

2009 CITT-NBF CANADIAN TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS SURVEY

INDUSTRY GAINING CONFIDENCE IN A REBOUND

HIGHLIGHTS

- **The Survey:** National Bank Financial (NBF) and the Canadian Institute of Traffic and Transportation (CITT) recently conducted a brief survey in order to gauge freight transportation spending trends and the current state of the freight markets in Canada.
- **Shippers Confident of a Recovery in Volumes in 2010:** The survey results indicate that transportation service providers, such as rails and especially trucks, are uncertain about the rebound in industry volumes next year, while shippers appear to be more confident that the industry may witness an improvement in 2010, calling for median volume growth of +8%.
- **Growth in Core Freight Rates Should Continue:** Both providers and shippers appear to be more certain about core pricing growth (excluding fuel surcharge), projecting a flat to modest improvement next year. The providers' median response was for pricing growth of +2%. As expected, rails are more positive about the pricing outlook versus trucks. Shippers expect a +2% increase next year, as well. We view the results favourably for the providers as it would appear shippers are factoring in further increases in core freight rates.
- **Competition Amongst Providers Continues to Heat Up:** While the rails and less-than-truckload carriers are managing their capacities fairly well, truckload carriers are facing more difficult conditions, given overcapacity and low barriers to entry. As a result, the rails are expected to retain the greatest pricing power upon recovery. Shippers do not anticipate changing their current transportation spend allocation.
- **Rails Well Positioned Over Trucks:** The survey results reflect a slightly positive outlook for the transportation industry, and our analysis leads us to conclude that the industry should emerge from the downturn next year with relatively modest volume and pricing growth and upside if the economy rebounds further, in our view. Against that backdrop, we continue to like the long-term fundamental rail story as the rails continue to exploit several critical advantages over trucks, take price increases commensurate with improved service levels, and manage costs and capacity to reduced levels of demand, which should position them well upon recovery. The rails are holding or improving operating ratios in the current downturn.
- **Canadian National Railway Well Positioned for a Recovery:** Transportation stocks tend to lead the stock market out of a trough, which is a reason why we like companies such as Canadian Pacific Railway (CP), Contrans and other transportation stocks we cover. However, as one of the more economically sensitive railroads, Canadian National Railway (CN) should be amongst the first to recover, especially given many of its end markets have been depressed for longer, the Company's strong capacity and cost management, and its more compelling valuation versus other transportation stocks. To frame the expected 8% volume growth and 2% pricing increase suggested by shippers, we are conservatively calling for 10.6% top-line growth at CN in 2010, 5.3% at CP and 4.6% at Contrans. If fuel and ancillary surcharges and revenue mix are considered, then our assumptions appear to be very conservative.



Thematic
Research

**EQUITY
RESEARCH**

David Newman, CFA
Associate: Umayr Allem, CFA
Konark Gupta, MBA

416.869.6754
416.869.8577
416.869.7566

david.newman@nbfinancial.com
umayr.allem@nbfinancial.com
konark.gupta@nbfinancial.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
SECTION 1: RESPONDENT PROFILE	5
SECTION 2: MARKET OUTLOOK	7
Volume	7
Pricing	9
SECTION 3: COMPETITIVE DYNAMICS	12
Degree of Competition	12
Capacity	12
Pricing Power	14
SECTION 4: SHARE & SERVICE METRICS	15
CONCLUSION	17
APPENDIX 1: ABOUT CITT	18
APPENDIX 2: SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE	19
DISCLOSURES	25

Industry Rating (Road & Rail): Overweight (NBF Economics & Strategy Group)
All dollar amounts in Cdn\$ unless otherwise noted.

All NBF research mentioned in this document is available at www.nbfinancial.com

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

National Bank Financial (NBF) and the Canadian Institute of Traffic and Transportation (CITT) recently conducted a brief survey in order to gauge freight transportation spending trends, as well as the current state of the freight markets in Canada. The survey, conducted during August 2009 as a cross-sectional study of both providers and users of transportation services, was designed to judge the degree to which Canadian freight transportation spending practices are changing in response to the current downturn. In particular, we were hoping to gain insight into current and projected volumes, pricing, overall transportation spending, service levels, competition amongst the various providers of transportation services, and other issues of the day. CITT is Canada's foremost professional development association in the supply chain and logistics sector that promotes excellence and career path development by offering professional certification, professional development and cooperative networking opportunities.

In terms of volume growth, key findings of the survey indicate that transportation service providers, such as rails and especially trucks, are uncertain about the rebound in industry volumes next year, in terms of timing and amount, while transportation service users or shippers appear to be more confident that the industry may witness an improvement in 2010. In fact, shippers project a median growth rate of +8%, with the larger shippers more certain than smaller ones. We are encouraged by this result as it is the source of volume, the shippers, who are more confident about the future. Further, it is understandable that the providers have mixed views given weak current and trailing volumes, albeit improving more recently.

On freight rates, the survey indicated that both providers and shippers appear to be more certain about core pricing growth (excluding fuel surcharge), projecting a flat to modest improvement next year. Providers expect core pricing to remain flat or increase next year, with a median projection of +2%, and as expected, rails are more positive about the pricing outlook, while trucks are highly uncertain. With more certainty, shippers expect a slight increase next year, with a median projection of +2%, as well, with larger entities, projecting flat to modest growth, more certain than the smaller ones, with no consensus on growth rate. We view the results favourably for the providers as it would appear shippers are factoring in further increases in core freight rates, which should allow rails and trucks to sustain core pricing growth.

The results also indicate that competition amongst providers has increased across the industry, given the intensity of the current downturn. The industry participants believe the rails and less-than-truckload (LTL) carriers are managing their capacities fairly well, while truckload (TL) carriers are facing more difficult conditions, given overcapacity and low barriers to entry, and thus they expect rails to retain the greatest pricing power upon recovery. Shippers do not anticipate shifting their transportation spend amongst the various modes of transportation (maintaining the current allocation) and find the external trucks' service performance holding firm or increasing, driven by trucks' efforts to recover lost business, in our view, while a majority of shippers think rails have maintained their service performance levels, given the various advantages rails have over trucks and the high level of service they already provide, which we believe continues to improve. That said, it would appear shippers tend to take a harder line when it comes to

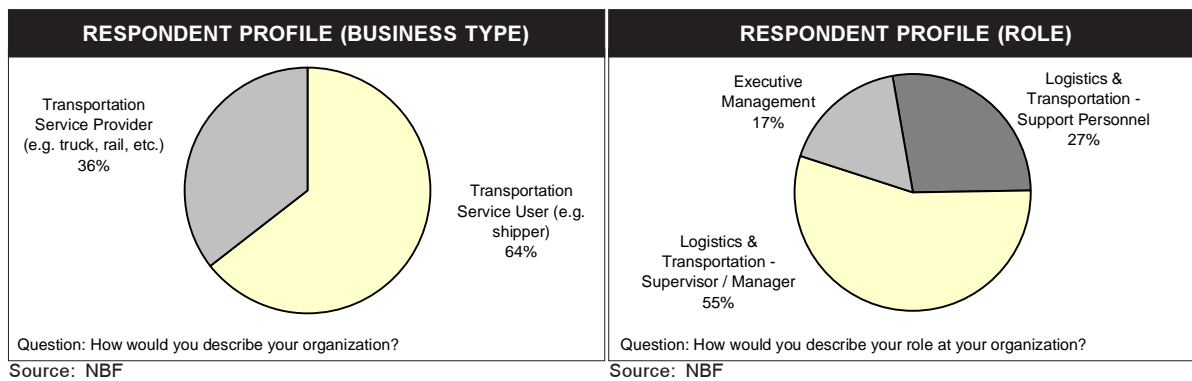
discussions about the rails, which we believe is a function of the rails' efforts to reign in capacity and be more selective about the business they are conducting, vs. the trucks, which continue to face overcapacity and tend to "chase" business.

Overall, the survey results reflect a slightly positive outlook for the transportation and logistics industry, and our analysis leads us to conclude that the industry should emerge from the downturn next year with relatively modest volume and pricing growth, and upside if the economy rebounds further, in our view. As reflected by the survey results, we continue to like the long-term fundamental rail story as the rails continue to exploit several critical advantages over trucks, take price increases commensurate with improved service levels, and manage costs and capacity to reduced levels of demand, which should position the rails well upon full recovery from the recession of 2008-2009. The rails are holding or improving operating ratios in the current downturn.

