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# Freight Transport and the Modern Economy

Michel Savy and June Burnham



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# Freight Transport and the Modern Economy

*Freight Transport and the Modern Economy* adapts a well-known textbook by Michel Savy, revising, extending and updating it for British, European and international readers. It deals not only with the technical aspects of transport, logistics and supply chain management, but also the interactions between transport professionals and the public authorities in the modern social, political, economic and environmental context.

The transport of freight is presented as a system, mixing empirics and theory, showing how transport itself functions and also its strong influence on the modern economy, with a growing volume of production, turnover and employment. The nature of freight transport, an industrial process widely marketed as a service, is analysed in depth, explaining the main characteristics of the transport operation, its market and the regulatory context. The main actors, the professional actors (carriers, shippers and other agents) and the public authorities are introduced, and their behaviour and interactions are clarified. This comprehensive approach allows the reader to go further and consider in particular the approaches and practices of transport by carriers, customers, logistics managers, political decision-makers and citizens, to tackle long-range issues such as the 'decoupling' of production and transport recommended by some institutions and experts, and to explore the need for more infrastructure, or the capacity of the freight transport industry to reduce its contribution to pollution and climate change.

This book treats freight transport as a whole system in its technical, economic, social, political and environmental context, in contrast to existing transport literature focused on individual aspects, such as transportation planning (usually for cars or passengers), logistics (essentially management issues) or individual transport modes. This book is comprehensive in its treatment of freight transport and in its use of multiple disciplinary perspectives.

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# Abbreviations

ASHE	Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings
ASLOG	Association française pour la logistique
BA	British Airways
CCFA	Comité des constructeurs français d'automobiles
CER	Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies
CERTU	Centre d'études sur les réseaux, les transports, l'urbanisme et les constructions publiques
CfIT	Commission for Integrated Transport
CFS	Commodity Flow Survey
CNT	Conseil National des Transports
CPA	Classification of Products by Activity
CPC	Certificate of Professional Competence
CPT	carriage paid to the place named
CSCMP	Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals
CSRG	Continuous Survey of Road Goods Transport
DB	Deutsche Bahn
DfT	Department for Transport
EAE	enquête annuelle d'entreprises de transport
ECMT	European Conference of Ministers of Transport
EU	European Union
FNTR	Fédération Nationale des Transports Routiers
FTE	full time equivalent
FTL	full truck load
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicles
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICC	International Chamber of Commerce
ICT	information and communications technologies
IFSTTAR	Institut français des sciences et technologies des transports, de l'aménagement et des réseaux
IMO	International Maritime Organization
Incoterms	International Commercial Terms

INSEE	Institut National des Statistiques et Etudes Economiques
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ITF	International Transport Forum
ITU	Intermodal Transport Units
LGV	Light Goods Vehicles
NACE	Nomenclature générale des activités économiques dans les communautés européennes (Statistical Classification of Economic Activities)
NATA	New Approach to Transport Appraisal
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NST	nomenclature for statistics on transport
NST/R	nomenclature for statistics on transport, revised
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PPP	public–private partnership
RFF	Réseau Ferré de France
SCTG	Standard Classification of Transported Goods
SEA	Single European Act
SESP	Service économie, statistique et prospective
SITRAM	Système d'information sur le transport de marchandises
SME	small- and medium-sized enterprises
SNCF	Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer
SOeS	Service d'Observation et de Statistique
TEN	Trans-European Network
TEN-T	Trans-European Transport Network
TERFN	Trans-European Rail Freight Network
TEU	Twenty Foot Equivalent Units
TGV	Train à grande vitesse (very high speed train)
TRM	Enquête transport routier de marchandises
UIRR	International Union of Combined Rail–Road Transport Companies
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UN/ECE	UN's Economic Commission for Europe
URF	Union routière de France
USA	United States of America
VAT	value added tax
WTO	World Trade Organization

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Michel Savy  
June Burnham

*Le transport d'un pays à un autre très éloigné est une espèce de manufacture; il ajoute à la matière première, il ajoute le nolis et ce nolis emploie et fait vivre bien du monde.*

Transport from one region to another much further away is a type of manufacturing: it adds to the raw materials, it adds the freight process and this freight process employs and provides a living for a good number of people.

Abbé Galiani, *Dialogue sur le commerce des blés*,  
revised by Grimm and Diderot, London, 1770.

In estimating the exchangeable value of stockings, for example, we shall find that their value, comparatively with other things, depends on the total quantity of labour necessary to manufacture them, and bring them to market.

