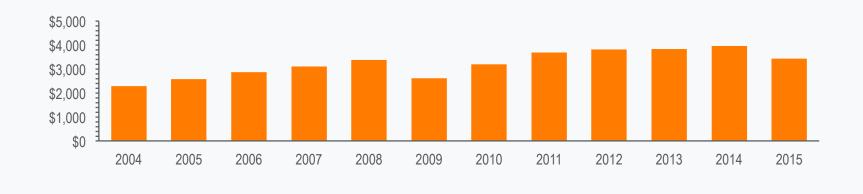


Base year = 2009, index base = 100 Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics



## TOTAL US ANNUAL TRADE

Adding to the negative indicators in the global and domestic economy, US trade in goods decreased in 2015, as many of our trade partners cope with challenging economic conditions

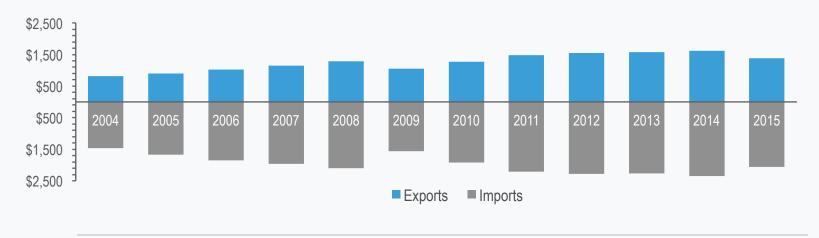


Figures in millions of USD, represents goods only Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis



### TOTAL US IMPORT AND EXPORT

Despite the positive impact that lower imports had on GDP, it also meant less freight for transportation companies to haul, which limited 2015's tonnage growth and potentially highlighted a spending-habit shift as Millennials amass more wealth



Figures in millions of USD, represents goods only Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis



## TOP US TRADE PARTNERS

Illuminating past changes in international trade markets, China's rise to the largest US trade partner was ushered by favorable Chinese economic conditions that no longer persist, ripening the opportunity for further disruption

2015





Total Trade: \$530.6 Gross Imports: \$271.6 Gross Exports: \$259.0



Total Trade: \$489.4 Gross Imports: \$271.6 Gross Exports: \$217.8



Total Trade: \$177.5 Gross Imports: \$119.8 Gross Exports: \$57.7



Total Trade: \$159.3 Gross Imports: \$113.4 Gross Exports: \$45.9 2005



Total Trade: \$456.3 Gross Imports: \$262.3 Gross Exports: \$194.0



Total Trade: \$265.6 Gross Imports: \$155.7 Gross Exports: \$109.8



Total Trade: \$260.6
Gross Imports: \$222.9
Gross Exports: \$37.6



Total Trade: \$176.8 Gross Imports: \$126.4 Gross Exports: \$50.5



Total Trade: \$108.4 Gross Imports: \$77.3 Gross Exports: \$31.1

Figures in Billions of USD, excludes 12/2005 data for contrast purposes, 12/2015 not yet available

VS



## **GLOBAL GDP GROWTH**

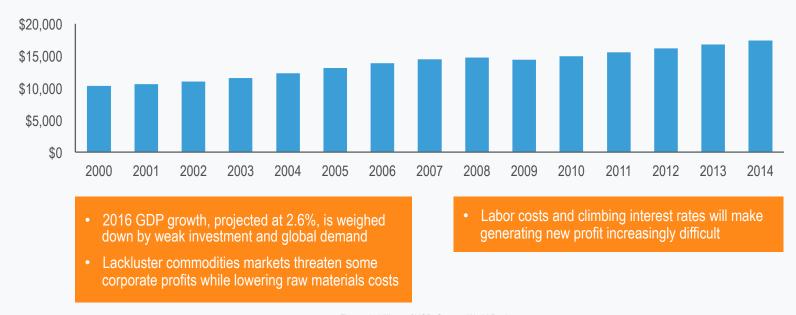
Modest projected domestic growth due to stable domestic demand, coupled with weak international investment and a broad range of business and policy issues help to set the international economic stage for an uninspiring 2016





## **US GDP GROWTH**

Despite modest international demand, 2016 domestic GDP is projected to increase at 2.6%, which is held afloat by improved consumer confidence, higher wages for workers and (potentially) lower energy costs





