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### Agenda



- Overview of the Boxcar
- Boxcar: Fleet Size and Commodities
- Future Boxcars
- National Pooling
- The Short Line Dilemma
- Boxcar Improvements



# **Boxcars – Why Did They Make It So Hard?**





## The Early History of the Boxcar



- 1930s "Housecars"
- WWII Troop Transport
- Originally built as a 40' general purpose railcar
- First built as 40' then in the 1960s as a 50'
- 1970s severe shortage led to incentive per diem boxcars (grandfathered)
- 1980s 86' and 60' boxcars were built



### **Boxcars Are Very Complex!**



#### **UNDERFRAME**

Rigid Cushion

### **EQUIPPED BOXCARS**

Insulated
Bulkhead
Refrigerated

#### **ADD-ONS**

Wall & Floor Anchors Wall & Floor Tracks

**PLATE** 

B C E

#### **DOOR TYPE**

Single
Double Door
Slide
Plug

#### **CAR GRADE**

A B C F K

#### **LENGTH**

40' 50' 52' 60' 86'

#### **TONNAGE**

70-ton 100-ton 110-ton

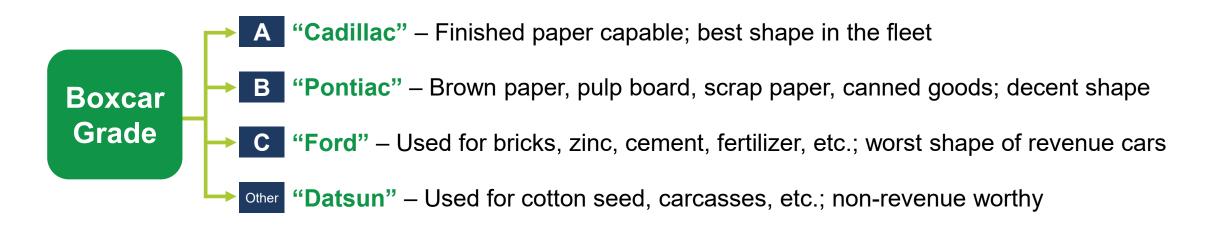
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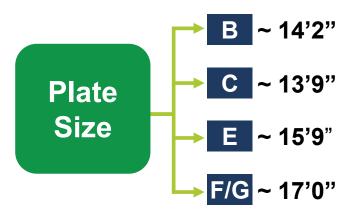




### **Grade & Plate Size Differences Effect What Can Be Loaded**







#### **Attributes limit product loading**

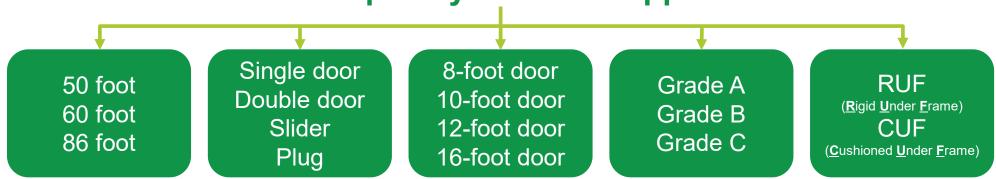
- Car grade limits what product can be loaded
- Certain roof height & edges more desirable
- Customers need certain car attributes to ship product

