

NITL Engage Policy Forum
November 30 – December 2, 2026
Developing Schedule of Events Venue: [The Mayflower Hotel](#)

Monday, November 30, 2026

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

NITL Registration

11:00 am – 4:00 pm

NITL Emerging Leaders Luncheon and Program (NELP)

Additional Registration is required.

12:00 – 1:00 pm

NITL Engage Opening Lunch – Welcome Remarks from Siva Narayanan, Chair of NITL

1:00 – 2:00 pm

NITL Executive Series 1: Strengthening the Supply Chain: Shipper Strategies for Resilience and Crisis Response – Be the Champion with A Triage Plan

Strategic Planning for Crisis Response Across Rail, Ocean, and Highway Transportation In today's increasingly volatile freight environment, supply chain disruptions can emerge with little warning — from geopolitical conflict and labor instability to major rail mergers, port congestion, severe weather, and infrastructure disruptions.

This interactive workshop will provide transportation and supply chain professionals with practical tools to develop a strategic response plan that prepares their organizations to navigate uncertainty across rail, ocean, and highway freight networks.

Attendees will leave with a clearer understanding of how to create a strategic transportation plan that supports business continuity, protects customer relationships, and strengthens supply chain resilience in an increasingly unpredictable global environment.

Series Facilitator:

- Mike Regan, Co-Founder, Chief of Relationship Development, and Capacity Coach, Tranzact Technologies

Panelist:

- Erin VanZeeland, Senior Vice President, Schneider (Invited),
- Peter Mento, Director Global Trade Advisory Services | US Licensed Customs Broker
- Siva Narayanan, SNF, Global Logistics & CS Director

Partner: [Lansdale Warehousing](#)

2:00 – 3:00 pm

NITL Executive Series 2: Protecting Your Freight: Insurance, Liability, and Risk Management in a Multimodal Supply Chain:

Insurance, Liability, and Risk Management in a Multimodal Supply Chain As supply chains become more complex and disruptions more frequent, understanding transportation insurance and liability exposure has become critical for shippers.

This series will help attendees better understand what protection they need from insurance providers, carriers, brokers, and logistics partners to minimize financial and operational risk. This session would provide practical guidance from insurance experts, legal professionals, and transportation practitioners on how to build a more resilient risk management strategy.

Series Facilitator:

- Robert Petit, Area Senior Vice President, Arthur J. Gallagher

Panelist:

- Scott Cornell, Chief Executive Officer at GLOVIS America, Inc. Justin Olsen, Esq., Olsen Skoubye & Nielson, LLC and former attorney for CR England
- Garth Pitzel, Director, Safety and Driver Development at Bison Transport Inc.
- Doug Marcello- Brokerage Risk Management, Bison Transport, Inc.
- Diane Grand, Regional Risk and Insurance Manager at Expeditors Cargo Insurance (Invited)

Partner: Arthur J Gallagher

3:00 – 4:00 pm

NITL Executive Series 3: Freight Visibility and Data Strategy: Using Technology to Improve Supply Chain Decision-Making:

Using Technology to Improve Supply Chain Decision-Making Today's supply chain leaders are expected to make faster, data-driven decisions across increasingly fragmented transportation networks. This workshop would focus on how shippers can leverage technology, visibility tools, and freight data to improve operational performance and respond more effectively to disruptions. Attendees would gain insight into emerging technologies and practical strategies for improving efficiency, responsiveness, and customer service across multimodal freight operations.

Series Facilitator:

- TBA

Panelists:

- TBA

Partner:

5:30 – 7:00 pm - Reception

7:00 – 9:00 pm - Dinner

Location: [The Historic Decatur House](#)

(Final times TBD)

Offsite Reception and Dinner at The Historic Decatur House & NELP Graduation

Step into history as we gather at the iconic [Decatur House](#), one of Washington, DC's most treasured historic landmarks. Located just steps from the White House, this remarkable venue offers a unique blend of rich history, timeless elegance, and unforgettable charm. Join us for an evening of networking, conversation, and connection in a setting that has welcomed influential leaders and witnessed nearly two centuries of American history. We look forward to bringing our community together for a truly memorable experience in the heart of the nation's capital.

Presenting Partner: CIT Rail

Tuesday, December 1, 2026

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

NITL Registration

8:00 – 9:00 am

NITL Opening Breakfast Session

Speaker: Congressman John Garamendi, CA (Invited)

Supporting Partner: AMTR

9:00 – 9:15 am

Welcome to NITL Engage Policy Forum- Day 2 Opening Remarks, NITL Business Meeting & NITL Heritage Award

Speakers:

- NITL's Chair Siva Narayanan, SNF Holdings
- NITL's Executive Director Nancy O'Liddy

9:15 – 10:15am

Session One

Market Shifts and Supply Chains: The Economic Outlook for Freight Transportation

Speaker:

- Bob Costello, Chief Economist & SVP, International Trade and Security Policy, American Trucking Associations

Partner: The Greenbrier Companies

10:15 – 11:00 am

Session Two

The Surface Transportation Board: Priorities, Policies, & Progress

Speaker:

- Chair Patrick Fuchs, Surface Transportation Board

Partner:

11:00 – 11:15 am

AM Networking Break

11:15 am – 12:15 pm

Session Three

Beyond the Hype: How Shippers Are Using Artificial Intelligence to Improve Transportation Performance

Artificial Intelligence is rapidly moving from concept to practical application across freight transportation and supply chain operations. Shippers are increasingly using AI to optimize routing, improve demand forecasting, enhance shipment visibility, support freight procurement decisions, and identify potential disruptions before they occur.