### **BRENT & WTI SPOT PRICES**

While the consumer benefits (for now) from lower oil prices, many US corporations and foreign countries lose revenue and profit, leading to widespread speculation of what the future holds for our economy

#### **Global Impact of Depressed Oil Prices**

- Weak global demand and surging US production catalyzed the abrupt, massive drop in oil prices, despite our limited reliance on foreign oil
- While consumers are paying less, motor carriers and petroleum exporting countries with emerging economies have experienced decreased revenues
- To help revenue and the Ruble, Russia hiked interest rates to 17%; the World Bank warned their economy would drop by at least 0.7% if oil doesn't recover
- Venezuela, already facing 60% inflation, continues to lose \$12.5B annually to subsidize high gasoline costs in an effort to avoid riots akin to those in 1989

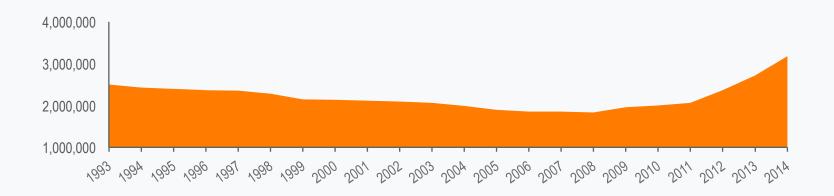


Source: Energy Information Administration, Bloomberg



## ANNUAL US OIL PRODUCTION

Increased US oil production and weak international demand for petroleum were the primary reasons for the massive glut in oil prices, which is believed to persist through 2016, unless demand for the fossil fuel can rebound



Figures in thousands of barrels Source: Energy Information Administration, Bloomberg



## **US PETROLEUM IMPORTS**

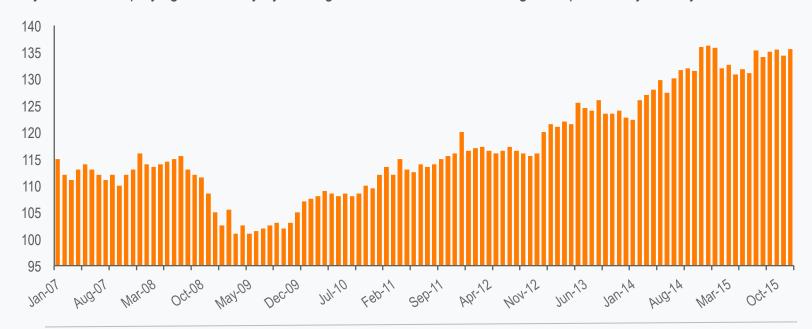
As the consumer benefits (for now) from lower oil prices, many US corporations and foreign countries lose revenue and profit, leading to widespread speculation of what the future holds for our economy





## ATA TRUCK TONNAGE INDEX

The seasonally adjusted ATA Truck Tonnage Index ended 2015 2.6% above 2014, which bodes well for 2016, though many truckers are playing defensively by making the decision to curtail fleet growth plans early in the year



Figures represent the seasonally adjusted index, Source: American Trucking Association, Federal Reserve, ISM



## COMPOSITE PURCHASING MANAGERS' INDEX

The Purchasing Managers' Index ended 2015 at 48.2, indicating either future economic stabilization or a slight deterioration, further compounding truckers' fears that the manufacturing slowdown will persist as 2016 unfolds



Figures represent the seasonally adjusted index, Source: American Trucking Association, Federal Reserve, ISM



## MILLENNIAL EMPLOYEES

Further peppering the competitive landscape with obstacles, the surge of Millennial employees and consumers poses a threat to transportation companies unable to adapt to consumer demands and hiring requirements for new talent

Source: Chris Saynor, CISCO, Intelligent Group Study, PWC

#### **How Millennials Prioritize Benefits:**

- 1. Training and Development
- 2. Flexible Work Hours
- Cash Bonuses

**"56**%

The percentage of Millennial who won't work at a company if they ban social media access

of Millennials would rather make \$40,000/ year at a job they love than \$100,000/year at

BlueGrace Logistics is a perfect example of how to effectively integrate social media into a business to improve communication, culture and employee buy-in

a job they think is boring.

