

4-1-1997

From the Editor

Jerry W. Wilson

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Recommended Citation

Wilson, Jerry W. (Ed.). (1997). From the Editor. *Journal of Transportation Management*, 9(1), vii-viii. doi: 10.22237/jotm/

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From the Editor...

This issue of the *JTM* is the first under my total editorial control. I can say with complete candor that, had I known the extent of the labor involved, my enthusiasm in seeking the editor's position would have been greatly reduced! My respect for the previous editor, Mike Crum, has grown substantially in the past few months from an already high level. I thank Mike again for making the transition as smooth as possible and for mentoring me as I learn the true meaning of the title, "editor." Thanks also to Brian Gibson and Steve Rutner, my able associate editors, for their unflagging efforts and dedication. Without them, this issue would have made it to press—but next year!

This is the Spring, 1997 issue of the *Journal* and I am disappointed that you are receiving it this late in the year. However, there will be two issues this year with high quality articles and we are edging closer to a more timely production schedule.

In this issue, the subjects range from the impact of downsizing on performance and employees to the characteristics of international airfreight movement. The diversity of topics is not accidental. It is my intention to focus on subjects with broad appeal that have relevance to a diverse audience. Every reader should find value in every issue of the *Journal*.

Now on to the really exciting news. If you have not yet noticed, take a moment to look at the back cover of this issue. This is more than a reminder to attend the 15th annual International Intermodal EXPO in Dallas, May 6-8 of next year. The appearance of the EXPO logo on the cover signals the beginning of what I hope to be a very long-term relationship. Mr. John M. Youngbeck, Chief Executive Officer of the International Intermodal EXPO, recently announced that the EXPO will become a financial sponsor for the *Journal of Transportation Management* for a period of at least two years. The *JTM* will continue to be a publication of Delta Nu Alpha, under the sponsorship of the EXPO.

Just in case you are not aware of what a great value you're getting as a subscriber, the total cost of publishing the *Journal* far exceeds subscription revenue. Delta Nu Alpha has, since the first issue, heavily subsidized the publication of the *JTM*. With the new sponsorship agreement, the financial health of the publication is assured and future plans for expanding the publication to four issues can proceed. This type of support from industry, and from one of the largest industry trade organizations of its kind in the world,

underscores both the need for the *Journal* and the value of the *JTM* to this industry. Delta Nu Alpha is proud to welcome the International Intermodal EXPO as a financial sponsor and hopes for a long and mutually beneficial relationship. As the editor, I add my personal thank you to John Youngbeck for his vision, his dedication to logistics and transportation education, and for personally supporting this agreement. For all of you readers and DNA members, I ask you to support both the *JTM* and the EXPO by subscribing to the *Journal* and attending the 15th annual EXPO in Dallas at the Dallas Convention Center, May 6-8, 1998.

As I stated in my comments preceding the last issue, I am committed to the continued improvement of the *Journal* and to its recognition as an outstanding publication in the logistics and transportation industry. You can help me by subscribing, by sharing each issue with colleagues, by submitting quality articles dealing with timely topics, and by supporting both DNA and the EXPO.

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