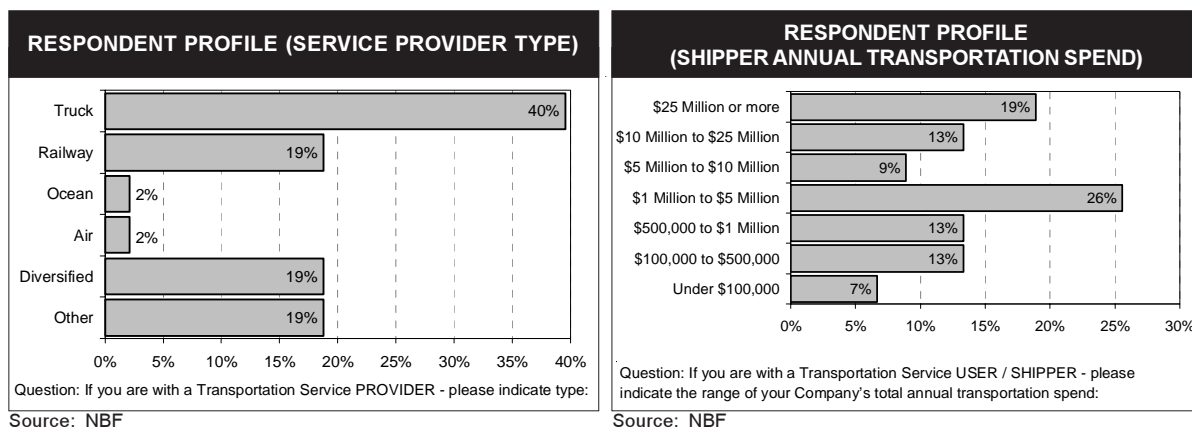
Transportation stocks tend to lead the stock market out of a trough, which is a reason why we like companies such as Canadian Pacific Railway (CP – T; Sector Perform; \$52.00 price target), Contrans (CSS.UN – T; Sector Perform; \$8.00 price target) and other transportation stocks we cover. However, as one of the more economically sensitive railroads, Canadian National Railway (CNR – T; Outperform; \$64.00 price target) should be amongst the first to recover, especially given many of its end markets have been depressed for longer, the Company's strong capacity and cost management, and its more compelling valuation versus other transportation stocks. To frame the expected 8% volume growth and 2% pricing increase suggested by shippers, we are conservatively calling for 10.6% top-line growth at CN in 2010, 5.3% at CP and 4.6% at Contrans. If fuel and ancillary surcharges and revenue mix are considered, then our assumptions appear to be very conservative, pointing to even greater upside than we are projecting.

SECTION 1: RESPONDENT PROFILE

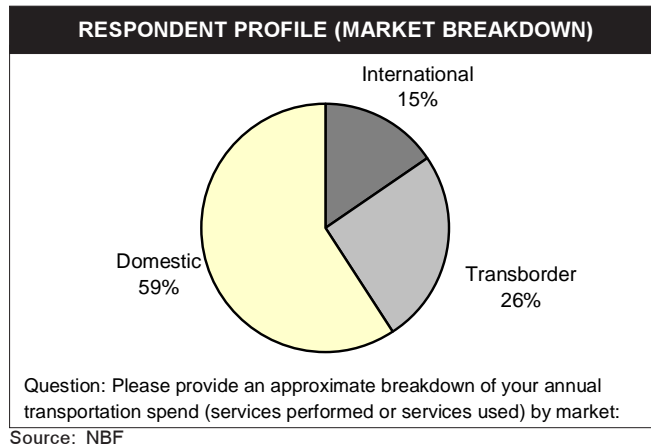
The 2009 CITT-NBF Transportation & Logistics Survey (Survey), conducted over the month of August 2009, was completed by 146 executives, managers and support personnel at various Canadian organizations utilizing transportation services, e.g. transportation departments of shippers, and those providing such services, e.g. rails and trucks. About two thirds of the respondents represented users of transportation services (shippers), while one third represented transportation service providers (providers). The majority (55%) of the respondents were supervisors/managers, followed by support personnel (27%) and executives (17%).



The transportation providers surveyed constituted 40% trucks, 19% rails, 19% diversified services, 2% air freighters, 2% ocean freighters, and 19% others, a fairly representative sample of the Canadian transportation and logistics industry, in our view. The transportation shippers surveyed were asked to indicate their range of annual transportation spending in Canadian dollars. The results indicate that they each spend approximately \$8.6 million per year, on average, with the 17 largest shippers each spending over \$25 million, vs. the six smallest shippers, who spend less than \$100,000 a year.



Respondents were also asked about their allocation of transportation spending (or equivalently revenue for providers) among domestic, transborder and international routes. The average mix was heavily weighted towards domestic (59%), followed by transborder (26%) and international (15%), with some variations between smaller and larger shippers. For example, smaller shippers had a larger international component and a smaller domestic component compared to larger shippers (21% and 57% vs. 9% and 66%, respectively). However, the transborder component was similar at ~22-25%. On the provider side, the rails and trucks were similar in their allocations with a small international component, and domestic revenue roughly twice the size of transborder, compared to the diversified providers, who put more weight on international vs. transborder (21% vs. 13%).

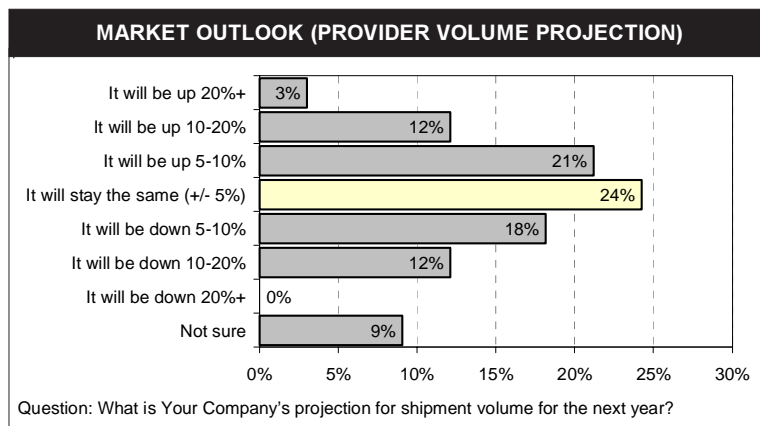


SECTION 2: MARKET OUTLOOK

In order to gauge sentiment in the market, respondents were asked for their projections of volume and core pricing (excluding fuel surcharge) over the next year.

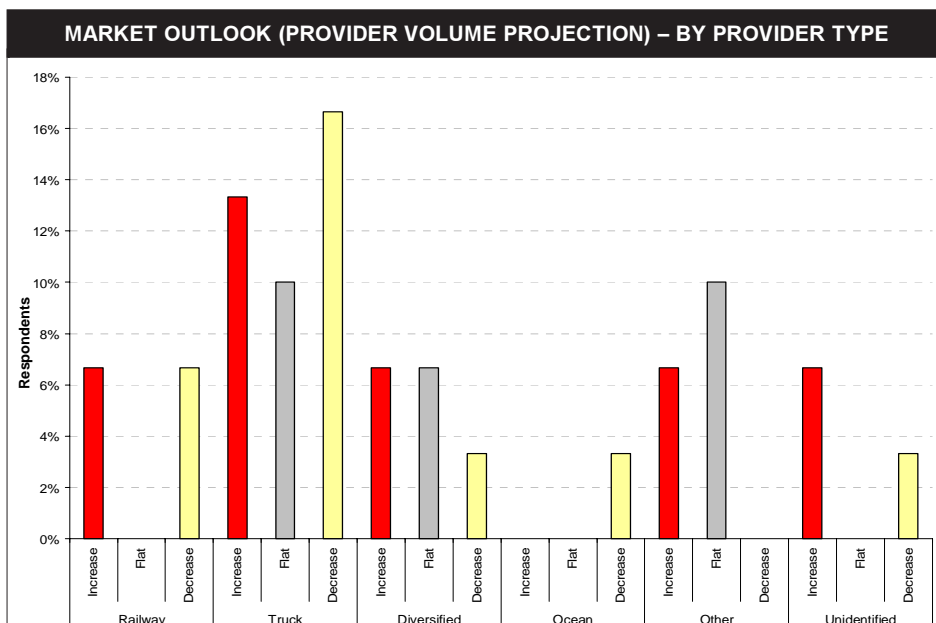
Volume

About 24% of the providers forecast that volume will remain about the same next year ($\pm 5\%$), while others responded in a relatively balanced manner, with an even distribution of positive and negative responses, pointing to a great level of uncertainty in the service provider industry with respect to volumes. Further, only 30% of providers answered our “exact volume projection” question, also pointing to the uncertainty being felt by the suppliers of transportation services.



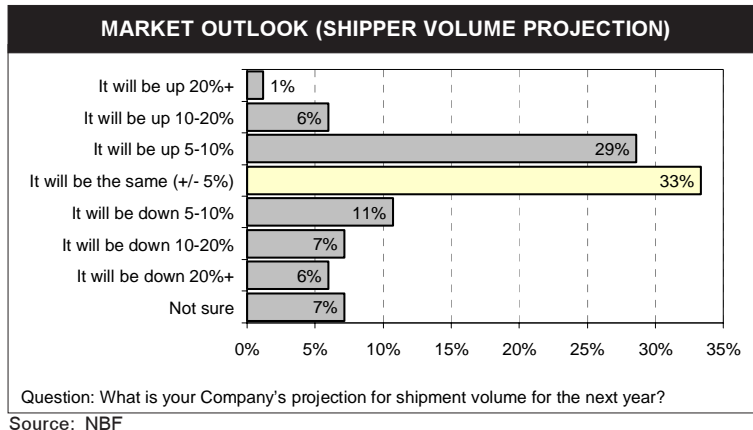
Source: NBF

According to our analysis, the uncertainty levels do not vary with the type of provider, or in other words, both the rails and trucks are almost equally uncertain about volumes over the next year, albeit the trucks are slightly more pessimistic.