### Similar Commodities Carried in Dissimilar Boxcars



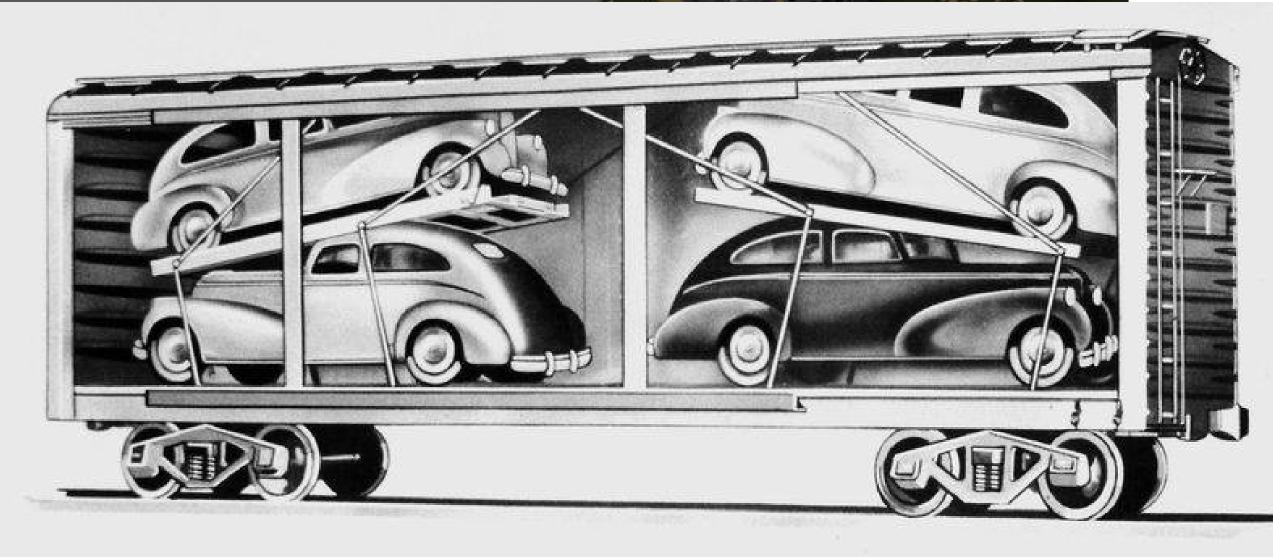
- 1. 50' RBL Box (102) Canned goods, alcohol, flour
- 2. 60' RBL Box (103) Alcohol, canned goods, refrigerated product
- 3. 50' RUF Box (104) Pulp board & wood pulp, scrap paper, alcohol
- 4. 50' CUF Box (105) Pulp board, printing paper, wood pulp, alcohol
- 5. 60' Merch Box (107) Appliances, panel products, newsprint
- 6. 60' Auto Box (106) Auto parts
- 7. 86' Auto Box (108) Auto parts
- 8. Refrigerated boxcar (109) Tropicana

#### **Boxcar complexity creates shipper issues**



# Fleet Size and Commodities Handled



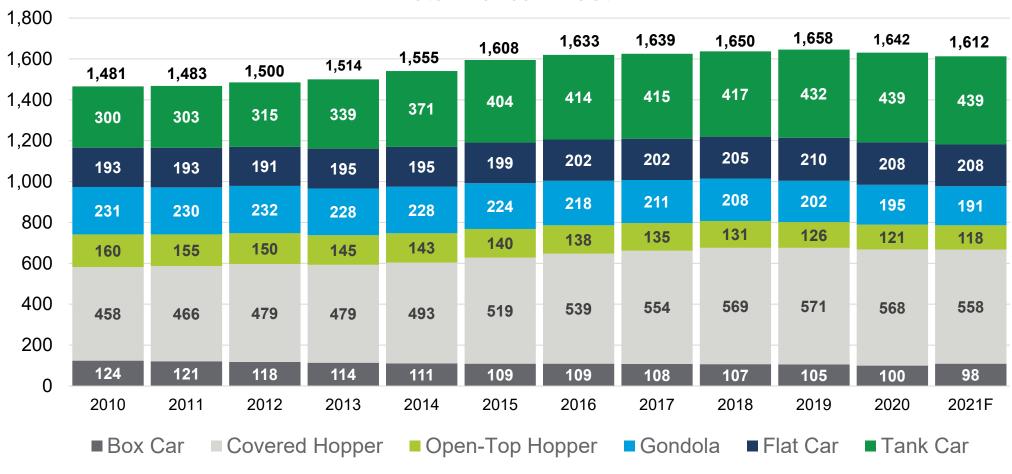


### North American Railcar Fleet\*

(counts at Year End/YTD, shown in thousands)



