
Intermodal Freight Conference

October 7, 2014

THE UNIVERSITY OF
MEMPHIS

Intermodal Freight
Transportation Institute



**Congressman
Steve Cohen**

Congressman Ninth
Congressional District
U.S. House of
Representatives

Representing the Ninth Congressional District, Stephen Ira “Steve” Cohen, a native Memphian, was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives November 7, 2006. He serves on the Judiciary Committee and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Upon becoming a member of congress, Steve Cohen immediately distinguished himself as a passionate, progressive and forthright voice, receiving national media recognition from The Washington Post, The New York Times, NBC Evening News, CNN, Air America and The Daily Show, among others, for his strong stance against continuing the Iraq War and as a proponent of an increased minimum wage, stem cell research, universal health care, increased funding of the COPS program, and energy innovations and independence.

Congressman Cohen earned a B.A. from Vanderbilt University and a J.D. from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. From 1978 until his election to Congress, Cohen had a private law practice in Memphis. Born on May 24, 1949, in Memphis, Steve Cohen is the son of Genevieve Cohen and the late Dr. Morris Cohen. To find out more about Congressman Cohen, visit his website at www.house.gov/cohen.

Joel Tracy is the Chief Information Officer (CIO) with IMC Companies. IMC Companies is a national logistics company focused on international shipments. Company services include container drayage, customs house brokerage, freight forwarding and maintenance and repair. As the CIO, Joel is responsible for leading IT development, delivery and integration of technology platforms and solutions for IMC’s Operational and BackOffice systems.

A 27-year IT veteran, Joel has spent most of that time leading large scale application development projects. Prior to his current role Joel held managing director positions at FedEx in Enterprise Services, Electronic Commerce Systems, Software Quality Assurance, Customer Service Systems, and Finance/Legal Systems. In each of these leadership positions Joel worked closely with his business partners and traveled extensively to locations around the world. While in these roles Joel helped guide the strategic use of several technology areas such as Service Oriented Architecture, Database concepts, Software Quality Assurance, CRM, and ERP. Joel holds an Executive MBA from the University of Memphis and a bachelor’s degree in Business/MIS from Bowling Green State University.



Joel Tracy

Chief Information
Officer

IMC Companies

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Mark Abkowitz

Professor of
Civil & Environmental
Engineering
Vanderbilt University

Mark Abkowitz holds an appointment as Professor of Civil & Environmental Engineering at Vanderbilt University. He specializes in enterprise risk management, assessing the impacts of extreme weather on infrastructure adaptation, and the strategic and operational deployment of intelligent transportation systems. He has authored numerous publications on these topics, and has appeared on National Public Radio, Fox National News and CNBC. Dr. Abkowitz has served as a member of the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, appointed to this position by President George W. Bush. He is also a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award conferred by the National Academy of Sciences for his leadership role with the Transportation Research Board.

Dr. Abkowitz has served as a researcher and consultant to a wide variety of businesses and government agencies, and is the founder and former chairman of Visual Risk Technologies. He is the author of Operational Risk Management – A Case Study Approach to Effective Planning and Response, published by John Wiley & Sons, and is nearing completion of another book, focused on managing risks in our everyday lives.

Dr. Abkowitz received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Civil Engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Prior to joining the Vanderbilt community, he was employed at the U.S. Department of Transportation, taught at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and spent a sabbatical year performing research for the U.S. Congress, Office of Technology Assessment.

Lee L. Piovarcy is a member of Martin, Tate, Morrow & Marston, P.C. where he engages in a private practice involving transportation law, products liability and commercial litigation. He is certified as a Civil Trial Advocate by the National Board of Trial Advocacy and is a Certified Trial Specialist in civil law in Tennessee. He is certified by the Supreme Court of Tennessee as a civil law mediator.

Lee was graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1963 and Vanderbilt Law School in 1966. Thereafter, he was in the Army for eight years during the Vietnam War serving as a Captain on active duty from 1966-68. He joined Martin Tate in March 1969 as an associate and is now Chairman of the Firm's Executive Committee.

