



# INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE MOBILITY AND FUTURE POSSIBILITIES

What are our possible opportunities, constraints, limitations and options for the movement of international commerce in and out of this Region?

As we examine the future of commerce connectivity for our Region, what is it that we should try and understand regarding our movement of commerce/cargo/freight?

- Why does this Region truck a tremendous amount of high value international air freight between MSP and Chicago on a nightly basis? How will we answer this question and who has the data that could support other options?
- We understand that the data and information is out there with private companies, research organizations and international freight forwarders to name a few, but, no one organization, agency or entity can define how much is moving in trucks each day and night for traveling on international upper-deck widebody air freighters that fly into and out of Chicago for destinations around the world.

As we examine the future of commerce connectivity for our Region, what is it that we should try and understand regarding our movement of cargo/freight?

- If we can begin to understand the volume and value of how much of our medical device cluster inventory and high value raw materials are moving between MSP and Chicago O'Hare daily/nightly, we can begin to look at other supply chain and transportation options that support the economic and business development for this Region and State.
- One key option, (once we know how much volume and value is being trucked daily/nightly to/from Chicago), is the possibility of bringing wide-body upper deck air freighters back into our MSP Market, which have not been flying on a regular basis since approximately the year 2000.
- This change happened when Northwest Airlines retired their air freight fleet of Boeing 747 aircraft limiting this market to regular freighter service by the air integrators, (FedEx and UPS), which are focused on the small package model.

Why is it important to understand how much volume and value is currently being trucked nightly between Chicago and MSP for further international movements?

- Reducing the reliance on truck movement between MSP and Chicago will provide time savings for this transit, reduce damage from shipment/transit handling, reduce the cost of this trucking transportation and support the environment by reducing the number of trucks moving between these geographic areas.
- By securing this information/data, what supply chain and transportation options could this provide for MSP at this present time?

Why is it important to understand how much volume and value is currently being trucked nightly between Chicago and MSP for further international movements?

- This Region, through the Global Wellness Connections, (GWC), has developed a strategic partnership with the Wallonia Region of Belgium, which is the home of the Liege Airport, a major commerce/freight hub in the Golden Triangle of Europe, with spokes/connections to Africa, the Middle East and other global destinations.
- With the understanding of the volume and value of medical equipment and raw material commerce being moved via truck to/from Chicago today, our contacts in Wallonia are ready to connect our MSP leadership with specific international air freight companies to begin negotiations regarding a potential trial program between Liege and MSP utilizing non-stop upper deck, wide body freighters.