#### **GENERATION PROFILE: AGES 11-33 YEARS OLD**







By 2020, Millennials will represent 50% of the workforce (and consumers)



#### 2025

By 2025, Millennials will represent 75% of the workforce (and consumers)



## WHAT MILLENNIALS VALUE

Employers that understand what Millennials value most will not only be able to retain talent better than their competitors (which also means better margins), but will also benefit from a more capable and empowered workforce







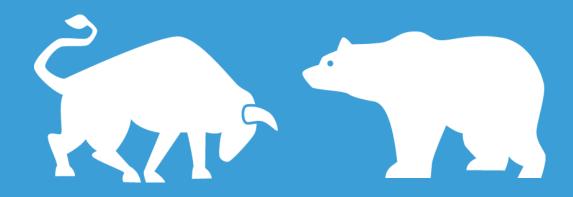
## **INVESTMENT IN STARTUPS**

Despite the less-than-rosy picture currently being painted by economic indicators, investment in disruptive technology and intellectual capital continues to pour into the industry in an effort to streamline processes and maximize returns

COMPANY	FUNDING	WEBSITE	COMPANY	FUNDING	WEBSITE	COMPANY	FUNDING	WEBSITE
10-4 Systems	Undisclosed amount	www.10-4.com	FriendShippr	\$1.17M	http://www.friendshippr.com	Schlep	Undisclosed amount	http://www.schlep.it/
Aeropost	\$5.0M	http://aeropost.com	Ghostruck	\$2.24M	http://ghostruck.com	ShipBob	\$1.02M	http://www.shipbob.com/
Ambition	\$2.0M	http://ambition.com	Haven	\$3.0M	http://haveninc.com/	Shiphawk	\$6.0M	http://shiphawk.com
Boxbee	\$7.3M	http://boxbeeinc.com	iContainers	\$1.63M	http://www.icontainers.com	Shippo	\$2.28M	https://goshippo.com
Boxc	\$725K	http://boxc.com/home	Kanga Technology	\$1.75M	http://kangatechnology.com	Shipster	Undisclosed amount	www.goshipster.com
Buddytruk	\$1.28M	http://www.buddytruk.com	KeepTruckin	\$10.3M	http://keeptruckin.com	Shipwire	Acquired	http://www.shipwire.com
Cargo Chief	\$10.0M	https://www.cargochief.com	Keychain Logistics	\$2.52M	https://www.keychainlogistics.com	ShipX	\$560K	https://www.shipxfreight.com/
Cargomatic	\$10.6M	http://cargomatic.com	Logistical Labs	Undisclosed amount	http://www.logisticallabs.com/	Shyp	\$62.1M	www.shyp.com
Cloud Fulfillment	Undisclosed amount	http://www2.cloudfulfilment.co.uk/	MakeSpace	\$10.1M	https://www.makespace.com/	Snapnship	Undisclosed amount	http://www.snapnship.com/
Cubbyhole	Undisclosed amount	www.cubbyholeapp.com	Matternet	\$3.5M	http://mttr.net/	Staxxon	\$390K	http://staxxon.com
Deliv	\$12.35M	http://www.deliv.co	MuniRent	Undisclosed amount	https://www.munirent.co/	Swapbox	\$3.0M	http://swapbox.com
Deposco	\$2.1M	http://www.deposco.com	Nimber	\$850K	http://www.nimber.com	Transfix	\$14.5M	http://transfix.io/
DoorDash	\$59.7M	http://www.doordash.com	Parcel Pending	Undisclosed amount	http://parcelpending.com/	Transporteca	Undisclosed amount	http://www.transporteca.com
Dropship	\$4.3M	http://www.dropship.com	PiggyBee	Undisclosed amount	http://www.piggybee.com	TruckerPath	\$21.5M	https://truckerpath.com/
EasyPost	\$3.45M	http://www.easypost.com	Postmates	\$138.26M	https://postmates.com/	TrunkBird	Undisclosed amount	http://www.TrunkBird.com
Fleet (was Shipstr)	\$2.51M	http://www.tryfleet.com	project44	Undisclosed amount	http://p-44.com	uShip	\$44.71M	http://www.uship.com
FLEXE	\$6.3M	https://www.flexe.com/	Rickshaw	Undisclosed amount	https://gorickshaw.com	Weft	\$3.0M	http://weft.io
Flexport	\$26.9M	https://www.flexport.com/	Roadie	\$10.0M	https://www.roadie.com/	Windward	\$15.8M	http://www.windward.eu/
Freight Filter	Undisclosed amount	http://freightfilter.com	Roost	\$1.4M	https://roost.com/	Xeneta	\$8.51M	www.xeneta.com
Freightos	\$37.3M	https://www.freightos.com	Ghostruck	\$2.24M	http://ghostruck.com	Youtruckme	Undisclosed amount	http://www.youtruckme.com/