#### Total Railcar Fleet



\*Active Equipment Registered in UMLER

^Double-Stack counts shown in Platforms

### Railcar Fleet\* Average Age



- Relatively steady since 2009 (implementation of the new UMLER)
- 2020 average age: 19.6 year
  - Average boxcar age = 28.6 years
- Stability indicates that new railcars are added to the fleet at roughly the same rate that others exit
- Increased Life Service (ILS): extending the life of a railcar from 50–65 years;
   always an option for railcars and has been used in many other fleets

<sup>\*</sup>Revenue-earning fleet

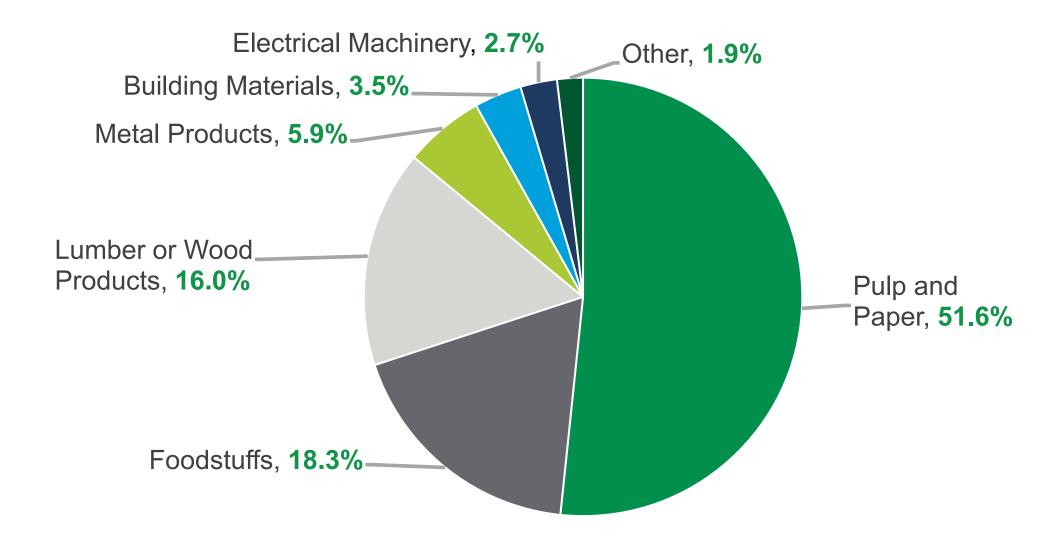
### **Boxcar Fleet\* Size**



- 108,881 active boxcars
  - High-cube (Plate F, 286k GRL): 42,486 on 91% utilization
  - Standard-cube (Plate C, <286k GRL): 56,770 on 89% utilization</li>
  - Refrigerated boxcar: 9,625 on 74% utilization
- Handle a wide variety of products (e.g., paper, tissue, container board)
- Excellent pooling candidate, due to their flexibility
  - North American Boxcar Pools:
    - 50' 70-ton
    - 50' 100-ton Plate F
    - 60' 100-ton Plate F
  - ABOX/RBOX Pool 50' 70-ton pool only available to TTX Member Roads