David Ricardo, *On the Principles of Political Economy and Taxation*, London, 1817.

# Contents

<i>List of figures</i>	xii
<i>List of tables</i>	xvii
<i>List of boxes</i>	xix
<i>Abbreviations</i>	xx
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xxiii
 Introduction	 1
1 The nature of transport	12
2 The mobility of goods	48
3 The production of transport	91
4 The freight system: the companies	231
5 The freight system: the public powers	271
6 Trends, future developments and conclusion	329
 <i>Further reading</i>	 357
<i>References</i>	362
<i>Index</i>	369

# Figures

1.1	Transport, production and market	16
1.2	Supplies, distribution and transport in an industrial production line	16
1.3	Transport and industrial production	17
1.4	Transport and the ecological cycle	17
1.5	The transport system, between under and over-capacity	30
1.6	Transport speed and working capital	36
1.7	Transport speed and working capital (regular flow of multiple consignments)	36
1.8	Service frequency and working capital	37
1.9	Working capital tied up in transporting stock	37
1.10	Cost of production and distance	39
1.11	Competition in space	40
1.12	Competition in space: influence of manufacturing costs	40
1.13	Competition in space: influence of transport costs	41
1.14	Competition in space: protection of local production	42
1.15	Price of rail freight transport: historical evolution	43
1.16	Tariff equalization of the cost of transport	44
1.17	Distribution circuit and tariff equalization	45
1.18	Generalized production cost and transit time	46
2.1	Transport activity, inside and outside the market	50
2.2	Composition of internal or 'domestic' traffic	60
2.3	Internal freight traffic in France	61
2.4	Intra-EU, extra-EU and international trade	62
2.5	Structure of surface transport by commodities, UK and France 2005	64
2.6	Tonnage lifted and length of haul, EU 2009	66
2.7	Value density and length of haul, USA 2007	68
2.8	Value density and weight of load, USA 2007	69
2.9	Goods lifted and transported, by distance, EU 2009	69
2.10	Goods transported and lorry traffic, EU 2009	70
2.11	Main inter-regional flows in France in 2006	74
2.12	Main inter-regional flows in the USA in 2007	76
2.13	Main freight flows between EU countries, in 2006	77
2.14	Economic activity and freight transport, 2008	81

2.15	Level of development and freight transport per capita, 2008	82
2.16	Freight intensity and development, 2008	83
2.17	Economic activity and freight transport in France, 1970–2008	84
2.18	Annual variation in industrial production and freight transport	88
2.19	Freight transport and economic growth	89
3.1	The general structure of networks	92
3.2	The layered structure of transport systems	93
3.3	The layered structure of transport demand and supply	94
3.4	Energy: an essential component of the transport network	106
3.5	The unit load: layer in the transport mechanism	107
3.6	The transversal role of information	109
3.7	The integrated railway	110
3.8	Own account transport	111
3.9	Process of interaction between layers	112
3.10	Transport network: generic morphology	112
3.11	Morphology: from a line to a network	113
3.12	Mesh network and nodal point network	115
3.13	Cross-docking platform	116
3.14	Mesh network and nodal point network: an example	117
3.15	Network: polarization and meshing	118
3.16	Transport network and information network	119
3.17	Infrastructure provision indices	124
3.18	Infrastructure density indices	125
3.19	Relation between population density and motorway density	126
3.20	Relation between population density and railway density	126
3.21	Motorway density in EU regions, 2009	127
3.22	Railway line density in EU regions, 2009	128
3.23	Infrastructure investment in western Europe	130
3.24	Infrastructure investment by newer EU members	132
3.25	Evolution in investment by mode, western Europe	133
3.26	Evolution in investment by mode in newer EU member-states	133
3.27	Evolution of the modal split in western Europe	135
3.28	Evolution in freight traffic by mode in western Europe	136
3.29	The modal split in west European countries, 2008	137
3.30	Evolution in rail freight in west European countries	137
3.31	Evolution in the modal split in central Europe	138
3.32	Modal split in EU 27, USA, Japan, China and Russia	140
3.33	Freight cost as a function of distance	143
3.34	Average kilometric cost as a function of distance	144
3.35	Road and rail freight cost: reduction in rail variable costs (option 1)	144
3.36	Road and rail freight cost: reduction in rail fixed costs (option 2)	145
3.37	General transport cost (situation 1)	147
3.38	General transport cost (situation 2)	148
3.39	Road freight by classes of distance, 11 EU members	149
3.40	Rail freight by classes of distance, 11 EU members	150