Source: Crunchbase

## FREIGHT BULLS AND FREIGHT BEARS





## FREIGHT BULL

Leveraging the idea that control beats access to capacity, and knowing that the most successful companies in the coming years will be the asset-holders, XPO has positioned itself for incredible growth in 2016 and impressive profitability beyond that

## **XPOLogistics**





- XPO, acquiring Con-way Freight's 8,500 tractors and 25,000 trailers, now controls the second largest fleet of LTL capacity
- XPO's network now has 19,000 tractors, 46,000 trailers and 151M square feet



#### **GLOBAL REACH**

- Complimenting its domestic asset network and non-asset operations, XPO has operations in 31 countries outside of the US
- Providing a global, single source solution minimizes customer's competitive exposure



#### INDUSTRY OUTSIDERS + STRONG TECH

 Non-transportation or logistics talent and a huge IT budget, XPO is positioned better than most of its peers to optimize an asset network with its non-asset platform



## FREIGHT BEAR

Now with a reinstated authority and upgraded conditional rating, Land Air Express is restarting operations from a disadvantageous position due to a chronic lack of investment and recent extreme competitive exposure

#### LACK OF INVESTMENT

- Maintaining equipment, albeit costly, is a key component of profitable operations and loyal customers
- The best employees work for the companies that treat them the best; not investing in employees or providing a better home than competitors saps good talent



#### **COMPETITIVE EXPOSURE**

- Ceasing operations for 10 days gives competitors enough time to convert customers and start hauling their freight
- Even with a reinstated operating authority, close watch from the FMCSA, a conditional rating and 'remembering when' is enough to drive customers to competing carriers

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27



## FREIGHT BULL

There's no doubt that the past 7 years have been challenging for the giant LTL carrier, but new strategies being rolled out by management are creating inspiring results, let alone opportunities to become an industry leader





#### **ONLY DIRECTION IS UP**

- Equity valuation below market and a recent debt rating upgrade nod to a bright outlook
- Management beat analysts' Q3
   earnings estimates and improved
   operating income by 89%, citing
   operating improvements



#### **INTELLIGENT CAPEX**

- Management's priority is improving freight mix and revenue / shipment, dimensioning technology will help ensure that happens
- In-cab safety technology in 14,000 tractors will help to minimize labor cost exposure



#### FORWARD THINKING TECHNOLOGY

- Showcasing the commitment to become a leader, YRC is the only carrier to have fully implemented a dynamic volume pricing tool
- Using APIs, YRC pricing defaults a rate if the NMFC codes doesn't match the class



## FREIGHT BEAR

Excessive investment in external entities (through acquisitions) and a lack of follow through with operational and IT integration can lead to disparate profit strategies and excessive competitive exposure





#### **POOR OPERATING FUNDAMENTALS**

- Financially focused leadership drives short term returns, rather than longterm value
- Profit from equipment sales is too much of the overall corporate profit



#### **INTEGRATION MATTERS**

- Numerous acquisitions have resulted in a lack of operating focus, resulting in a large myriad of services
- A less-than-solid commitment to a specific service type limits brand identity potential



#### LACKLUSTER TECHNOLOGY

- Multiple technology platforms acquired through multiple purchases creates a fragmented IT infrastructure
- Limited potential for an enterprise strategy to optimize asset and nonasset groups