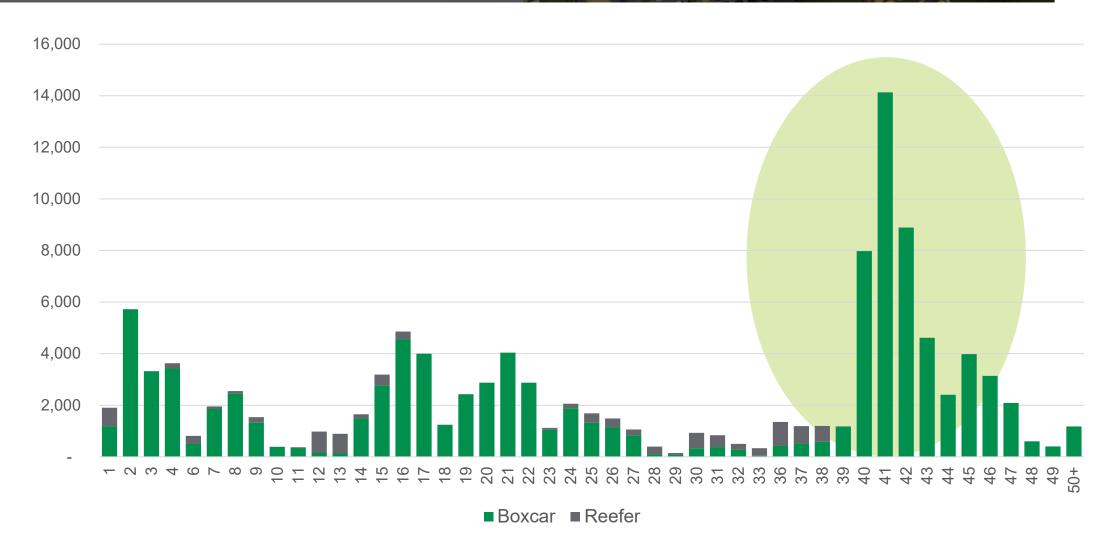
# 2018 Boxcar Loads by Commodity





# Fleet\* Age Demographics - The Cliff





# Boxcar Fleet\* Age Demographics - The Cliff



- Where are the largest concentrations of boxcars\* that will fall out?
  - RBOX/ABOX owned by TTX for use by their member roads; most are in storage
  - North American Boxcar Pool used by the Class Is and scheduled to be replaced by higher capacity boxcars
  - Short lines the mainstay boxcar is the 50' 70-ton boxcar
    - This is the biggest area of concern



### **Boxcar Fleet Age Demographics**



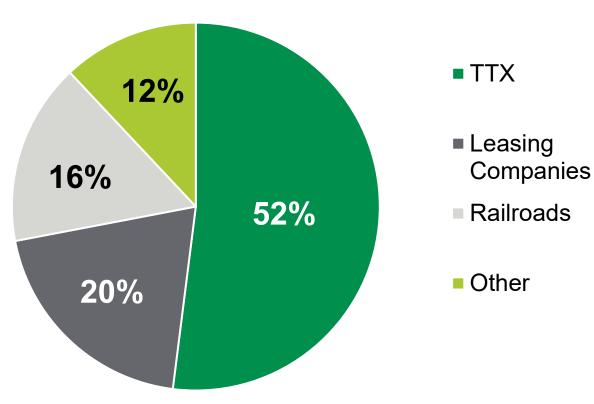
- Fallout will be high over the next decade
  - Average age is 28.6 years
  - Assuming all make it to their statutory retirement age, fallout will peak in 2029
  - 2030 and 2028 will have the next highest fallouts, respectively
  - No Anticipated ILS (Increased Life Service) on existing boxcars
- Boxcar additions have been significant
  - 16,939 added to the N.A. fleet in the last 5 years
  - New build boxcars are all high-capacity, GRL 286k
- Additional capacity will be needed to offset the anticipated fallout



