

FEATURE STORY | INTERMODAL DEPARTMENT

# **Rail Connections Paying Off**

Misconceptions about rail transport discussed; demand for Intermodal grows



The transportation industry is constantly changing and evolving. A couple of changes we face are the increased cost of fuel and the ever-growing concern for the environment. As a result, many customers are now choosing to ship their freight via rail.

To meet this new demand, Marten Transport started testing intermodal shipments in the fall of 2005. Demand from customers increased dramatically and with the rapid growth, we thought it might be time to dispel some of the misconceptions about "the rail". Listed below are the facts behind the top five "rail" misconceptions: 1. The Intermodal Department is taking loads away from Over the Road (OTR) drivers.

FALSE: From January to July of 2009, the Intermodal Department has provided much needed capacity to OTR drivers (over 1000 loads) that would have otherwise gone rail with other carriers.

2. Marten Transport chooses whether to ship a customer's freight OTR or by Rail.

FALSE: It is the customer that dictates to Marten Transport how they would like their freight shipped. In fact, the majority (90%) of Marten Transport's Intermodal customers were already shipping their freight by rail with carriers.

3. Marten Transport cannot compete with IMC's?

**FALSE:** Marten Transport is the largest and fastest growing temperature controlled intermodal carrier in the country.

4. The railroad is stealing jobs from drivers.

FALSE: At Marten Transport, the growth of the Intermodal Department has actually led to the creation of 65 new Intermodal drayage driving positions. These are local positions that allow drivers to stay in a more localbased region closer to home. At the same time, we have actually maintained and grown the Marten fleet of company trucks on a year over year basis from 2,219 in June of 2008 to 2,293 in June of 2009. However, more of these trucks are moving to our Regional Fleets as customers move more of their long haul freight to intermodal.

5. Drayage work is not worth an OTR driver's time.

FALSE: Thru June of 2009, \$929,850 has been paid in-house to Marten Transport drivers doing drayage work. This figure represents pay to OTR drivers that may have otherwise been waiting for work and/or been paid to OUT-SIDE carriers.

**BOTTOM LINE:** Marten Transport would not have been as successful in these difficult and challenging economic times if we had not evolved as a company to better service our customers with different modes of transportation to supplement our premium long haul truck service.

#### • SAFETY DEPARTMENT

## **Marten Safe Stat Scores Continue to Show Improvement**

As most of you already know, Safe Stat is an information collection point used by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to rank carriers against their peer groups. The lower a carrier's score the better that carrier is viewed. Zero to 50 is considered excellent, 50 to 75 is good, and 75 to 100 is not so good.

Two years ago Marten Transport's score in the Driver Safety Evaluation Area was 94.71 with 100 being the worst score possible. The most recent score posted on September 8, 2009 showed Marten Transport at 58.5.

This is a tremendous improvement and is

totally due to the reduced number of driver out of service violations we are receiving during roadside inspections. During 2007 we averaged 40 out of service violations per month. During 2008 we averaged 28 out of service violations per month. During the first eight months of 2009 we averaged 17 out of service violations per month.

For the drivers, the lower the Safe Stat score the less roadside inspections we will be pulled in for. Presently we are rated as optional for inspection and we have seen our total inspections drop from about 550 per month in 2007 to about 350 per month in 2009.

Marten Transport continues to strive to reduce our Safe Stat score to 50 and under. In addition to FMCSA using Safe Stat to recommend carrier audits, our customers and insurance carriers also use Safe Stat scores when making their determinations for freight and insurance rates.

Make sure that you stay within the Hours of Service rules and that your log book is current to your last change of duty status. Keep up the good work and thank you for the progress Marten Transport has been able to make so far.

#### **•** TIP OF THE MONTH

## Swine Flu (H1N1 Virus) and You



## How does 2009 H1N1 virus spread?

Spread of 2009 H1N1 virus is thought to occur in the same way that seasonal flu spreads. Flu viruses are spread mainly from person to person through coughing or sneezing by people with influenza. Sometimes people may become infected by touching something – such as a surface or object – with flu viruses on it and then touching their mouth or nose.

What are the signs and symptoms of this virus in people?

The symptoms of the H1N1

#### **MAINTENANCE**

flu virus in people include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. A significant number of people who have been infected with this virus also have reported diarrhea and vomiting. Severe illness and death have occurred as a result of this virus.

## How long can an infected person spread this virus to others?

People infected with seasonal and 2009 H1N1 virus may be able to infect others from 1 day before getting sick to 5 to 7 days after. This can be longer in some people, especially children and people with weakened immune systems and in people infected with the new H1N1 virus.