# WINNING THE FREIGHT FIGHT

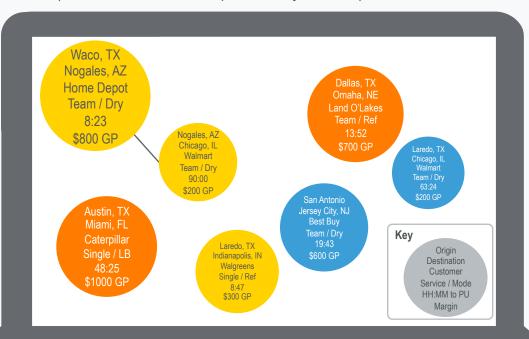




## CARRIER SALES LOAD BOARD USER INTERFACE

Truckload brokers that look creatively at long-unchanged technology (e.g. the load board) will be able to largely improve load velocity by eliminating otherwise frivolous decisions (such as which load a rep should try to cover)

- Color communicates hours to pickup, with yellow being the soonest (catches the eye the most), then orange and finally blue
- Position communicates strategic importance as the load doesn't need to be covered immediately, but soon
- Bubble size lets the rep know expected margin, so that they're empowered to make more money





## LTL DIMENSIONAL PRICING

The LTL resellers that embrace density pricing will be much better positioned to compete because they'll lower their operating costs and carriers will favor that reseller, opting to engage with them more frequently than their competitors



#### LOWER OPERATING COSTS

- Fewer rebills from carriers means less employee time spent managing the invoice adjustments from carriers and trying collect from to shippers
- Using density based pricing means sales reps will spend less time searching for the perfect NMFC code and instead will spend time prospecting and closing



#### **CARRIERS WILL LOVE YOU**

- Simplified and improved pricing structures will improve carrier profitability, enabling them to reinvest in assets, people and technology at a higher rate
- Switching to density based pricing improves visibility for carriers and lets them better plan pickup, delivery and linehaul



#### **ENSURES A MORE ACCURATE QUOTE**

- Capturing dimensions when quoting a shipper will reduce the likelihood of a shipment receiving a supplemental invoice
- More accurate quotes will reduce bad debt expense that's caused by shippers refusing to be supplemental invoices

Source: SMC3



## **COLLABORATION CREATES VALUE**

Due to the substantial volume and revenue from LTL resellers' business and the inability to simply walk away, the most successful LTL carriers will be the ones that fully integrate resellers to minimize operating costs and maximize profit



#### **CUSTOMER SERVICE**

Customer Service Reps trained to manage the unique needs of LTL resellers will limit customer frustration and inbound call volume and grow affinity



#### INFORMATION AVAILABILITY

Accurate information access through the website or APIs will help to minimize inbound call volume and grow user's trust in that carrier's service offering



#### **OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE**

Pricing needs to reflect operational performance for each carriers' service category (e.g. economy), and should strive to lead that respective service category



#### **BRAND IDENTITY**

Consistent and good brand aesthetics (e.g. website, email signatures) are critical for establishing and growing users' comfort with the carrier



#### SERVICE DIFFERENTIATORS

Identifying the strategic service offering for LTL resellers and electronically communicating it into the TMS is crucial for maximizing OR and brand affinity



## ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR A RULES TARIFF

Incorporate the rules tariff into the pricing logic and mandate rating API use so that pricing appropriately matches the situation's needs and network balance



## ASSET-BACKED PROVIDER ORDER ENTRY PROCESS

In the near(ish) future, the most powerful transportation entities will be asset-backed logistics providers that utilize enterprise strategies to effectively maximize return for the enterprise and not just the asset and non-asset divisions

## **Enterprise Decision Framework Key Inputs Asset Division Brokerage Customer** Customer **Incoming Order Incoming Order Enterprise Decision Framework Brokerage Asset Division** Collaboration **Executes Executes**

\*It's imperative that each division can have its own customers, exclusive of the other division

#### • Brokerage Success Probability

This blends the probability that capacity will be available by the pickup time with the effort required to source capacity and the strategic (enterprise) impact that may occur if the load is rolled

#### Available Asset Proximity

This measures how far the enterprise asset is from the pickup location, incorporating traffic and weather conditions

#### Asset Use Opportunity Cost

What are the foregone costs from using a company asset on a brokerage load (i.e. likelihood of an alternative, higher paying load within a specific timeframe)

#### Stranded Asset Risk

What's the probability that the asset will be left stranded if the brokerage finds another carrier to make the pickup

Divisional OR and Enterprise Valuation (if valuation matters)
 Which division will receive a better valuation multiple and how will that impact the overall enterprise valuation

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