

TIME DETERMINANT IN CONTAINER SHIPPING AND PORT COMPETITIVENESS

Speaker : **Prof. Claude Comtois**

Chair : **Dr. James Wang**

Organizers : **MA in Transport Policy and Planning Programme and
The Institute of Transport Studies, The University of Hong Kong**



Date : **20 November 2015 (Friday)**

Time : **7:00-8:00pm**

Venue : **LG.34, LG/F, Centennial Campus,
The University of Hong Kong,
Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong**

Seminar Abstract :

Time is a key component of supply chains. As ocean shipping becomes integrated increasingly in global supply chains the question of ocean transit times between ports and ship dwell times within ports have become factors in inter-port competition and chain routing. The opportunities for carriers, shippers and terminal operators to increase their time performance are likely to be manifold in the next decade.

This raises a series of key issues. How does performance differ between trade routes? How ocean transit and port ship dwell times differ between carriers and terminal operators? Is up scaling in world fleet transforming port dwell time? Above all, are there important intra-port differentiations based the vessel turnaround performance of different terminal operators.

Initially, vessel movements involved in Trans-Pacific, Trans-Atlantic, Northern Europe-East Coast South America, and Asia-Northern Europe are examined. A key feature is the measure of average transit times and their variability. Second, we proceed in assessing time performance variability for different carriers in different ports. In interpreting these changes, a detailed examination is made of carrier's network architecture and ports of call. Third, we examine the cascading effect of increasing vessel size. Particular attention is given Trans-Pacific shipping routes and China port geography. The comparative nature of port temporal performance provides a context to enhance the capacity and competitiveness of port terminal assets in insuring reliability and fluidity.



Prof. Claude Comtois

Department of Geography,
Interuniversity Research
Centre on Enterprise Networks,
Logistics and Transportation,
University of Montreal

Claude Comtois has a degree in political science, a M.Sc. in geography and a Ph.D. from the University of Hong Kong for his research in the field of transportation. He is professor at the University of Montreal, senior member of the Interuniversity Research Centre on Enterprise Networks, Logistics and Transportation and scientific advisor for Transport Canada's Port Working Group. He has over 10 years' experience as transport project director for the Canadian International Development Agency in China. Visiting professorships include more than 15 foreign universities. His teaching and research are centred on ports and maritime transport. He is the author or the co-author of over 100 scientific publications and 250 communications. He has supervised or participated in more than 40 research projects. He currently supervises projects on the competitiveness of port systems, configuration of ocean shipping networks and adaptation measures of maritime transport to environmental changes.