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Improving Data Sharing in Maritime Supply Chains: Harbor Trucking Association's Insights

Written by Karla Sanchez, Director of Programs & Communications

The Harbor Trucking Association (HTA) recently responded to the Federal Maritime Commission's (FMC) questions regarding maritime data transmission, accessibility, and accuracy.

Find below key issues the HTA determined:

Data Sharing Challenges

- **Barriers to Sharing Data:** The primary hurdle for data sharing is the capability of shippers and motor carriers to interface through Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) or Application Programming Interface (API).
- **Costs of Adaptation:** To adapt existing systems for data sharing, motor carriers often require a Transportation Management System (TMS). Costs vary, and if TMS lacks EDI or API capability, software updates or replacement may be necessary.
- **Concerns About Data Sharing:** HTA emphasizes the critical importance of timely and accurate information exchange between motor carriers and shippers for efficient supply chain operations.

Preferred Data Sharing Methods

- While EDIs are widely used, the adoption of APIs is preferred for real-time data exchange. Automated processes between shippers and motor carriers reduce the need for constant email monitoring.
- HTA acknowledges that EDIs, while established, may not necessarily be the best method but are currently the most widely accepted.

Predicting Container Availability

- Container availability relies on information controlled by Marine Terminal Operators (MTOs) and Equipment Providers (EPs), not shippers or motor carriers.
- The definition of "availability" needs to be redefined to reflect the genuine "retrievability" of containers.

Data Disclosure and Consistency

- HTA proposes that "availability" be linked to the first unrestricted day-side appointment available to a trucker after the container is cleared, facilitating more accurate data exchange and preventing inappropriate charges.
- MTOs should publish data regarding appointment availability and row closures, ensuring consistent compliance with laws and standards.
- Providing information on Estimated Time of Arrival (ETA) and Actual Time of Arrival (ATA) will help improve cargo pick-up estimates.
- Real-time notification of truck interchange commencement and conclusion can streamline information exchange and improve cargo retrieval planning.

Data Confidentiality

- HTA emphasizes that the information shared with their shipper partners is confidential and proprietary and would not be disclosed to the public.

Call for Consistency and Accuracy

- HTA highlights the need for consistent quality standards in data sharing for accurate, timely, and reliable exchange of information within the supply chain.
- Inconsistencies in data sharing can lead to challenges and disputes, ultimately impacting the efficiency of operations.
- HTA stresses that consistent standards on a federal level are necessary to outline when Demurrage and Detention (DnD) charges are applicable.

In summary, the HTA's insights highlight the importance of accurate, timely, and consistent data sharing in maritime supply chains. It calls for standardized definitions, transparency, and better data exchange practices to enhance the efficiency and fairness of operations.



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Congratulations on your achievement as the October Member of the Month, we consider this award as our gratitude for your continued support of the HTA.

This month's spotlight is on Michael Tan of BYD Motors for being named HTA's October Member of the Month.

To celebrate this achievement we asked Michael the following questions:

- What is the best advice you've ever gotten at work? Be focused, simple and durable.
- It's your first day on the job as an evil villain. What's the first piece of mischief you commit? Invite colleagues to dinner and serve white wine in teacups.
- Which song could you listen to over and over again? See you again.
- If you did not work in this industry, what field would you pursue? Food industry. I like to enjoy a lot of different foods.

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IF YOU ARE A DRAYAGE FLEET/TRUCK OWNER AND RECEIVED A CNG TRUCK PROGRAM GRANT AWARD FROM 2019-2023 YOU MUST ACT FAST TO REMAIN COMPLIANT WITH THE ADVANCED CLEAN FLEET (ACF) DRAYAGE TRUCK REPORTING DEADLINE OF DECEMBER 31, 2023.

ACF CNG Drayage Truck Registration Requirements

Existing CNG "legacy" drayage trucks or new CNG drayage trucks intending to begin or continue operations at a California seaport or intermodal railyard must be registered in the CARB Online System prior to January 1, 2024.

Once registered, "legacy" CNG drayage trucks can continue to operate through their "minimum useful life" until January 1, 2035, provided:

- The truck visits a California seaport or intermodal railyard at least once annually.
- The truck does not exceed its Useful Life threshold. ("Useful life" is the minimum time period a vehicle may remain in the California fleet. (Defined as the earlier of 18 years or 800,000 miles or a minimum of 13 years if the truck has over 800,000 miles.)

Taking Delivery of NEW Grant-Funded CNG Vehicle(s)

If you have an executed Grant Program contract and have placed a legitimate truck order that will not arrive until after January 1, 2024, the Air District needs to hear from you as soon as possible about the expected delivery date of your new truck(s):

- New CNG trucks cannot be registered into the CARB Online System after December 31, 2023.
- The AQMD may be able to request a compliance extension from CARB until the new truck(s) has arrived. This is NOT a guarantee.
- Contact your AQMD program officer in your contract, your Clean Energy representative, or our Grants Team @ grants@cleanenergyfuels.com.

What if I don't have an executed CNG truck grant contract yet?

- Grant applications that do not have a signed a contract may not make the end of year ACF registration deadline.
- Grant applicants may not place an order until there is an executed grant contract.
- No funding reimbursements are allowed if the truck order has been placed prior to the grant award approval date.