## What can I do to protect myself from getting sick?

There are everyday actions that can help prevent the spread of germs that cause respiratory illnesses like influenza.

Take these everyday steps to protect your health:

• Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.

• Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcoholbased hand cleaners are also effective.

• Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.

• Try to avoid close contact with sick people.

• If you are sick with flu-like illness, it is recommended that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone, except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.) Keep away from others as much as possible to keep from making others sick.

• Avoid crowds and other social gatherings.

• Be prepared. Have a supply of over-the counter medicines, alcohol-based hand rubs, tissues and other related items to avoid the need to make trips out in public while you are contagious.

In adults, emergency warning signs that need urgent medical attention include:

• Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath

• Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen

Sudden dizziness

Confusion

• Severe or persistent vomiting

• Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough

Information taken from CDC, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

## **Insufficient Tire Pressure an Issue** Overall life and miles per gallon both reduced by operating under-inflated tires

Proper tire inflation has become a major initiative at Marten Transport as we purchase top rated, fuel efficient tires for the fleet. Insufficient air pressure will cause lower mile per gallon performance, reduce overall tire life, and could potentially cause a safety issue. Thus, Marten Transport requires that all tractor and trailer tires be kept at 100 PSI.

Ninety percent of all tire failures are due to under-inflation. Excessive heat builds up and will cause the tire to fail which in turn decreases productivity and increases costs. In fact, operating an under-inflated tire will reduce the tire life by 22% and decrease fuel mileage by 3.1%.

Besides checking all tractor tires with a tire gauge on a daily basis to ensure each tire is at 100 psi, also remember when hooking to a trailer that you need to check each trailer tire to ensure it is also maintained at 100 psi. A trailer needs to be pulled down the road, not dragged. Checking air pressure is a critical part of each pre-trip inspection and the responsibility of the driver. Tire air gauges are now available at all terminals.

As part of our tire pressure initiative, we are also now measuring tractor/trailer air pressure performance within our terminal network and with all our mobile service trucks. Almost all terminals are outfitted with inspection lanes and coverage will soon be expanded to seven days a week including second shift. The inspection lanes were implemented to decrease road breakdowns and increase productivity. Thus, it is policy that all drivers go through the inspection lanes upon arrival at terminal locations. By-passing an inspection lane or dropping a trailer with under-inflated tires will be measured by our terminal service shops and mobile service trucks and that information will be sent to the Operations Department.

So remember to check all tractor/trailer tires on a daily basis using a tire gauge and maintain air pressure at 100 psi for all tires. Additionally, when arriving at a terminal, remember to go through the inspection lane and do not drop a trailer with under-inflated tires. In this economic environment we all need to step up and pay close attention to the details so we can continue to set ourselves apart from the competition.

 Marten Transport has established a scholarship program to assist company employees' children who plan to pursue post-secondary education in college and vocational programs. Scholarships are offered each year for full-time study at any accredited post-secondary institution of the student's choice.

The scholarship program is administered by Scholarship Management Services, a department of Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America, Inc. (CSFA). CSFA is a national nonprofit educational support and student aid service organization that seeks to involve and assist the private sector in expanding educational achievement. Awards are granted without regard to race, color, creed, religion, age, gender, disability or national origin.

# RANDOLPH L. MARTEN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

## **Commitment to Excellence Leads to Scholarships** Marten awards eight exceptional students with grants to help further their education

study is Busi-

ness Admin-

istration. Jan

is the son of

Martin Weber

MONDOVI -- Marten Orange Coast College in Costa Transport, Ltd. is proud to Mesa, CA. Jan's major field of announce the recipients of the 2009 Randolph L. Marten

Scholarship Program. In order to be eligible for this scholarship, the applicant must be a dependent child of a Marten Transport, Ltd. employee. The following recipients will receive a \$1,500.00

award to use towards furthering their education.





Brown

KY. Samantha's major field of study is Communications and International Studies. Samantha is the



daughter of Walter and Peggy Brown of Vine Grove, KY. • Jan

Brumec is

attending

and Dusanka Brumec of Huntington Koopmans

> • Alice I. Koopmans is attending California State University in Fullerton, CA. Alice will be majoring in Health Science. Alice is the daughter of Sidney and Dorothy Koop-

· Brittney Kruschke is attending the Minnesota State

Winona,

Brittney is

Kruschke

the daughter of Lynn and John Kruschke of Osseo, WI.