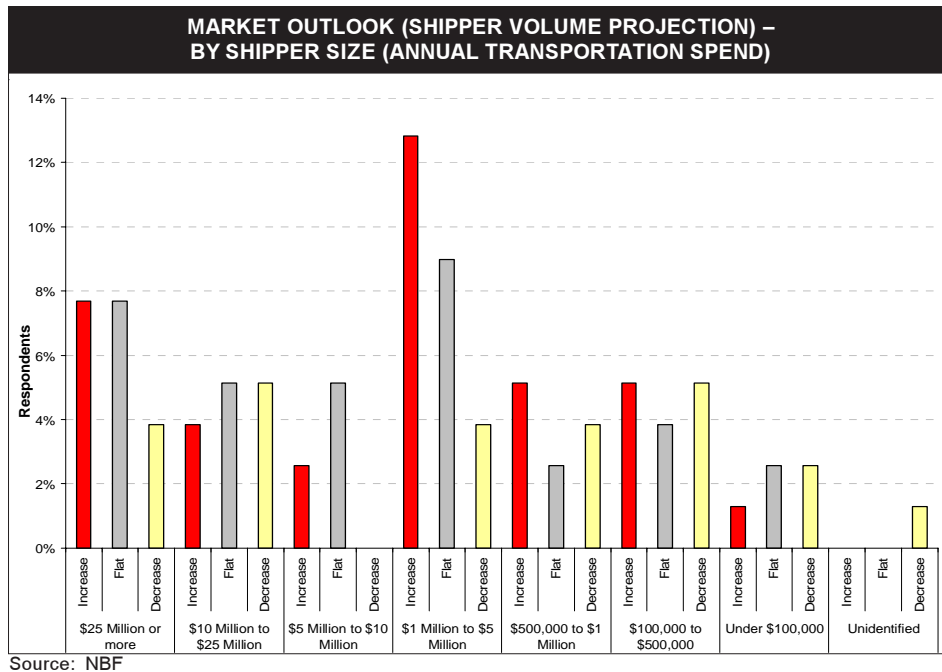


Source: NBF

Shippers, on the other hand, are less uncertain with respect to volumes and project a slight improvement next year, with 29% projecting a 5-10% volume increase and 33% forecasting flat ($\pm 5\%$) volumes next year. Moreover, a sizeable number of shippers responded to the “exact volume projection” question, with a median projection of +8% (mean +32%, std. dev. 42%, given large range of responses), which can be deemed as an approximation for the industry, given the number of responses was sufficient to analyze the information (referred to as statistically significant).



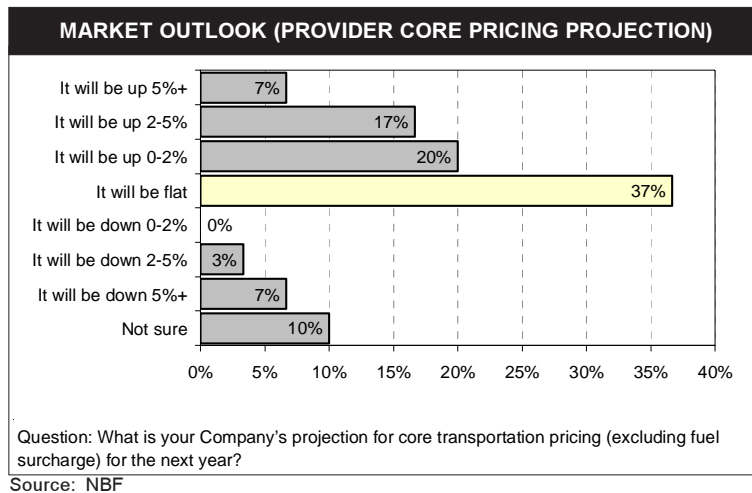
Unlike the providers, the uncertainty levels vary with size of the shipper. The larger shippers are more certain about the volumes, with flat to modest growth, while the smaller ones are somewhat uncertain, with more inclination towards positive growth.



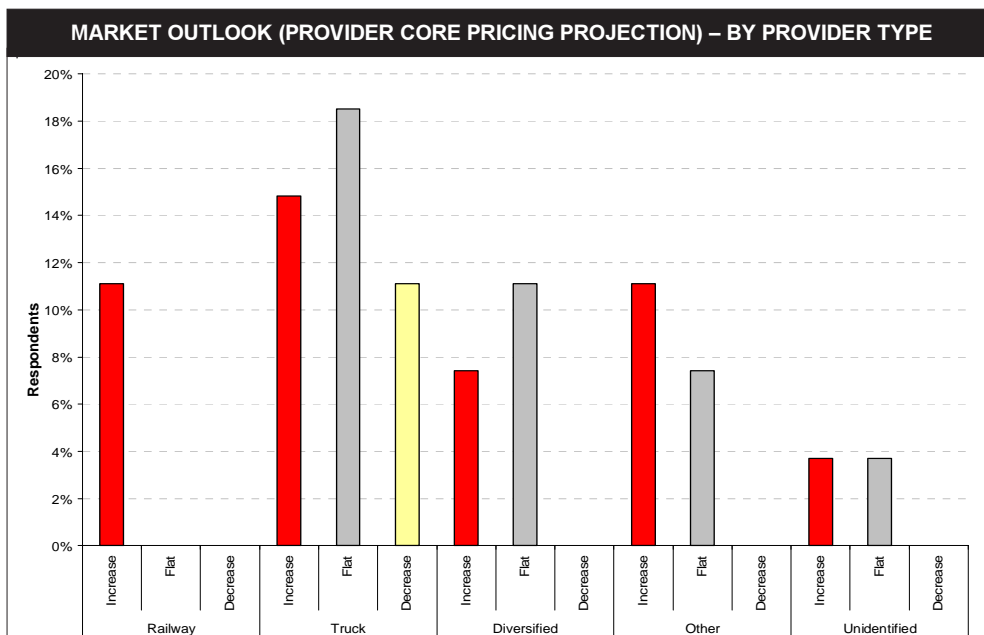
Overall, our analysis of the results leads us to conclude that the providers are highly uncertain about volumes over the next year, while the shippers are projecting modest growth. We are encouraged by this result as it is the source of volume, the shippers, who are more confident about the future. Further, it is understandable that the providers have mixed views given weak current and trailing volumes, albeit improving more recently.

Pricing

The results indicate that core pricing (excluding fuel surcharge) should remain flat to increase next year, given 37% of the providers forecast flat ($\pm 5\%$) pricing next year, 44% forecast a pricing gain and a small proportion (10%) believes pricing will be under pressure. Unlike the projection on volumes, the cautious providers are quite certain about core pricing, with a median response to the “exact pricing gain” question of +2% (mean also +2%), which we can safely assume as an approximation for the industry given the information was statistically significant.

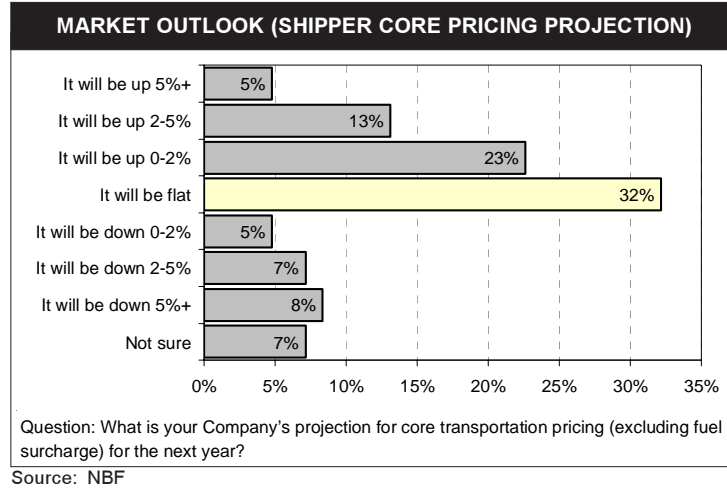


According to our analysis, and as expected, the rails are more positive about the pricing outlook, while the trucks are highly uncertain, as reflected by their almost even distribution of responses across the pricing spectrum.