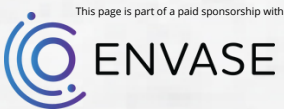
Can I still use my existing or new CNG truck under the ACF Regulation?

Yes. Those that have registered their CNG trucks, new or old, in the CARB Online Portal prior to January 1, 2024, can continue to operate them in 2024 and beyond. Don't have a grant, but still want a clean truck and fuel savings up to \$3 a gallon? New or used CNG trucks are available to purchase today and Clean Energy incentive money up to \$50,000 per truck is still available.

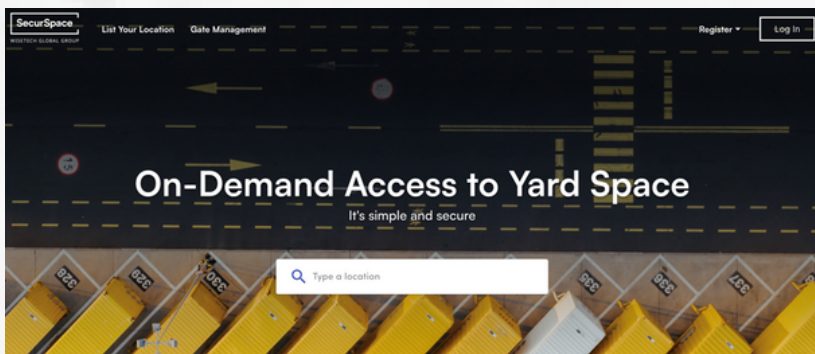
Need more help?

Contact marcos.luna@cleanenergyfuels.com at (562) 338-8025.

If you have any questions regarding CNG truck registration and reporting, you can always contact the CARB Hotline at (866) 634-3735 or by email @ trucks@arb.ca.gov too.



Storage without the Struggle: Revolutionizing Industrial Outdoor Storage with SecurSpace



Supply chain management is a complex web of logistics, transportation, and storage. It's an industry often inward-focused, but innovation lies beyond its boundaries. From tackling the scarcity of storage space near major transportation hubs to empowering businesses and drivers, SecurSpace is revolutionizing how container, trailer, and truck parking is procured.

The Challenge of Space

When it comes to space, the transportation industry faces two critical challenges:

- **Lack of Industrial Outdoor Storage:** In urban areas, development tends to prioritize lifestyle establishments over storage yards. This shortage of storage real estate drives up costs, leading to inflexible long-term leases that hinder motor carriers and shippers.
- **Shortage of Overnight Truck Parking:** The lack of safe parking for trucks near highways and interstates not only exposes cargo to theft, but also creates unsafe working conditions for drivers. This both hampers the efficiency of the industry and endangers the safety of its workforce.

Meet SecurSpace

SecurSpace provides secure and flexible storage solutions for intermodal equipment. Established in 2018, SecurSpace recognized the acute need for storage capacity for motor carriers, primarily in LA. Over a few years, SecurSpace expanded its reach across the United States, addressing the growing demand for storage created by the COVID-19 pandemic and congestion at ports. In 2023, SecurSpace became a part of the WiseTech Global family, opening new doors for greater industry impact.

How SecurSpace Works

From a customer's perspective, using the SecurSpace marketplace is simple and efficient:

- **Search and Book:** Buyers can find storage options by location and book through the platform with ease, similar to booking a vacation rental. Payment is processed upon booking approval.
- **Access to a National Network:** SecurSpace offers access to nearly a thousand locations across the US, including CTPAT-certified facilities and traditional motor carrier yards.
- **Flexible Arrangements:** The platform allows buyers to adjust their booked spaces as their lane volumes dictate. This flexibility is crucial, especially in a fluctuating industry.
- **Instant Booking Confirmation:** Buyers receive booking confirmations within 30 minutes, ensuring they can secure the space they need promptly.

The ROI of SecurSpace

Consider a common scenario: a container arrives at a terminal, but the warehouse isn't ready for delivery or the appointment gets canceled. SecurSpace provides a solution by offering access to off-dock storage facilities at a fraction of the cost of demurrage fees. For a motor carrier or shipper, the choice is clear: pay hundreds of dollars in demurrage charges or as little as ten dollars a day for secure off-dock storage.

The ROI here is evident, with significant cost savings and the assurance that cargo is readily available, reducing waiting time and stress for drivers. This kind of flexibility and cost-effectiveness empowers both individual drivers and businesses.

Driving Efficiency and Collaboration

SecurSpace goes beyond cost savings; it creates efficiency throughout the supply chain by maximizing the use of existing storage infrastructure. By leveraging what's already in place, SecurSpace reduces the need for constructing new facilities — contributing to a more sustainable, eco-friendly approach to the industry.

Moreover, SecurSpace enables trucking companies to scale their operations with ease. It's a vital tool for motor carriers looking to expand into new markets or manage fluctuations on demand. The ability to book storage for a day or more on a flexible basis empowers businesses to make smart decisions and optimize their operations.

To explore SecurSpace and create your free account, visit: www.secur.space

Have a yard to fill? Any other inquiries? Reach Bobby Strenk at: Robert.Strenk@wisetechglobal.com



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