



The Assessment and Development of U.S. Multiport Model

Start Date: Mar 2005

POC:

Projected End Date: Dec 2006

[POC](#)

Problem Addressed:

Recognizing the interplay between ports that serve similar commodities or regions, current USACE guidelines require a multiport analysis to assess any changes to traffic patterns that may result from Corps sponsored navigation improvements. To date, the complexities associated with estimating the relationship of national infrastructure and port traffic has limited Corps planners from using multiport analysis in evaluating navigation projects.

Objective:

To develop a national model of port traffic patterns, linking both inland and foreign destinations of cargo activity and providing a methodology to evaluate potential changes based upon changing navigation components. The model and datasets will include methods of assessing market relationships by commodity, vessel type, and region. The current work effort involves conducting a literature review of port modeling and planning data/tools. This includes examining current USACE guidance regarding deep draft navigation projects and selected non Corps deep draft navigation studies to categorize current data and analytical models. Once the literature review is completed, a representative database of traffic flows will be routed through the various models identified in the literature review. These models will be linked to other NETS modules, especially the multimodal and GIS work elements.

Benefits:

The study seeks to develop a methodology of national port traffic activities that could provide a starting point for policy and planning research. The methodology and tools will be available to non-Corps users to evaluate maritime transportation options and to review Corps economic research. By releasing the various models and tools for both Corps and non-Corps planners, we hope it will generate additional interest in improving the state of practice regarding port planning.

Status:

In Progress

Contract Data:

120171, A1060

Progress:

Products (Bookshelf/Toolbox):



Related Links:

Revised 24 Oct 2006