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From the Editor

Jerry W. Wilson

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From the Editor...

The events of September 11, 2001, will continue to influence our lives and livelihoods for many years to come. The tools of our industry were used on this day both as weapons of war and for aiding the survivors and their families. This issue of the *Journal of Transportation Management* is dedicated to all who lost their lives on that day and to the men and women of our industry who are working hard every day to keep this country strong. God Bless America!

Less than a week after the terrorist attacks, I was notified by Dana Campbell of the National Association of Small Trucking Companies [NASTC provides administrative services for Delta Nu Alpha] that a representative of the Library of Congress was seeking copies of an article published in the last issue of the *Journal* [Volume 12, Number 1, Spring 2000]. The article, entitled "Terrorism and the Global Supply Chain: Where Are Your Weak Links?" was written by Kay Dobie, Milt Glisson, and Jim Grant. More than one member of Congress had evidently requested the article. I sincerely hope that the timely information provided in the article can be of some value in the fight against terrorism. Thanks to Kay, Milt, and Jim for their work and for allowing it to be published in the *JTM*.

The subject matter of this issue is not as diverse as in recent issues. In fact, four of the five articles address topics in various parts of the trucking industry. The lead article in this issue, by Joe Hanna and Arnold Maltz, takes a look at service expansion attempts by LTL carriers in the U.S. over the last twenty-five years. Porter's differentiation strategy framework forms the basis for the research. The second article, by Patricia Poli and Carl Scheraga, uses data envelopment analysis to study the relationship between functional orientation of senior managers and service quality in U.S. LTL motor carriers. The results of the study indicate that, among the study participants, most LTL motor carriers are relatively inefficient in their configuration of senior level managers. Tom Lambert and Hokey Min address the impact of state taxes on the location of truck terminals and the registration and plating of commercial trucks in the third article. They use a case study they developed involving Kentucky as the basis for the discussion. Rick Clarke takes a look at the extent of EDI and Internet technology diffusion in the motor carrier industry in the fourth article of this issue. He reports the results of an email survey of 43 of the largest 75 U.S. motor carriers. In the final article of this issue, we finally leave land and head to sea! Shashi Kumar identifies several generic ocean common carrier business strategies and compares them to contemporary supply chain management practices. He also discusses the impact of the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 1998 on ocean liner operations and strategy selection. As always, I hope you take the time to read each of the articles in this issue.

The DNA Board of Directors voted recently to increase the subscription price of the *JTM*. This price increase is the first in the history of the publication—it was a decision that needed to be made. Effective immediately, the price of a domestic subscription will rise to \$50 per year, and international subscriptions will be \$65 per year. We feel that the *Journal* is still very much a bargain at the new higher price. We hope that you will agree!

In closing, remember that we cannot survive and continue to publish without reader support. Please join or renew your membership in Delta Nu Alpha International Transportation Fraternity and subscribe to the *Journal of Transportation Management*. Remember that if you join DNA at the gold level, a subscription to the *JTM* is included in your membership! Share this issue with a colleague and encourage him or her to subscribe today!

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