This session will move beyond the buzzwords to explore how leading organizations are using AI to solve real-world transportation challenges. Panelists will share practical examples, lessons learned, implementation challenges, and measurable results from AI initiatives across transportation and logistics operations.

Moderator:

- Harris Ligon, President, Telegraph

Panelist:

- TBA

Partner: Telegraph

12:15 – 1:15 pm

Session Four

Networking Over Lunch Session

Speaker:

- Senator Tammy Baldwin, Wisconsin (Invited)

Partner:

1:15 – 2:15 pm

Session Five

The Federal Maritime Commission: Priorities, Policies & Progress

Speaker:

- Commissioner Robert Harvey, Federal Maritime Commission

Partner:

2:15 – 3:00 pm

Session Six

Geopolitics, Trade Policy, and Their Impact on Freight Flows

Global events and how government policies are reshaping supply chains at an unprecedented pace, creating new challenges — and opportunities — for shippers across rail, ocean, trucking, and intermodal transportation networks.

From geopolitical conflicts and shifting trade alliances to tariffs, sanctions, labor disruptions, and evolving regulatory requirements, transportation professionals must continuously adapt to an increasingly uncertain global freight environment.

Speaker:

- Assistant Secretary of the Multimodal Freight and Infrastructure Policy Michael Rutherford

Partner:

3:00 – 3:15 pm

PM Networking Break

3:15 pm – 4:00 pm

Session Seven

Post-Election Political Analysis: What Results Mean for Freight Transportation and Supply Chains

The 2026 midterm elections will shape the future of freight transportation policy, infrastructure investment, trade, regulation, labor, and the broader economic environment impacting shippers. This session will provide attendees with a timely, nonpartisan analysis of the election results and what the new political landscape means for rail, trucking, ocean shipping, and supply chain operations.

Speaker:

- Ashlee Stephenson, President, AxAdvocacy

Presenting Partner: GATX

4:00pm – 5:00pm

NITL Freight Leaders Networking Reception: Conversations & Connections

Speaker:

- TBA

Partner:

Wednesday, December 2, 2026

8:00 – 11:30 am

NITL Registration

8:30 – 9:30 am

Session Eight

NITL in Action: Your Voice. Your Issues. Your Impact.

This is the session every NITL Engage attendee needs to be in the room

What is NITL doing to protect your interests, advance your priorities, and make sure the shipper's voice is heard in Washington and across the transportation industry? Get the inside story directly from the leaders driving NITL's work across rail, highway, and ocean transportation.

Moderated by Senior Policy Advisor Ann Warner, this high-energy, candid conversation will bring together Rail Chair Monica Freeman, Highway Chair Jeff Tucker, and Ocean Chair Traci Hamilton to share the issues they are tackling, the progress NITL is making, and the results that matter to shippers.

From rail competition and service, to trucking capacity and reliability, to ocean transportation, ports, and supply chain challenges, hear how NITL is turning member concerns into action—and where the League is pushing hardest for change.

Come hear what NITL is doing for you. Learn what is happening next. And discover how your voice can help shape the transportation policies that impact your business.

If you attend only one session at NITL Engage, make it this one.

Moderator:

- Ann Warner, Senior Policy Advisor, NITL

Panelists:

- Rail Committee: Monica Freeman, Chair, CHS Inc.
- Highway Committee: Jeff Tucker, Chair, Tucker Company Worldwide
- Ocean Committee: Traci Hamilton, Chair, SNF

9:30 – 10:30 am

Session Nine

Fuel Up & Connect - Freight Transportation Leadership Outlook: Priorities for 2027 and Beyond

A conversation with transportation leaders examining the key issues expected to shape freight transportation in the coming year, including regulation, infrastructure investment, supply chain resiliency, technology, workforce challenges, and evolving customer demands.

Moderator:

- Gail Rutkowski, Consultant

Panelist:

- John Janson, Vice President of Global Logistics, SanMar,
- Laura Eory, Director of Transportation at KIND and TBA.

Partner:

10:30 – 11:30 am

Session Ten

Global Trade at a Crossroads: A Fireside Chat with Peter Tirschwell and Peter Mento

Description:

Global trade is entering a new era shaped by geopolitical conflict, changing trade policies, evolving carrier strategies, and increasing supply chain risk. In this engaging fireside conversation, Peter Tirschwell and Peter Mento will share their perspectives on the challenges and opportunities ahead, offering practical insights for shippers seeking to build resilience and remain competitive in an increasingly uncertain world.

Moderator:

- Mark Szakonyi, JOC/ S&P Global

Panel:

- Peter Tirschwell, former JOC Editor
- Pete Mento, former DSV, Global Logistics

Partner:

11:30 am

Conference adjourns

Schedule and attend meetings with representatives on Capitol Hill at your convenience to advocate for key industry issues.

Attendees are encouraged to schedule and attend meetings with Congressional offices and federal agencies on Capitol Hill to discuss key transportation and supply chain issues impacting their organizations and the broader shipper community.

NITL will not schedule these meetings on attendees' behalf but has reserved this time to facilitate advocacy and engagement with policymakers.

However, if you need help please reach out to us.

1:00 – 3:00 pm

Board Meeting and Lunch (Closed Meeting)