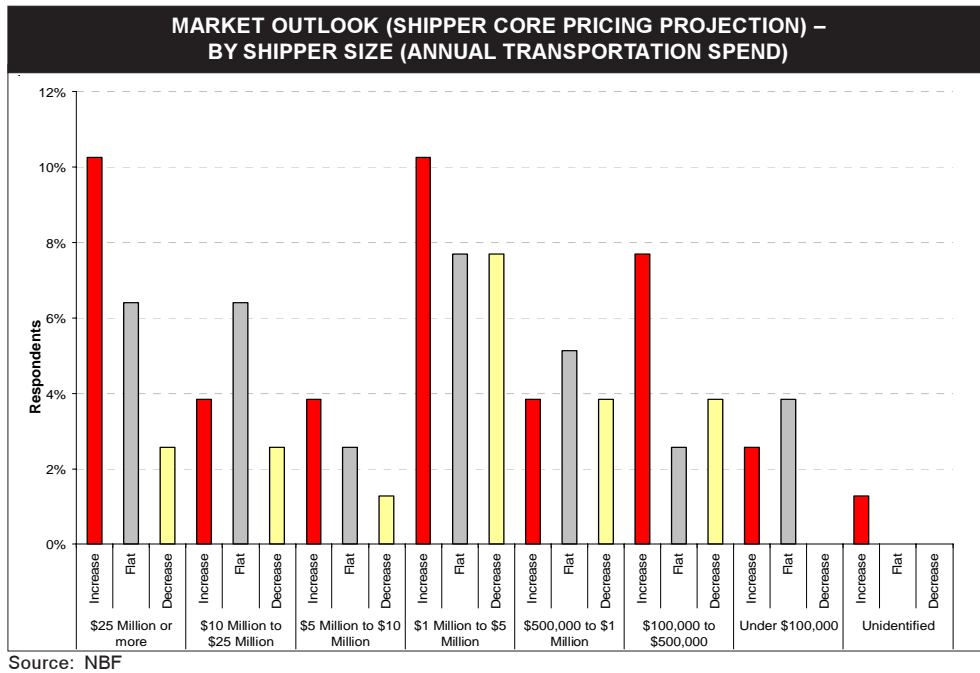


Similar to the projection on volumes, shippers are also more certain about core pricing growth. The results point to a slight increase next year, with 23% projecting a 0-2% pricing increase and 32% forecasting a flat growth rate next year. Further, a relatively large number of shippers

responded to the “exact pricing gain” question, with a median projection of +2% (mean also +2%), which can be generalized for the industry given the information was statistically significant. We view the results favourably for the providers as it would appear shippers are factoring in further increases in core freight rates, which should allow rails and trucks to sustain core pricing growth.



Similarly, the uncertainty levels vary with size of the shipper. The larger shippers are more certain about pricing, projecting flat to modest growth, in line with the entire group, while the smaller ones are uncertain, with no real consensus on growth rate.



In our view, the survey results reflect a slightly positive overall outlook for the industry, at least at the time of this year’s survey, which we believe has improved since that time given the myriad of positive economic data released since then and sequential absolute volume improvements. The volume outlook appears uncertain, according to survey participants, although skewed towards positive territory, with the survey results highlighting a wide range

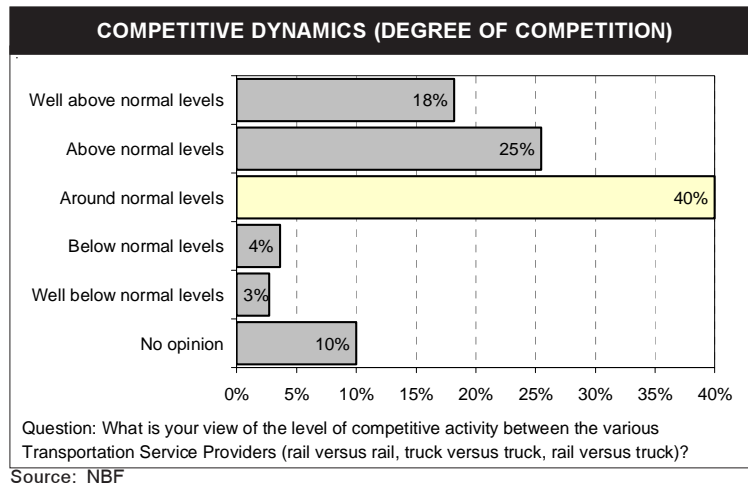
of responses. Similarly, the pricing outlook appears positive. The inference we can draw from these results is that the transportation and logistics industry should emerge from the downturn next year with relatively modest volume and pricing growth, with upside if the economy rebounds further, in our view.

Although industry participants remain highly cautious, especially of a double-dip recession, we would highlight that the economic indicators shifted gears earlier this year. According to the Institute for Supply Management (ISM) in the U.S., the manufacturing sector grew for the second consecutive month in September, with the y/y growth in the ISM New Orders Index (manufacturing) bottoming in March at -12.5% (+55.1% y/y in September). Another useful measure to gauge the industry outlook is Statistics Canada's Inventory-Sales ratio, which peaked at 1.63 in May and declined since then to 1.49 in August (a decreasing trend is favourable). These results lead us to believe that the industry is poised to recover in 2010, given the lagged nature of the business, though we remain cautious.

SECTION 3: COMPETITIVE DYNAMICS

Degree of Competition

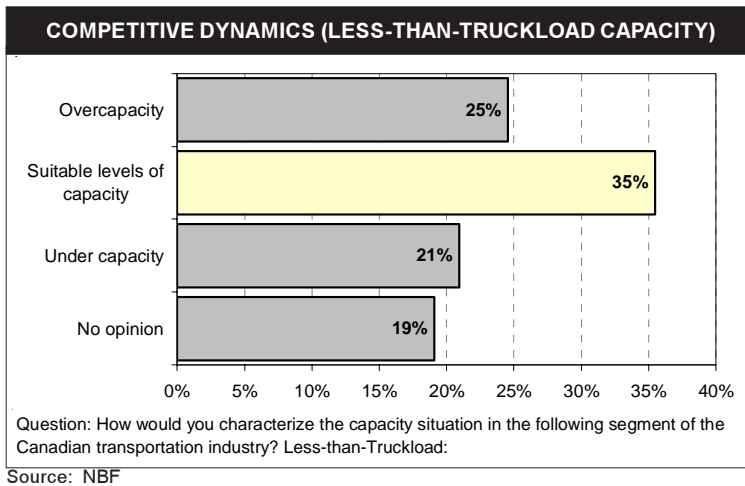
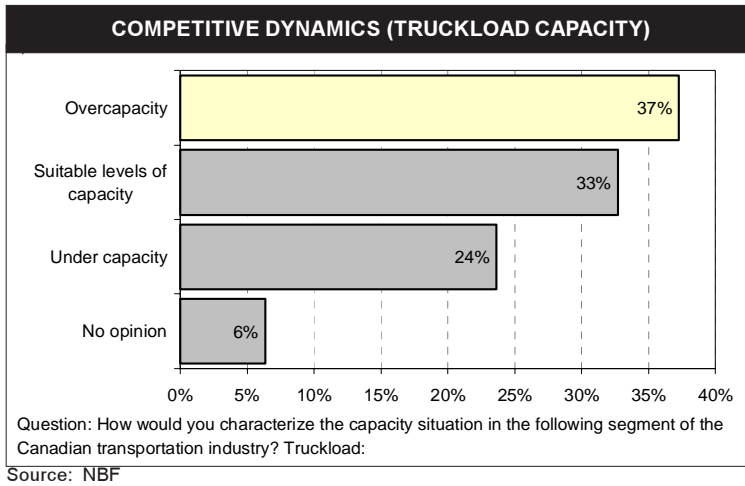
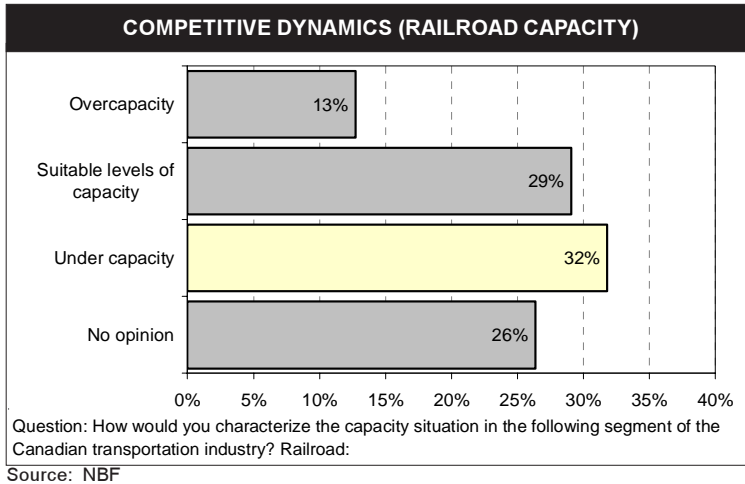
The economic downturn has not only impacted the current operating environment, but has also changed the competitive landscape amongst providers, with the strongest companies coming to the forefront, which could accelerate with expected consolidation. Given the uncertainty around customer demand, the industry has become far more competitive, which we gauged by asking the respondents for their view on the level of current competition. Not surprisingly, a large number of respondents (43%) believe that the level of competition has increased in the industry, while 40% find no change. Responses of both the rails and trucks were in accord.



Capacity

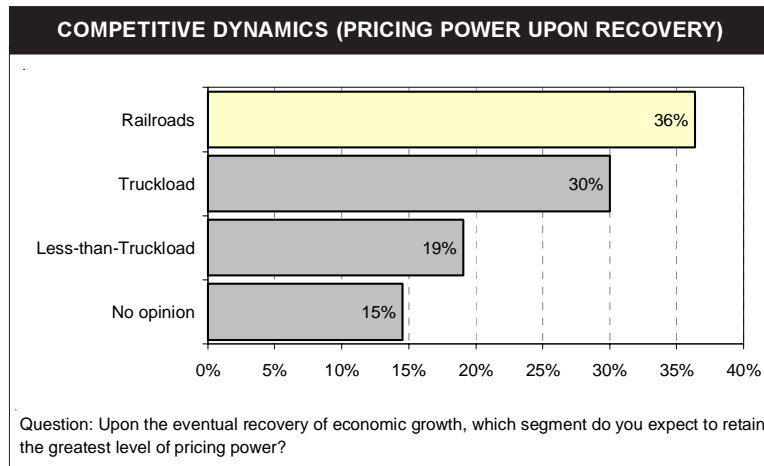
A majority (32%) of respondents believe that the rails are operating under capacity, while 29% find the current capacity at suitable levels and 13% think the rails are in an overcapacity situation. In comparison, the results show the TL carriers are operating at overcapacity, while the LTL carriers are at suitable capacity levels. Given the rails concerted efforts to reign in capacity, while TL carriers continue to suffer from significant overcapacity, these results are not surprising. This could further explain the pricing power that rails enjoy over trucks, albeit easing with lower fuel (as rails lose some of the compelling fuel advantages they enjoy at higher diesel prices).