Throughout his career, Lee has litigated in the practice areas of transportation, products liability and commercial litigation throughout the country, most notably in Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Illinois. While continuing his practice, he served as outside General Counsel for M.S. Carriers, Inc., a publicly held trucking company that was acquired by Swift Transportation in 2001, had 5,000 tractors and 15,000 trailers and was in the top five of truckload carriers in the United States.



Lee Piovarcy

Martin, Tate,
Morrow &
Marston P. C.

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Shannon McKinnon started as Regional Sales Manager with MS Carriers in 1991 National Account Sales Manager for Consumer Products Division for MS Carriers in 1994 managing P&G, Kimberly Clark, Quaker Oats, General Mills, Kellogg's, and Georgia Pacific. MS Carriers merged with Swift Transportation in 2001.

In 2004 McKinnon was named Vice President of National Accounts and is currently managing the following Swift accounts with a combined annual revenue of over \$200,000,000 including Over the Road Truckload, Dedicated Fleets, Intermodal, and Swift Logistics for the following customers: Fedex Express, Fedex Freight, Georgia Pacific, Reckitt Benckiser, Bush Brothers, Alcoa, Mueller Industries, Unilever North America Dollar General, International Paper, Merck Consumer Care and Orgill Inc.



Shannon McKinnon

Vice President
SWIFT
Transportation



Dan Pallme

IFTI Director
University of
Memphis

Dan Pallme (Memphis '86) graduated with a B.B.A. in Marketing. He has focused his career in the transportation field. He worked for Yellow Freight System in various capacities and moved to several locations in their network. In 1990, he started in the intermodal industry at Union Pacific (rail) as a general supervisor. He finished his career with the Union Pacific Railroad in several management positions at a few locations.

From 2004 to June 2011, he was Director of Business Development at Comtrak Logistics. During that timeframe, Comtrak Logistics developed into one of the largest national drayage providers specializing in intermodal in the country. He has been a director of the Traffic Club of Memphis for several years. He is the Vice President of Education for Transportation Clubs International. He serves on various other organizations including the American Society of Transportation and Logistics, Propeller Club, Optimist Club, Memphis MPO Freight Committee, Intermodal Freight Transportation Committee at TRB, and the co-chair of the Transportation Committee Logistics Task Force for the Greater Memphis Chamber. He currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Council of University Transportation Centers. He graduated in June 2011 with a Master of Science in Intermodal Transportation Management from the University of Denver.

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Pragati Srivastava is the Administrator for the Memphis Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). In this capacity, Ms. Srivastava is responsible for Long Range Transportation Planning for the Memphis MPO region which looks at all modes of transportation, such as highway, transit, freight, bicycle and pedestrian. Ms. Srivastava formerly served as the Principal Transportation Planner for the Memphis MPO for four years. She was responsible for managing the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and managed various transportation planning studies.



Pragati Srivastava

Before joining the Memphis MPO, Pragati worked as an Intern with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. She received a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, India and a Master's degree in City and Regional Planning from the University of Texas, at Austin, Texas.

Administrator
Memphis Urban Planning
Organization (MPO)



Commissioner John Schroer

Tennessee Department of
Transportation

John Schroer was appointed Commissioner of Transportation by Governor Bill Haslam in January, 2011. He is the 29th commissioner of the state agency that oversees a statewide transportation system including highways, rail, airports, waterways and transit.

Recently, Commissioner was appointed Chairman of the prestigious Standing Committee on Finance and Administration of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, an organization composed of peers from all DOTs across the nation.

Previous to his state service, Commissioner Schroer was the Mayor of Franklin, Tennessee beginning with his election in 2007. During his tenure, he was involved in the Middle Tennessee Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) serving on its executive committee. By virtue of his position as mayor, he was a member of the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) and served as its treasurer. As Commissioner of Transportation, he continues to be a member of each of those public bodies.

An Indiana native, Commissioner Schroer received a bachelor's degree in business from Indiana University. After graduation he moved to the Franklin area and subsequently received an MBA from the University of Tennessee.