# 21,000 Boxcars Built Since 2014



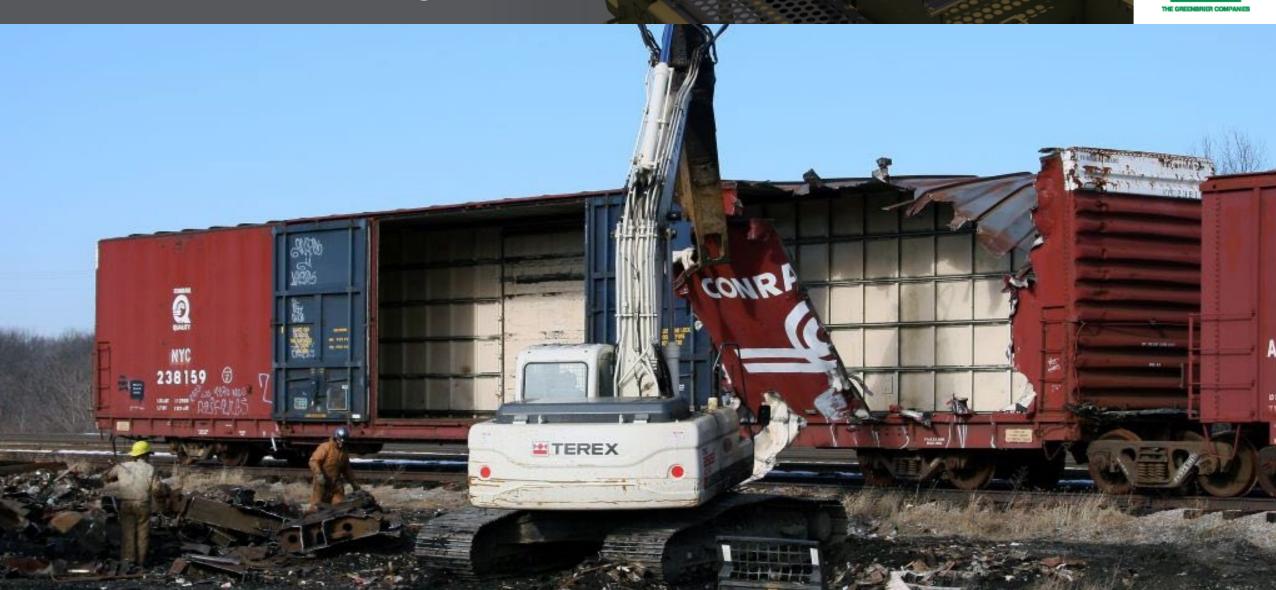




100% = 21,124 per UMLER "Weighing Date"

# **Future Boxcars Types**





### Future Fleet: 50' Plate F Boxcar



#### **FBOX**

#### 50'-6" 100-Ton Single Plug Door Boxcar

- Application: Commodity
- Description: 17'-0" high single-door boxcar with a capacity of 6.264 cubic feet and a load limit of 215,000 lbs.
- Details: Plate F, XM, 100-ton trucks Available with either 10' or 12' single plug doors



### Future Fleet: 60' Plate F Boxcar



#### **TBOX**

#### 60'-9" 100-Ton Double Plug Door Boxcar

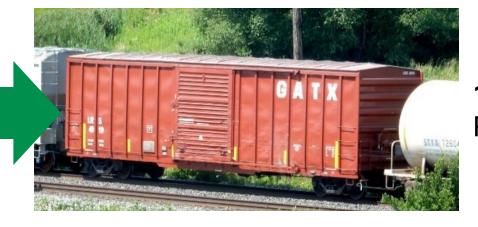
- Application: Commodity
- Description: 17'-0" high double-door boxcar with a capacity of 7,550 cubic feet and a load limit of 206,000 lbs.
- Details: Plate F, XM, 100-ton trucks
   Double 8' plug doors