TL carriers appear to be facing the most difficult conditions, given industry overcapacity and low barriers to entry. Typically, the dry van business suffers from no equipment specialization, driver skills or handling required, which lowers the barriers to entry. The transborder business appears to be suffering the most, and the pain could last beyond a recovery in overall volumes as the rising Canadian dollar weighs on the manufacturing sector in Canada (especially in Central and Eastern Canada), reducing export sales.



Pricing Power

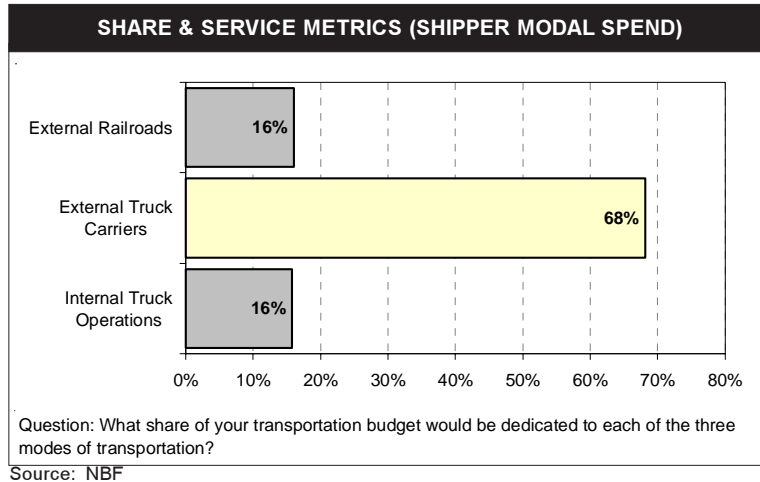
The pricing power rails enjoy should remain relatively strong over the long-term for several reasons including lower freight rates than trucks (15% gap that grows over longer distances), ongoing service improvements, relative fuel efficiency (rails are 3-4x more fuel efficient than trucks on a ton mile basis, and even higher when new diesel-electric locomotives with distributed power are considered), driver labour issues (and hours of service rules), environmental concerns and legislation, highway congestion, and passport / border issues. With these advantages in mind, we are not surprised to see that a majority (36%) of the survey respondents expect the rails to retain the greatest pricing power upon recovery, followed by TL carriers (30%) and LTL carriers (19%).



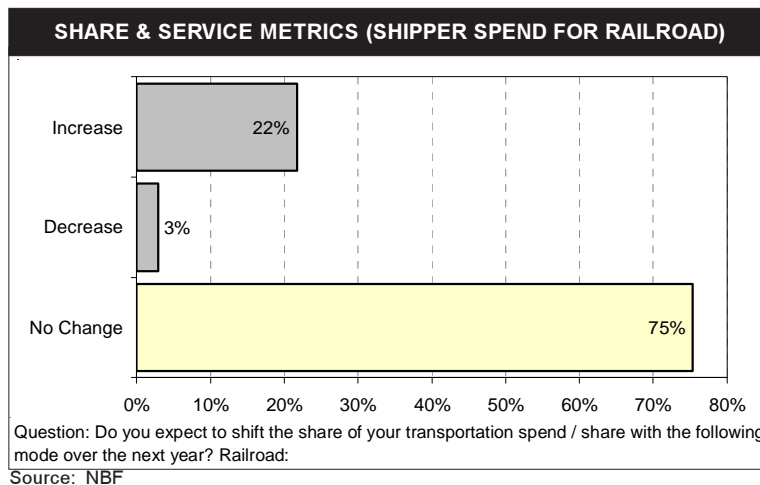
Source: NBF

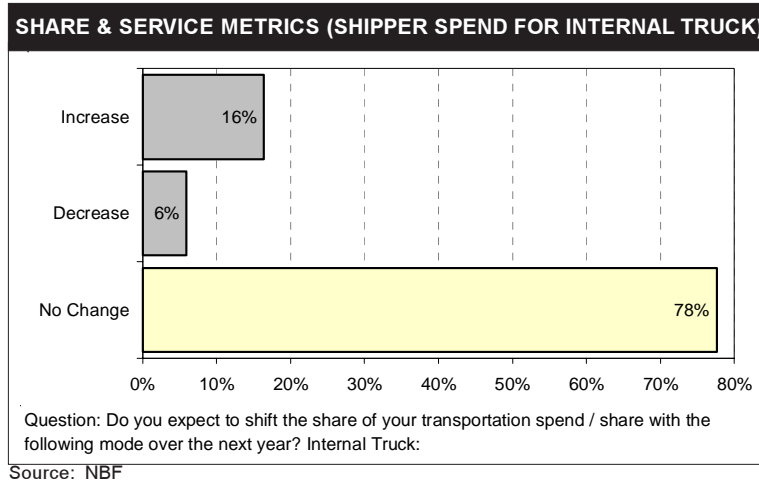
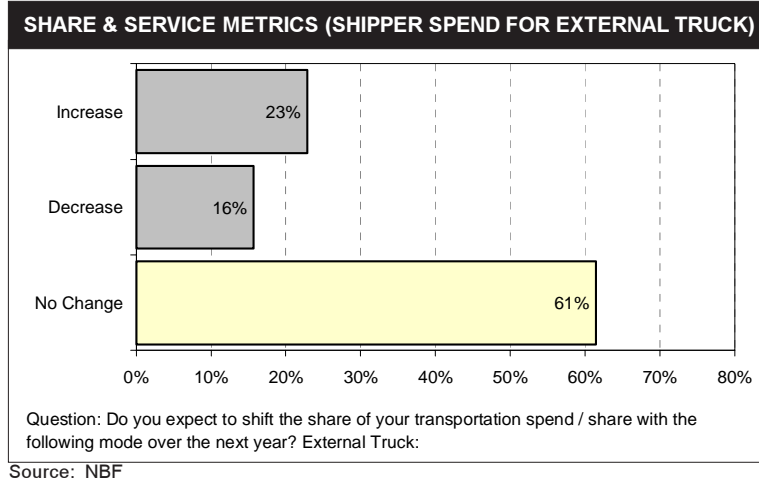
SECTION 4: SHARE & SERVICE METRICS

The shippers indicate that external trucks represent ~68%, on average, of their transportation spending budget, followed by the rails (16%) and then their own internal trucks (16%). Although largely intact, the results vary slightly with size of the shipper, with the largest shippers (spending \$25 million or more) allocating ~25%, on average, to the rails compared to just under 15% allocation for those spending under \$25 million, which makes sense given the size and scope of the larger shippers' operations and customer base.

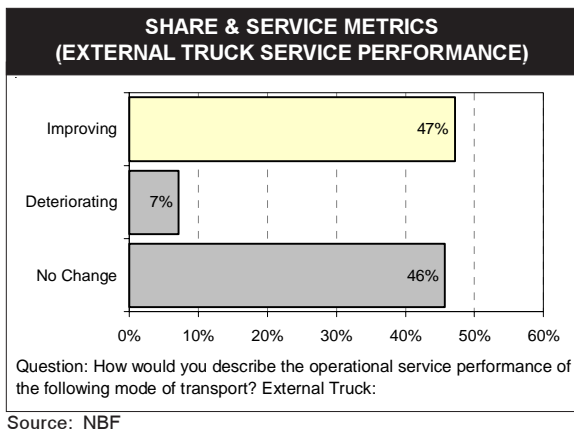
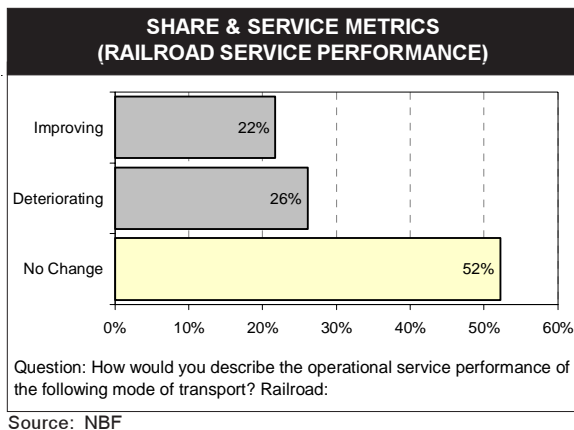


The survey results indicate that a majority of the respondents (ranging from 61% to 78%) do not anticipate shifting their transportation spend amongst the various modes of transportation, preferring to keep the current allocation across the various providers intact. While 22% expect to increase the share rails receive of their current transportation budget, 23% expect to increase the share for external trucks and 16% for internal trucks. In comparison, 16% of respondents expect to decrease the share for external trucks, followed by internal trucks (6%) and rails (3%). Based on the foregoing, it would appear the rails have the greatest opportunity to gain share at this juncture, which confirms already well-established trends.





