

2020 STATE OFFREIGHT CONFERENCE THE STATE OF CHANGE | VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, DEC 3RD 2020



Preston Elliott

Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Environment and Planning
Tennessee Department of Transportation

Preston Elliott in April of this year was named Deputy Commissioner and the Chief of Environment and Planning Bureau with the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT). Having worked with TDOT early in his career, Preston has over 25 years of community and transportation planning experience within Tennessee and the Southeast. Prior to rejoining TDOT, Preston spent 16 years in the private sector working with both a national firm as well as an international firm, providing professional planning services to communities large and small. In addition to his DOT and private consulting experience, Preston has also worked with three metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) and as a community volunteer, served 12 years on a local transit authority board. Preston is a certified planner and he has worked in every mode of transportation, from walking, biking, transit, and vehicular planning, to truck, freight, rail, and shared mobility.



Erin Hunt

Director of Trade Policy / Transport Canada

Erin Hunt is the Director of Trade Policy at Transport Canada responsible for policy related to Canada's national trade corridors, including investment, as well as for negotiating transportation-related elements in Canada's free trade agreements. Prior to joining Transport Canada, Erin was Chief of Staff and Corporate Secretary at Parks Canada. She was previously a member of Canada's Foreign Service and held several trade positions at Global Affairs Canada, including Chief of Staff to Canada's Chief Negotiator for the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) and as negotiator for the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) free trade negotiations. Erin represented Canada abroad as a Trade Commissioner at Canada's Consulate General in Mumbai, India. Prior to joining the Government of Canada, she lived and worked in Belgium, France, Germany and the U.S. She holds degrees from the University of Saskatchewan, the University of North Carolina, and Sciences Po in Paris.



Frank Stendardo

Attaché to the Canadian Embassy in DC / Transport Canada

Frank Stendardo assumed the role of Transport Counsellor at the Embassy of Canada in Washington D.C., effective November 2017. His mandate includes federal transportation and infrastructure, with a focus on: regulatory cooperation with the US Departments of Transportation and Homeland Security; and economic, safety, security, environment and border policy issues across all modes of transport.

Mr. Stendardo has extensive experience in transportation, having started in the public service with Transport Canada in 2001. Before assuming his current position, he served as a trade negotiator and senior policy advisor from 2006, most notably engaged in advancing Canadian transportation interests in trade negotiations on a new NAFTA, as well as negotiations with the European Union, the Trans-Pacific Partnership, and at the World Trade Organization.



Dan Pallme

Asst. Chief of Environment and Planning/
Freight and Logistics Director



Dan Pallme is the Assistant Chief of Freight and Logistics at the Tennessee Department of Transportation. In his role, he provides leadership on issues of rail, water and highway freight. The division serves as a liaison between TDOT and freight stakeholders in an effort to find opportunities to improve access for existing freight and appropriately prepare for the projected increases in freight as it moves in and out of the state. The primary focus areas for the division include short-line railroads, Section 130 rail program, rail inspection, freight planning, water, highway freight and technology, freight advisory committees and the freight and state rail plan updates. He spent his entire career focused in the transportation sector. He is truly multi-modal with his 30 plus year career spanning several modes. He has worked for Federal Express (air), Yellow Freight System (LTL), Union Pacific Railroad (rail), and Comtrak Logistics (Intermodal / Truckload). After his private sector experience, he spent 5 years at the Intermodal Freight Transportation Institute at the University of Memphis on various projects relating to freight issues. He received his Bachelors from the University of Memphis in transportation and a Masters from the University of Denver in Intermodal Transportation Management.

Dewayne Swindall

General Manager, CN



Dewayne Swindall began his railroad career as a Conductor in Birmingham, Alabama with Norfolk Southern (NS) in the 90's assuming his first Trainmaster role at Norris Yard in 1999 being one of the rare, in place promotions, within Norfolk Southern at that time. During this role, Swindall was one of the initial Remote Control Operator instructors when remote locomotive use was introduced in the hump classification process. In 2004, as Sr. Trainmaster in Chicago, IL, Swindall accepted a position with a competitor railroad, Canadian National (CN), in Jackson Mississippi, ultimately moving into a more progressive role in Geismar, LA the following year. In 2005, Swindall was promoted to Assistant Superintendent in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada overseeing hump classification at Walker Yard. In 2007, he was sent to Southern Ontario as the Assistant Superintendent of the Southern Ontario Division.

In 2008, Swindall was recruited to Genesee & Wyoming, ultimately holding the position of Senior Vice President of the Central, covering thirteen states and seventeen individual railroad operations. In January 2018, Swindall returned to CN in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada as Superintendent in the Network Operations Centre, subsequently assuming the Superintendent role of the Midsouth Division a few months later in Memphis, TN. In September 2018, Swindall was promoted to his current position of General Manager Gulf Region covering the original Illinois Central properties from Gilman, IL to the Gulf of Mexico. He serves on the Boards of the Mississippi Export and Peoria-Pekin Union Railroads.



Donna Lemm

Executive VP of National Sales, IMC Companies



Donna Lemm is the Executive Vice President of National Sales for IMC Companies, the largest marine drayage provider in the United States. Donna is responsible for directing the company's national sales footprint serving every major port and rail operation in the United States. The goal is to deliver IMC's size, skill and strength to meet our customer's challenges and needs for intermodal drayage, equipment management, inland terminal operations and tailored supply chain solutions.

Donna is an active champion for US agriculture and forest product members of the Agriculture Transportation Coalition, where she serves on their advisory board. Donna is an active speaker on both a regional and national scale in addressing the challenges facing the U.S. shipping and intermodal community. She is actively working to facilitate fluid commerce in Memphis by serving on the Memphis Supply Chain Innovation team led by FMC Commissioner Rebecca Dye. Most recently, she testified on behalf of the Agriculture Transportation Coalition on the current state of the intermodal network before the U.S. Senate subcommittee on Transportation and Safety.



Steve Ferreira

Founder and CEO, Ocean Audit, Inc.
Host, Navigate B2B, FreightWaves TV



Steve Ferreira is the Founder of Ocean Audit Inc. a ocean freight refund recovery consultancy to global shippers, including 17 of the Fortune 100. Steve founded Ocean Audit Inc. in 2004. Prior to this, Steve sold his first successful startup, TradeCheck, LLC in 1997 to a publicly traded recovery auditing company. Prior to 2004 Steve was an executive with two of the largest ocean freight container carriers and has lived in Hong Kong, Taipei and Prague, Czech Republic.

Steve was named as a leading solopreneur in 2018 in Forbes for achieving over \$1M in revenue. Steve is certified by LinkedIn as a live broadcaster and has been a contributor to CNBC. Steve helps promote the entrepreneurial goals of others by speaking around the country on developing your own unique B2B persona. Steve is the creator and host of his television show, "Navigate B2B" seen every Friday, live on FreightWaves TV.



Pete Mento

Economist, Mento, LLC



Pete Mento, Global Customs specializes in the elimination, recovery, and minimization of duties associated with importing and exporting. He also assists companies with import and export trade compliance, audit defense, and cargo security programs. He is considered one of the most insightful and connected trade professionals in the world.