### **Boxcar Pooling Exercise**







**10 70-ton**Plate C boxcars



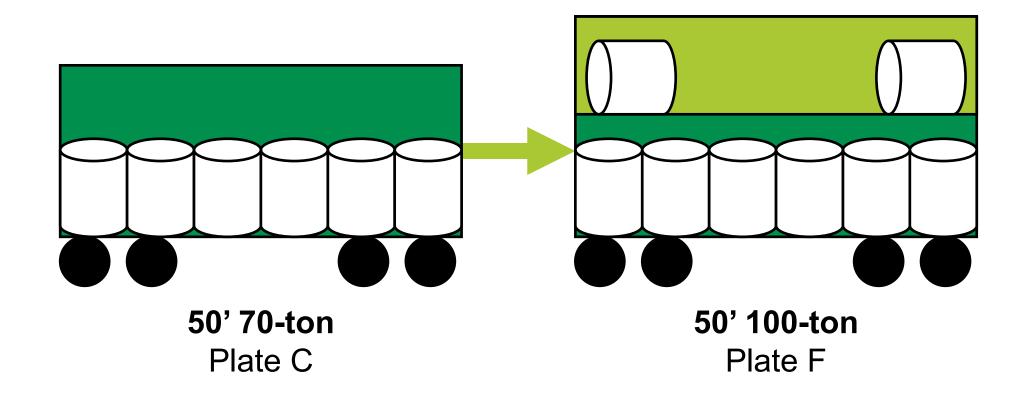
**7 100-ton**Plate F boxcars

Moving to Plate F boxcar is 30% more productive

### Future Fleet: The Dilemma



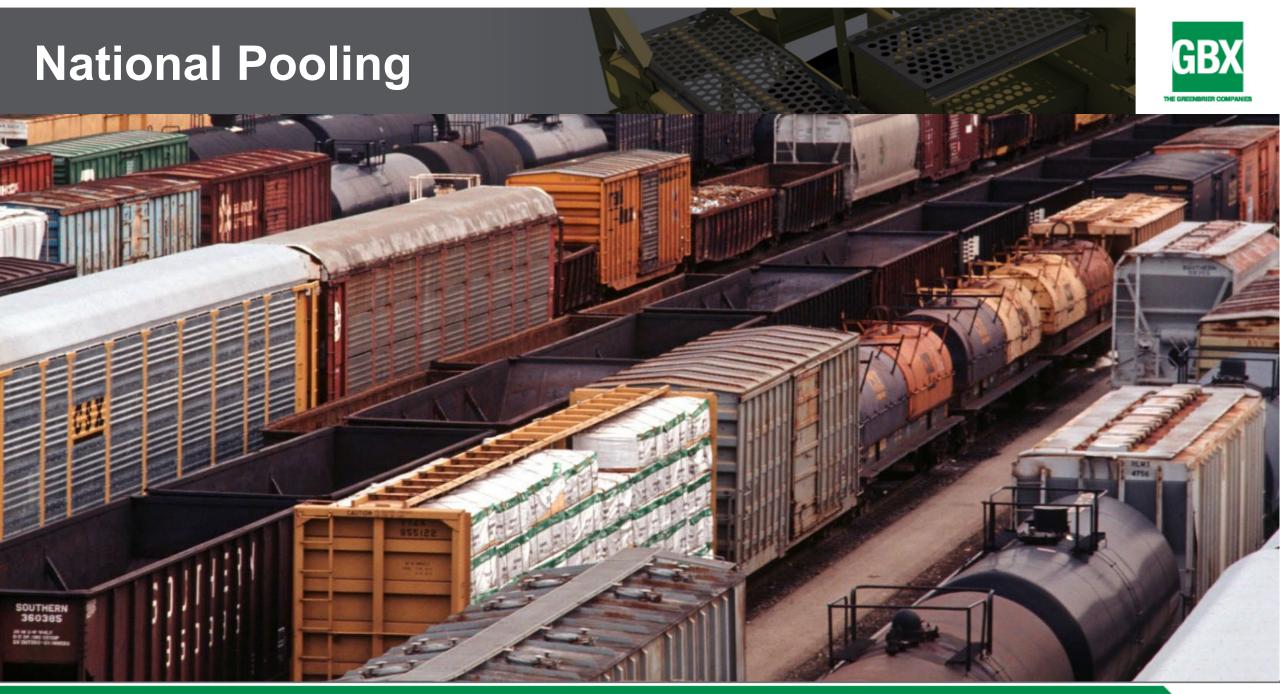
### **Maximizing The Additional Capacity**



### Future Fleet: The Dilemma



Boxcars			
70-ton	3 to 1	22.75 tons	Love Love Love
100-ton	4 to 1		for for for for
Jumbo			
100-ton	3.5 to 1	28.5 tons	Love flow flow flow
110-ton	4 to 1		Love Love Love Love
Coal			
100-ton	3.5 to 1	25 tons	Love Love Love Love
WV 100-ton	3 to 1	30 tons	the tree trees
110-ton	4 to 1	25 tons	Leve Lever Lever Lever
WV 110-ton	3.6 to 1	30 tons	for for for for