Given the various advantages the rails have over trucks and the level of service already provided by the former, it is not surprising to see that a majority (52%) of shippers do not see any change in service performance of the rails, while 22% think it is improving, compared to 46% and 47% for the external trucks, respectively. Surprisingly, a fairly large proportion (26%) of the respondents believes rail service performance is decreasing compared to just 7% for the external trucks. Of course, this could be a function of strict pricing practices, fuel and ancillary surcharges, and disciplined capacity management. We believe shippers tend to have a more adversarial relationship with the rails, vs. trucks, given the rails' preference to be more selective about the business they conduct, vs. the trucks, which continue to face an overcapacity situation.



CONCLUSION

The survey results indicate that transportation service providers, such as rails and trucks, are highly uncertain of rebound in industry volumes next year, in terms of timing and amount, while transportation service users or shippers appear to be more confident that the industry may witness an improvement in 2010. However, both providers and shippers appear to be more certain about core pricing growth (excluding fuel surcharge), projecting a flat to modest improvement next year.

The results also indicate that competition has increased amongst the providers of transportation services, given the intensity of the current downturn. The industry participants believe the rails and LTL carriers are managing their capacities fairly well, while the TL carriers are facing more difficult conditions, given overcapacity and low barriers to entry, and thus they expect rails to retain the greatest pricing power upon recovery. Shippers do not anticipate shifting their transportation spend amongst the various modes of transportation (maintaining the current allocation) and find the external trucks' service performance holding firm or increasing, but not deteriorating, driven by trucks' efforts to recover lost business, in our view. A majority of shippers think rails have maintained their service performance levels, given the various advantages rails have over trucks and the high level of service they already provide, which we believe continues to improve. That said, it would appear shippers tend to take a harder line when it comes to discussions about the rails, which we believe is a function of the rails' efforts to reign in capacity and be more selective about the business they are conducting, vs. the trucks, which continue to face overcapacity and tend to "chase" business, to a certain degree. However, trucks are starting to take a page out of the rails playbook and are beginning to show more discipline.

NBF wishes to thank CITT for their contribution in designing, distributing and conducting the survey, and the CITT members who participated in the survey for providing us with insights into the freight transportation spending trends and the current state of the freight markets in the transportation and logistics industry in Canada.

APPENDIX 1: ABOUT CITT



The Canadian Institute of Traffic and Transportation (CITT) is Canada's leading professional development association in the supply chain and logistics sector. Their programs and services promote excellence, career path development and cooperative networking opportunities through a comprehensive certification process that leads to the CITT Designation.

The CITT Program of Study features a job-specific curriculum taught by experienced industry professionals. It challenges participants to develop research and analytical skills that will help them make sound business decisions based on their integrated logistics training. Courses are not only theoretical, but also provide practical skills training that is crucial to acquiring the skill sets necessary to meet the challenges of today's marketplace. Courses are offered in the classroom, via correspondence, or online.

The CITT Designation is Canada's most widely held professional designation in supply chain and logistics. It is an essential career tool that helps differentiate one's level of professionalism from that of peers.

Mission

To promote professional excellence and career advancement for transportation logisticians.

Vision

To be the most recognized and respected professional development organization in the supply chain and logistics field.

For further information on the CITT and their Program of Study, please visit www.citt.ca.

CITT Head Office

10 King Street East, Suite 400

Toronto, ON M5C 1C3

Tel: 416-363-5696

Fax: 416-363-5698

Email: info@citt.ca

APPENDIX 2: SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

QUESTION 1

How would you describe your organization?

- Transportation Service Provider (e.g. truck, rail, etc.)
- Transportation Service User (e.g. shipper)

QUESTION 2

How would you describe your role at your organization?

- Logistics & Transportation - Support Personnel
- Logistics & Transportation - Supervisor / Manager
- Executive Management

QUESTION 3

If you are with a Transportation Service PROVIDER - please indicate type:

- Truck
- Railway
- Ocean
- Air
- Diversified
- Other
(please specify) _____

QUESTION 4

If you are with a Transportation Service USER / SHIPPER - please indicate the range of your Company's total annual transportation spend (in Canadian dollars):

- Under \$100,000
- \$100,000 to \$500,000
- \$500,000 to \$1 Million
- \$1 Million to \$5 Million
- \$5 Million to \$10 Million
- \$10 Million to \$25 Million
- \$25 Million or more

QUESTION 5

Please provide an approximate breakdown (by percentage) of your annual transportation spend (services performed or services used) by market:

Please answer with a number only and no other markings or symbols (e.g. 25).

Domestic _____

Transborder _____

International _____

QUESTION 6

Volume:

What is Your Company's projection for shipment volume for the next year?

- It will be down 20%+
- It will be down 10-20%
- It will be down 5-10%
- It will stay the same (+/- 5%)
- It will be up 5-10%
- It will be up 10-20%
- It will be up 20%+
- Not sure

QUESTION 7

Volume:

If possible, please provide your Company's projection for shipment volume for the next year.

Please answer in percentage terms (%).

QUESTION 8

Price:

What is your Company's projection for core transportation pricing (excluding fuel surcharge) for the next year?

- It will be down 5%+
- It will be down 2-5%
- It will be down 0-2%
- It will be flat
- It will be up 0-2%
- It will be up 2-5%
- It will be up 5%+
- Not sure

QUESTION 9

Price:

If possible, please provide your Company's projection for core transportation pricing growth (excluding fuel surcharge) for the next year. Please answer in percentage terms (%).

QUESTION 10

Comments:

Please provide any additional comments regarding core pricing trends over the next year.

QUESTION 11

What is your view of the level of competitive activity between the various Transportation Service Providers (rail versus rail, truck versus truck, rail versus truck)?

- Well above normal levels
- Above normal levels
- Around normal levels
- Below normal levels
- Well below normal levels
- No opinion

QUESTION 12

Capacity:

How would you characterize the capacity situation in the following segment of the Canadian transportation industry?

Railroad

- Under capacity
- Suitable levels of capacity
- Overcapacity
- No opinion

QUESTION 13

Capacity:

How would you characterize the capacity situation in the following segment of the Canadian transportation industry?

Truckload

- Under capacity
- Suitable levels of capacity
- Overcapacity
- No opinion

QUESTION 14

Capacity:

How would you characterize the capacity situation in the following segment of the Canadian transportation industry?

Less-than-Truckload

- Under capacity
- Suitable levels of capacity
- Overcapacity
- No opinion

QUESTION 15

Recovery:

Upon the eventual recovery of economic growth, which segment do you expect to retain the greatest level of pricing power?

- Railroads
- Truckload
- Less-than-Truckload
- No opinion

QUESTION 16

Comments:

Please feel free to provide any additional comments regarding capacity levels, competition (rail versus rail, truck versus truck, rail versus truck), the market outlook and your view of the eventual recovery in volumes (any early signs of recovery).

QUESTION 17

Modal Share:

What share of your transportation budget would be dedicated to each of the three modes of transportation below, in percentage terms:
Please answer with a number only and no other markings or symbols (e.g. 25).

External Railroads _____

External Truck Carriers _____

Internal Truck Operations _____

QUESTION 18

Modal Shifts:

Do you expect to shift the share of your transportation spend / share with the following mode over the next year?

Railroads

Increase

Decrease

No Change

QUESTION 19

Modal Shifts:

Do you expect to shift the share of your transportation spend / share with the following mode over the next year?

External Truck

Increase

Decrease

No Change

QUESTION 20

Modal Shifts:

Do you expect to shift the share of your transportation spend / share with the following mode over the next year?

Internal Truck

- Increase
- Decrease
- No Change

QUESTION 21

Service Trends:

How would you describe the operational service performance of the following mode of transport?

Railroads

- Improving
- Deteriorating
- No Change

QUESTION 22

Service Trends:

How would you describe the operational service performance of the following mode of transport?

External Truck Carriers

- Improving
- Deteriorating
- No Change

QUESTION 23

Comments:

Please feel free to provide any additional comments regarding service levels provided by Canadian railroads and trucking companies and prospective share of short-term and long-term spend dedicated to each.

Source: All Questions provided by NBF

DISCLOSURES

Ratings And What They Mean:

PRIMARY STOCK RATING: NBF has a three-tiered rating system that is relative to the coverage universe of the particular analyst. Here is a brief description of each: Outperform – The stock is expected to outperform the analyst's coverage universe over the next 12 months;

Sector Perform – The stock is projected to perform in line with the sector over the next 12 months; Underperform – The stock is expected to underperform the sector over the next 12 months.

SECONDARY STOCK RATING: Under Review - Our analyst has withdrawn the rating because of insufficient information and is awaiting more information and/or clarification; Tender - Our analyst is recommending that investors tender to a specific offering for the company's stock; Restricted - Because of ongoing investment banking transactions or because of other circumstances, NBF policy and/or laws or regulations preclude our analyst from rating a company's stock.

INDUSTRY RATING: NBF has an Industry Weighting system that reflects the view of our Economics & Strategy Group, using its sector rotation strategy. The three tiered system rates industries as Overweight, Market Weight and Underweight, depending on the sector's projected performance against broader market averages over the next 12 months.

