



MRA
MICHIGAN
RAILROADS
ASSOCIATION

MICHIGAN'S FREIGHT
RAIL NETWORK
PROVIDING
SAFE
EFFICIENT
ENVIRONMENTALLY
FRIENDLY
TRANSPORTATION
SERVICE

STATEWIDE | NATIONWIDE | WORLDWIDE

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FROM THE MRA PRESIDENT

The Michigan Railroads Association (MRA) would like to share updated rail marketing contacts for each railroad in your area. The purpose of this brochure is to help connect existing businesses – and potentially new business prospects – with the railroad that provides service in your region.

Why pick rail?

Affordable and efficient freight transportation is critical to Michigan's economy. Freight rail is the engine that supports our economy, hauling just about everything that keeps Michigan, and our entire country, moving.

What moves by rail?

In Michigan, 75% of all finished automobiles are moved by rail. Plus, many auto parts and supplies are carried by freight rail. Other commodities include: energy, timber, chemicals, agricultural, intermodal and construction industry goods. All of this being hauled through the Great Lakes State daily.

Freight transportation demand is forecast to substantially grow over the next few decades. More freight moving by rail will mean better opportunities for U.S. economic growth and businesses right here in Michigan.

Contact the marketing experts contained in this brochure to get access to property acquisition, zoning assistance and other answers on how to put rail to work to grow your existing business. Or, review new projects with these experts. **They're ready for your call!**

We hope that you will find the information contained in this brochure useful. On behalf of our members, thank you for your interest in the freight railroad companies serving businesses across Michigan.

WHAT IS TRANSLOADING?

When products are transloaded, they are moved from trucks to rail cars, or vice versa. Often, shippers want to combine the economic advantages of shipping by rail with the flexibility of over-the-road trucking, using affordable rail shipping for the long haul and trucks for final delivery. Transloading allows this to be possible.



Why Transload?

Transloading provides options – primarily economical railroad transport with the flexibility of other logistics partners. As shipments move seamlessly between modes, you get the economies of rail without the investment in track, allowing you to ship affordably throughout North America and expand your market reach.

Reach out to your local railroad and explore the potential of transloading.

FREIGHT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Through its Freight Economic Development Program (FEDP), the MDOT rail office provides low interest loans to businesses locating or expanding in Michigan which require rail service, or to entities interested in assisting these businesses. The loans may be for as much as 50 percent of the cost of the rail infrastructure project.

Loans are set to be repaid over a five-year period **but can be totally or partially forgiven** provided the

facility is properly maintained and annual shipping commitments (built into the contract) are met. If the shipping commitments are met for each of the five years, the **loan is effectively converted to a grant.**

Make sure to contact the rail marketing contact in this brochure to discuss the benefits of the FEDP or other ways the MDOT Office of Rail might be able to assist with your project.

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MEMBER RAILROADS



Members of the Michigan Railroads Association are: Adrian & Blissfield Railroad Co., Ann Arbor Railroad, CP, Charlotte Southern Railroad Co., CN, Consolidated Rail Corp. (Conrail), CSX Transportation, Detroit Connecting Railroad Co., Escanaba & Lake Superior Railroad, Grand Elk Railroad, Grand Rapids Eastern Railroad, Great Lakes Central Railroad, Hamilton Northwestern Railroad Co., Huron & Eastern Railway, Indiana Northeastern Railroad, Jackson & Lansing Line, Lake State Railway Co., Lake Superior & Ishpeming Railroad, Lapeer Industrial Railroad Co., Marquette Rail, Michigan Shore Railroad, Michigan Southern Railroad, Mid-Michigan Railroad, Mineral Range, Inc., Norfolk Southern Corp. and West Michigan Railroad Co.

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