## **How Boxcar Pooling Works**





#### **Standard Railcar Flow**

- Newsprint to Los Angeles
- Empty return



### **How Boxcar Pooling Works**





#### **Potential National Boxcar Flow**

- Newsprint to Los Angeles
- Canned tomatoes to Vancouver
- Plywood to Ohio
- Scrap paper to Mexico
- Beer to Chicago



### **How Boxcar Pooling Works**



#### **How it Works**

- Allocation is based on the number of boxcars each RR puts in the pool
- Maximum limit of boxcars is equal to the number of originated loads per month
- Boxcars online determines if RR is above or below allocation
- Goal is to decrease DPL and reduce empty miles

#### **Benefits**

- Reduces empty car time and miles
  - Decreases empty car costs
- Reduces combined industry car need
  - Decreases car capital outlay

## Three North American Boxcar Pools (NABP)



- Plate C pool was initiated by the railroads in 2003
  - Boxcars had high DPLs driven by long distance moves
- Two new pools incorporated in June 2010
  - 50' Plate F
  - 60' Plate F
- 9 participating railroads
  - UP, BNSF, CN, CP, CSX, NS, KCS, KCSM, Ferromex
- All Grade A boxcars and commodities

#### 50 ft, Plate C (70–100-ton)

8,227 boxcars total
Rigid or Cushion
Slide or Plug Door

#### 50 ft, Plate F (100-ton)

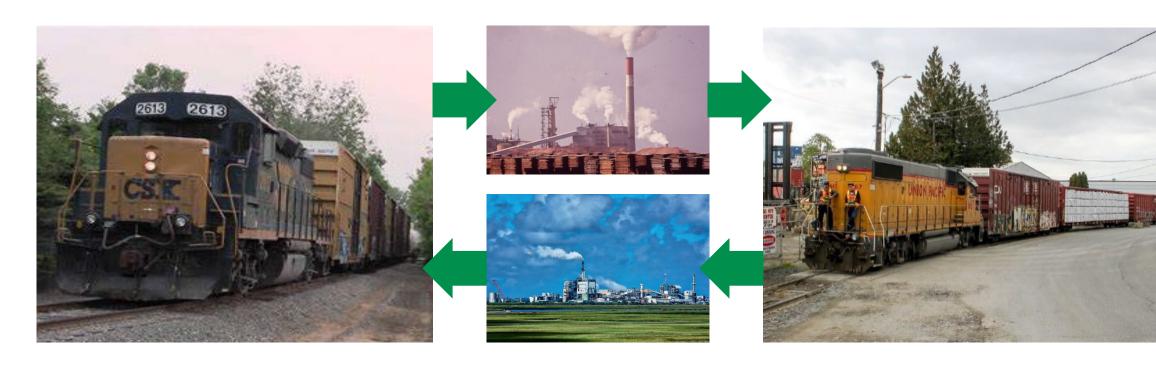
3,005 boxcars total
Cushion
Single Plug Door

#### 60 ft, Plate F (100-ton)

5,720 boxcars total
Cushion
Double Plug Door

# The Boxcar Pooling Model (NABP)





- Increased asset utilization
- Less empty miles
- Smaller fleet size

# Moving to a National Pool is 40% more productive

### The Short Line Model for Boxcars: It's a Problem!





100 % Empty Return



- All boxcars are assigned to specific short lines (i.e., FCRD, SMW)
- Free to the Short Line or Load Incentive
- Customers generally enjoy high order fulfillment and low/no demurrage

### Summary



- All Class I railroads have started their boxcar replacement
- Two boxcar types instead of many (standardization)
  - 50' Plate F 100-ton single door
  - 60' Plate F 100-ton double door
- Fleet efficiencies will be gained through:
  - Moving to a higher cubic capacity/ tonnage railcar
  - Moving to national pooling
- Fleet replacement will be 50–70% of current numbers
- Replacement needs to start soon...