RISK RATING: NBF utilizes a four-tiered risk rating system, Low, Average, Above Average and Speculative. The system attempts to evaluate risk against the overall market. In addition to sector-specific criteria, analysts also utilize quantitative and qualitative criteria in choosing a rating. The criteria include predictability of financial results, share price volatility, credit ratings, share liquidity and balance sheet quality.

General

National Bank Financial (NBF) is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of National Bank of Canada. National Bank of Canada is a public company listed on Canadian stock exchanges.

The particulars contained herein were obtained from sources which we believe to be reliable but are not guaranteed by us and may be incomplete. The opinions expressed are based upon our analysis and interpretation of these particulars and are not to be construed as a solicitation or offer to buy or sell the securities mentioned herein.

Research Analysts

The Research Analyst(s) who prepare these reports certify that their respective report accurately reflects his or her personal opinion and that no part of his/her compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendations or views as to the securities or companies.

NBF compensates its Research Analysts from a variety of sources. The Research Department is a cost centre and is funded by the business activities of NBF including, Institutional Equity Sales and Trading, Retail Sales, the correspondent clearing business, and Corporate and Investment Banking. Since the revenues from these businesses vary, the funds for research compensation vary. No one-business line has a greater influence than any other for Research Analyst compensation.

Canadian Residents

In respect of the distribution of this report in Canada, NBF accepts responsibility for its contents. To make further inquiry related to this report, Canadian residents should contact their NBF professional representative. To effect any transaction, Canadian residents should contact their NBF Investment advisor.

U.S. Residents

NBF Securities (USA) Corp., an affiliate of NBF, accepts responsibility for the contents of this report, subject to any terms set out above. Any U.S. person wishing to effect transactions in any security discussed herein should do so only through NBF Securities (USA) Corp.

UK Residents

In respect of the distribution of this report to UK residents, NBF has approved this financial promotion for the purposes of Section 21(1) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000. NBF and/or its parent and/or any companies within or affiliates of the National Bank of Canada group and/or any of their directors, officers and employees may have or may have had interests or long or short positions in, and may at any time make purchases and/or sales as principal or agent, or may act or may have acted as market maker in the relevant securities or related financial instruments discussed in this report, or may act or have acted as investment and/or commercial banker with respect thereto. The value of investments can go down as well as up. Past performance will not necessarily be repeated in the future. The investments contained in this report are not available to private customers. This report does not constitute or form part of any offer for sale or subscription of or solicitation of any offer to buy or subscribe for the securities described herein nor shall it or any part of it form the basis of or be relied on in connection with any contract or commitment whatsoever.

This information is only for distribution to non-private customers in the United Kingdom within the meaning of the rules of the Regulated by the Financial Services Authority.

Copyright

This report may not be reproduced in whole or in part, or further distributed or published or referred to in any manner whatsoever, nor may the information, opinions or conclusions contained in it be referred to without in each case the prior express written consent of National Bank Financial.

NBF is a member of CIPF

NBF quarterly ratings summary and the total ratings by month can be found on our website under Research and Analysis/Equities/About NBF Research/Quarterly Ratings Summary (link attached) <http://www.nbcn.ca/cmst/site/index.jhtml?navid=803&templateID=249>

The NBF Research Dissemination Policy is available on our website under Legal/Research Policy (link attached) <http://www.nbcn.ca/cmst/site/index.jhtml?navid=712&templateid=243>

ADDITIONAL COMPANY RELATED DISCLOSURES

If a company specific disclosure is not found herein for a listed company, NBF at this time does not provide research coverage or stock rating for the company in question

CNR, CSS.un

In the past 12 months NBF has not acted as financial advisor, fiscal agent or underwriter for the company that is the subject of this report. NBF may act in such a capacity in the future and receive, or expect to receive, compensation for such activities. NBF is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of the National Bank of Canada. From time to time the National Bank of Canada may enter into lending or financial arrangements with companies that are the subject of NBF Research Reports. At the date of this report, National Bank of Canada is not a lender to the company which is the subject of this report.

NBF and/or its Affiliates may have a position in the securities mentioned herein and may make purchases and/or sales of these securities from time to time in the open market or otherwise. On the last day of the month preceding the date of this report, NBF and its Affiliates held in the aggregate less than 1% of the outstanding shares (of any class of equity securities) of this issuer. (10)

CP

In the past 12 months NBF has not acted as financial advisor, fiscal agent or underwriter for the company that is the subject of this report. NBF may act in such a capacity in the future and receive, or expect to receive, compensation for such activities. NBF is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of the National Bank of Canada. From time to time the National Bank of Canada may enter into lending or financial arrangements with companies that are the subject of NBF Research Reports. At the date of this report, National Bank of Canada is a lender to the company which is the subject of this report.

NBF and/or its Affiliates may have a position in the securities mentioned herein and may make purchases and/or sales of these securities from time to time in the open market or otherwise. On the last day of the month preceding the date of this report, NBF and its Affiliates held in the aggregate less than 1% of the outstanding shares (of any class of equity securities) of this issuer. (14)

RESEARCH ANALYSTS

Ihor Danyliuk 416.869.7522
Director of Research

Caroline Jukes, 416.869.8039
Administrative Manager

ECONOMICS AND STRATEGY

Stéfane Marion, 514.879.3781
Chief Economist & Strategist

Pierre Lapointe, 514.879.2378
Market Strategist & Quantitative Analyst

Paul-André Pinsonnault, 514.879.3795
Senior Fixed Income Economist

Marc Pinsonneault, 514.879.2589
Senior Economist

Yanick Desnoyers, 514.879.3140
Assistant Chief Economist

Marco Lettieri, 514.879.3195
Economist

DERIVATIVES & STRUCTURED PRODUCTS

Pat Chieffalo 416.869.7931

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Dennis Mark 416.869.7427

BIOTECH & PHARMACEUTICALS

Hari Sambasivam 416.869.7801

Associate: Jing Feng 416.869.6515

ENERGY

Energy Services

Brian Purdy 403.290.5448

Associate: Ian Thies 403.290.5628

Energy Infrastructure

Patrick Kenny 403.290.5451

Associate: Anthony Sze 403.290.5445

Junior Oil and Gas

Jeff Sears 403.290.5625

Associate: Dennis Vogt 403.290.5440

O&G E&P Seniors/Oil Sands/Intermediates

Peter Ogden 403.290.5629

Associate: Steve Murray 403.290.5621

Oil and Gas Trusts

Menal Patel 403.290.5622

Associate: Jeremy McCrea 403.290.5627

Associate: Gilbert Bong 403.290.5624

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Robert Sedran 416.869.7442

Associate: Shubha Khan 416.869.6425

Associate: Sunny Singh 416.869.8045

INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENGINEERING

Benoit Caron 514.879.5230

Associate: Mathieu Goyette 514.879.2543

COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA

Adam Shine 514.879.2302

Associate: In Sunwoo 514.879.2564

MERCHANDISING & CONSUMER PRODUCTS

James Durran 416.869.7930

Associate: Robert McKee 416.869.7572

Associate: Hussein Sunderji 416.869.7116

METALS & MINING

Senior Base Metals

Ian Howat 416.869.7936

Associate: Greg Chu 416.869.8042

Associate: Brian Szeto 416.869.6538

Senior Golds

Tanya Jakusconek 416.869.6766

Associate: Joanne van Ballegooye 416.869.6767

Associate: Will Jee 416.869.8044

REAL ESTATE & HOSPITALITY

Jimmy Shan 416.869.8025

Associate: Tanya Bouchard 416.869.7934

Heather Kirk 416.869.8022

Associate: Salim Najem 514.390.7989

SPECIAL SITUATIONS

Hugues Bourgeois 514.879.2574

Associate: Frederic Tremblay 514.879.2494

Trevor Johnson 416.869.8511

Associate: Lisa Oatway 416.869.7809

TECHNOLOGY

Clean Tech

Rupert Merer 416.869.8008

Associate: Jeremy Mersereau 416.869.6768

Software, Services and Wireless

Richard Tse 416.869.7937

Associate: Hubert Mak 416.869.7938

Associate: Manik Verma 416.869.7495

Communications Equipment & Broadband

Kris Thompson 416.869.8049

Associate: Manik Verma 416.869.7495

Associate: Hubert Mak 416.869.7938

TELECOMMUNICATIONS & CABLE

Greg MacDonald 416.869.6775

Associate: Kevin Krishnaratne 416.869.6585

TRANSPORTATION & INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

David Newman 416.869.6754

Associate: Umayr Allem 416.869.8577

Associate: Konark Gupta 416.869.7566

Research Publications

Vanda Bright

Manager, Publishing Services 416.869.7141

Publishing Associates:

Shamil Kashmeri 416.869.7113

Maria Cojan 514.879.5357

Zuhair (Kash) Kashmeri

Chief Research Editor

416.869.7535

Marie-Noël Korcaz

French Translation

514.879.2492

National Bank Financial (the Firm) is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of National Bank of Canada.

The particulars contained herein were obtained from sources which we believe reliable but are not guaranteed by us and may be incomplete. The opinions expressed are based upon our analysis and interpretation of these particulars and are not to be construed as a solicitation or offer to buy or sell the securities mentioned herein. The Firm may act as financial advisor, fiscal agent or underwriter for certain of the companies mentioned herein and may receive a remuneration for its services. The Firm and/or its officers, directors, representatives, associates, may have a position in the securities mentioned herein and may make purchases and/or sales of these securities from time to time in the open market or otherwise.