• Nicole L. LeDuc will be attending the University of

Eau Claire in Eau Claire, WI. Her field of study is Nursing. Nicole is the daughter of James and

Wisconsin-



Kim LeDuc of Chippewa Falls, WI. • Jacob G. McGee will be attending the University of Wisconsin-

Payne

Eau Claire in Eau Claire, WI. Jacob's major field of study will be Psychology. Jacob is the son of Robert and Dixie McGee of Mondovi, WI.

• Ryan Payne will be at-

tending the University of Wisconsin-River Falls in River Falls, WI. Ryan's major field of study is Agriculture. Rvan



LeDuc

Marten

is the son of Jim and Luann Payne of Eleva, WI. • David Webb will be

attending Arizona State University of Tempe, AZ. David's major field of study

is Sports Management David is the son of Lvnn and Susan Webb of Mesa, AZ.



Webb

Transport, Ltd. holds a strong belief that education and hard work will make a difference in the future.

Since the inception of the Randolph L. Marten Scholarship Program, the Company has presented over 88 students with educational scholarships.

Marten Transport would like to congratulate all of the recipients on this achievement, and may they have continued success in their chosen fields of study.

Beach, CA.

mans of LaHabra, CA.

College of

MN. Brittney's major field of study is Radiography.



Brumec

#### ◀ MARTEN DEPARTMENT TRADE SHOW

# **Departments Get Together**

Company Trade Show allows for information exchange



On July 28, 2009 Marten Transport hosted its first annual Trade Show at the Plaza Hotel in Eau Claire. The event was designed to give each department and sales region a chance to share their team's current projects and goals. The event was open to all Marten employees and spouses and drew a large crowd. Many of the departments showed great creativity to attract people to their

booth. For example, Accounting used a Wii entertainment system, Logistics provided a duck pond, and Benefits used the event to sign employees up for TelaDoc. Several departments gave away items at the Trade Show through drawings or games and employees who visited every booth were entered in a drawing for a chance to win a grand prize. All the booths contained a great deal of information about that team's contributions to Marten's continued industry leadership. The entire night was a huge success in providing not only information to our employees, but allowing people from different departments to mingle and meet each other outside of the office.

According to Jeanne Hoilien, our Sales Services Manager, "It was fun to see how each department shared their newest projects. Several employees and their spouses were able to interact and meet people they don't usually have time for at work."

We would like to thank Jeanne and her group for the time spent to set up this event. Also a big thanks to the people who worked at the event and monitored booths. Hopefully we can turn this into an annual event that is a benefit to everyone.

## Open Enrollment Scheduled

▲ BENEFITS

Benefit open enrollment is scheduled for November 3-13, 2009.

Open enrollment will be your opportunity to make changes to your Benefit Package. This will be the time to add benefits, drop benefits, add dependents, remove dependents, etc.

The open enrollment is not mandatory. If you do not do open enrollment, you will have the same benefits that you had in 2009, with the exception of Flex Spending.

If you had Flex Spending for 2009, you will need to do the enrollment process to have Flex Spending for 2010.

Please watch your mailbox for important information on how to enroll. The information is being mailed from the enrollment company.

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

## **McBride Retires After 26 Years on the Road** Long-time Marten driver calls it a career after posting more than 3 million miles

Bob McBride retired September 28, 2009 after being with Marten Transport for 26 years.

He is a member of the One, Two, and Three Million Mile Club, a five year Wisconsin Motor Carriers Association member and local Fairchild, WI resident.

During his retirement, Bob plans on doing a lot of four-wheeler riding, cooking for his wife Tanis, and enjoying his grandchildren.



Team Leader, Missy Anibas, presents Bob McBride with a crystal truck in recognition and thanks for his more than quarter of a century of driving service with Marten Transport.

## **Drivers of the Month**

Congratulations to the men and women below who have been selected as Drivers of the Month. Each driver receives a certificate and gift from the company store and will be acknowledged on the company web site.

#### **May Honorees**

Johnny Zimmerman Joe Cravillion **Robert Gericke** Gerald Paul Luis Jimenez Bob Oimoen Therial G. Gregory Michael Leichty Jonathon Forer Doug Hale Sandra Dash Arthur Cantu Bernie Freeman David Engle Ru Sindberg Matt Kolleng Brian Tyler Samuel Jones William Wentz Izzy Dubois

#### **June Honorees**

Dany Talia Tommy Walker Kenneth Deets Thomas West Mikah Shepard Robert Osorio Stephen Martin Vernon Thompson III William Moon **Gregory Duroncelay** Earnest Prince Brian Choi David Lippman Jimmy Bean Samuel Jones David Rowden Stephen Roberts John Crawford