To U.S. residents: NBF Securities (USA) Corp., an affiliate of the Firm, accepts responsibility for the contents of this report, subject to any terms set out above. Any U.S. person wishing to effect transactions in any security discussed herein should do so only through NBF Securities (USA) Corp.

This report may not be reproduced in whole or in part, or further distributed or published or referred to in any manner whatsoever nor may the information, opinions or conclusions contained in it be referred to without in each case the prior express consent of National Bank Financial.

Arborg 315 Main Street Arborg MB R0A 2A0 204.376.2673 Baie-Comeau 337, boulevard Lasalle Baie-Comeau QC G4Z 2Z1 418.296.8838 Beauce 11505, 1re Avenue est Bureau 100 St-Georges de Beauce QC G5Y 7X3 418.227.0121 Brandon Unit B-1212 18th Street Brandon MB R7A 5C3 204.725.3933 Burnaby 206-3815 Sunset Street Burnaby BC V5G 4W4 604.541.8500 Calgary Suite 2800, 450 - 1 St SW Calgary AB T2P 5H1 403.531-8400 Chatham 380 St. Clair Street Chatham ON N7L 3K2 519.351.7645 Chicoutimi 1180, boulevard Talbot Suite 201 Chicoutimi QC G7H 4B6 418.549.8888 Drumheller 356, Centre Street Drumheller AB T0J 0Y0 403.823.6857 Drummondville 150, rue Marchand, Bureau 401 Drummondville QC J2C 4N1 819.477.5024 Edmonton Manulife Place 10180-101st Street Suite 3500 Edmonton AB T5J 3S4 780.412.6600 Gatineau 920, St-Joseph, Bureau 100 Gatineau QC J8Z 1S9 819.770.5337 Granby 150, rue St-Jacques Bureau 202 Granby QC J2G 8V6 450.378.0442 Grand-Mère 602, 6e Avenue Grand-Mère QC G9T 2H5 819.538.8628 Greenfield Park 2120, rue Victoria, Bureau 150 Greenfield Park QC J4V 1M9 450.923.8255	Halifax Purdy's Wharf Tower II 1969 Upper Water Street Suite 1601 Halifax NS B3J 3R7 902.496.7700 Joliette 40, rue Gauthier sud Bureau 3500 Joliette QC J6E 4J4 450.760.9595 Kelowna 1632 Dickson Avenue, Suite 500 Kelowna BC V1Y 7T2 250.717.5510 Kentville 402 Main Street Kentville NS B4N 3X7 902.679.0077 Laval 2500, boulevard Daniel-Johnson Bureau 610 Laval QC H7T 2P6 450.686.5700 Lethbridge 404, 6th Street South Lethbridge AB T1J 2C9 403.388.1900 London 333 Dufferin Avenue London ON N6B 1Z3 519.439.6228 Longueuil 101, boulevard Roland-Therrien Bureau 100 Longueuil QC J4H 4B9 450.646.9900 Longueuil 375, boul. Roland-Therrien, Bureau 140 Longueuil QC J4H 4A6 450.463.0777 Mississauga 350 Burnhamthorpe Road West Suite 603 Mississauga ON L5B 3J1 905.272.2799 Moncton 735 Main Street, Suite 300 Moncton NB E1C 1E5 506.857.9926 Montréal 1, Place Ville-Marie, Bureau 1805 Montréal QC H3B 4A9 514.879.5200 514.871.9000 1, Place Ville-Marie Bureau 2201 Montréal QC H3B 3M4 514.879.2509 Montréal Édifice Sun Life 1155, rue Metcalfe Montréal QC H3B 4S9 514.879.2222	Mont-St-Hilaire 279, boul. Laurier Mont-St-Hilaire QC J3H 3N8 450.467.4770 North Bay 680 Cassells Street, Suite 101 North Bay ON P1B 4A2 705.476.6360 Oak Bay 211-2186 Avenue Oak Bay Victoria BC V8R 1G3 250.953.8400 Ottawa MetLife Centre 50 O'Connor Street Suite 1602 Ottawa ON K1P 6L2 613.236.0103 360 Albert Street, Suite 1020 Ottawa ON K1R 7X7 613.235.3303 Penticton 305 - 399, Main Street City Center Building Penticton BC V2A 5B7 250.487.2600 Pointe-Claire 1, rue Holiday, Tour est Bureau 145 Pointe-Claire QC H9R 5N3 514.426.2522 Portage La Prairie 2 - 602, Saskatchewan Ave E. Portage la Prairie MB R1N 0K5 204.857.4749 Québec 900, boul. René Lévesque est Bureau 640 Québec QC G1R 2B5 418.649.2525 Québec 5500, boul. des Galeries, bureau 105 Québec QC G2K 2E2 418.627.5777 Québec - Everest 2875, boul. Laurier Bureau A 515 Québec QC G1V 2M2 418.651.0680 Repentigny 534, rue Notre-Dame Bureau 201 Repentigny QC J6A 2T8 450.582.7001 Rimouski 180, rue des Gouverneurs Bureau 004 Rimouski QC G5L 8G1 418.721.6767 Rivière-du-Loup 10, rue Beaubien Rivière-du-Loup QC G5R 1H7 418.867.7900	Saskatoon 410-22nd Street East Suite 420 Saskatoon SK S7K 5T6 306.683.1400 St-Bruno 1307, rue Roberval St-Bruno QC J3V 5J1 (450) 441-3300 St-Hyacinthe 1355, rue Johnson Ouest, Suite 4100 St-Hyacinthe QC J2S 8W7 450.774.5354 Ste-Foy Place de la Cité 2600, boulevard Laurier Suite 700 Ste-Foy QC G1V 4W2 418.654.2323 St-Jean 1050, boul. du Séminaire Nord, Local 6 St-Jean-sur-Richelieu QC J3A 1S7 450.349.7777 St-Lambert - Everest 594, rue Victoria, 1er étage St-Lambert QC J4P 2J6 450.465.1393 St-Léonard 6476, boul. Jean-Talon Est, St-Léonard QC H1S 1M8 514.256.7767 St-Sauveur-des-Monts 11, rue Robert, St-Sauveur-des-Monts QC J0R 1R6 450.227.2777 Steinbach 102-344 Main Street Steinbach MB R5G 1Z1 204.320.9536 Sherbrooke 455, rue King ouest Bureau 600 Sherbrooke QC J1H 6E9 819.566.7212 Sidney 2537, Beacon Ave. Suite 205 Sidney BC V8L 1Y3 250.657.2200 Sorel 26, Pl. Charles-de-Montmagny Sorel-Tracy QC J3P 7E3 450.743.8474 Steinbach 102-344 Main Street Steinbach MB R5G 1Z1 Tel (204) 320-9536 Sudbury 10 Elm Street, 5th Floor Sudbury ON P3C 1S8 705.671.1160 Toronto The Exchange Tower 130 King Street West Suite 3200 Toronto ON M5X 1J9 416.869.3707	Toronto 121 King Street West Suite 1700 Toronto ON M5H 3T9 416.865.7400 The Exchange Tower 130 King Street West Suite 3030 Toronto ON M5X 1J9 416.869.8840 Toronto - Aquilon 280 King Street East Toronto ON M5A1K7 416.363.3050 Trois-Rivières 7200, rue Marion Trois-Rivières QC G9A 0A5 819.379.0000 Val d'Or 647, 3e Avenue Val d'Or QC J9P 1S7 819.824.3687 Vancouver Park Place 666 Burrard Street Suite 3300 Vancouver BC V6C 2X8 604.643.2774 Vernon 3100 - 30th Avenue, Suite 101 Vernon BC V1T 2C2 250.260.4580 Victoria 700-737 Yates Street Victoria BC V8W 1L6 250.953.8400 Victoriaville 650, rue Jutras Est Bureau 150 Victoriaville QC G6S 1E1 819.758.3191 Waterloo Allen Square 180 King Street South Suite 340 Waterloo, ON N2J 1P8 519.742.9991 White Rock 1688 - 152 nd Street Suite 108 South Surrey BC V4A 4N2 604.541.4925 Windsor 1 Riverside Drive West Suite 600 Windsor ON N9A 5K3 519.258.5810 Winnipeg 801-400 St. Mary Avenue Winnipeg MB R3C 4K5 204.946.0297
--	---	--	---	--

International
Geneva (NBF International S.A.)

15 rue du Cendrier
CH-1201 Geneva, Switzerland
Tel.: 41.22.716.4747

NBF Securities UK

(Regulated by The Financial Services Authority)
71 Fenchurch Street, 11th floor
London, England EC3M 4HD
Tel.: 44 (0) 20.7680.9370

New York

65 East 55th Street, 31st Floor
New York, NY 10022
Tel.: 212.632.8610

**National Bank of Canada
Financial Inc.**

New York
65 East 55th Street, 34th Floor
New York, NY 10022
Tel.: 212.546.7500

Boston

1 Federal Street, 25th Floor
Boston, MA 02110
Tel.: 617.357.5757

Member

- Montreal Exchange
- Toronto Exchange
- Winnipeg Commodities Exchange
- Securities Industry Association
- CNQ
- Investment Dealers Association of Canada
- Canadian Investor Protection Fund
- Securities Investor Protection Corporation