Joseph & Robert Martin Douglas Brown Lance Owen Charles Smith Michael Kinzie Robert Hiple Michael J. Parton Paul Hunt Randall Mowbray Earl Seay Richard Roth Phillip A. Larson Anthony Raunich Gary Naught Gerald Kidby Nick Pikios Matt Kolleng John Bradley III David Crittendon Paul Jetty Mike Beck **Brian Surpass** Alan McCoury

**July Honorees** 

#### August Honorees

Steven & Debbie Van Dyke Damien Thomas Robert Brophy **Davaris Thomas** Gabriel Ramirez Leonard Shultz Pablo Waldman Jonathan Bourland Andrew Bean Jerome Joseph William Cerveny Bruce Kuhn Paul Vonblai Gary Taylor Wesley L. Akers Don Selke William Frye Terry Standiford

#### ◀ INDIANAPOLIS TERMINAL

# **Getting to Know Indy**

### Indiana terminal shop runs two shifts, six days a week

In case you haven't made it to the Indy terminal in a while or just haven't been able to stop by during our business hours of 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. EST, we'd like to introduce you to our staff:

Director of Operations-Mid West -Wade Rubin, Employee Relations Coordinator (On Site HR rep) - Melissa Rubin, Dispatch (Operations) - Scott McCowan, Jim Rosner, Jerod Aikman, Rebecca Hines, Orientation Coordinator - Diana Shiflet, Administrative Assistant - Mary Richardson.

The Indy terminal has a variety of services for our drivers including: onsite fuel, wash bay, showers, laundry facilities, and of course Transflo is located in our driver lounge. Please be sure to stop by the front office for any supplies you may need or if it's after hours the shop can help you. The Indianapolis shop is once again

running two shifts allowing us to service more trucks/trailers and get them back on the road faster.

The Indy Shop is now open: Monday-Sunday 6:00 a.m. - 2:30 a.m. Along with the new hours you may also see some new faces along with some familiar ones.

Dean Shiflet has returned to the Indy terminal as the Shop Manager. We also have four foremen in the shop: Chet Peters, Josh Netherton, Ralph Serini, and Kenny Goodman. Please remember all service at the Indy terminal is done by appointment.

To make your next visit to the Indy shop as smooth as possible, please make sure to send in a Macro 43 for service to secure an appointment.

#### • DRIVER AWARD

## **Contractor Wins** Writing Contest



Kate Kosse, an independent contractor with Marten Transport, recently won the Mark Twain Contest that is run yearly by the Trucker's News publication for her short story, "Dark Side of the Road". Essays or stories may be submitted by truck drivers or their spouses for consideration in the Mark Twain Contest.

Although Kate has been writing poetry and short stories since the second grade, "Dark Side of the Road" was only the second writing effort that Kate had submitted for possible publication.

Kate stated she is planning to purchase a laptop computer with her \$1000 prize.

Congratulations Kate and keep up the good work on and off the road.

## Employee Communication

We appreciate your honesty. Please use this form for comments, complaints, or suggestions. Your input helps make Marten the best possible workplace for all employees. Drivers may submit this form in a Trip Pak envelope, ATTN: HR - to be routed to the appropriate department for a response. Office and terminal employees should submit to HR for departmental routing.

#### **COMMENTS:**

Name:

Driver No.:\_

Marten Transport, Ltd. **129 Marten Street** Mondovi, WI 54755

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#### TRUCKER BUDDIES

## **Candy's Kids Learning to Lend a Hand**

Driver reaches out to pen pals; kids then reach out to aid recovering soldiers

Marten driver Candy Bass has a Trucker Buddy class that is a Special

Olympics swim team from Central City, Nebraska called the Diggin' Dolphins.

Their unusual name was chosen because some of the athletes were playing volleyball as well as swimming.

Candy first met Kathy Siemon and her son Craig at the Truckers Convoy



1-800-MY-BUDDY www.truckerbuddy.org

for Special Olympics in 2005 and a friendship was immediately formed.

After getting the okay for this unusual class, the pen pal relationship blos-

somed. Most recently Candy has not been able to get to see them, but she has been sending many different things from the states she has travelled. including post cards, brochures, t-shirts, hats, and the list goes on and

on. One of her more recent special gifts were t-shirts for the swim team that all say "Trucker Pal" on them.

Candy also sends hats from Marten Transport to the wounded soldier's hospital at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas.

> Candy is just an amazing person, always thinking of someone else, and especially thinking of "Special People."

Craig is unable to write, but he wanted to make sure Kathy tells us that "He just loves Candy !!!" and that she should be chosen as the Driver of the Month.

• This article was originally published in the Spring 2009 Trucker Buddy Newsletter.

