



## AMERICANS FOR MODERN TRANSPORTATION

# Safer, Green Transportation Infrastructure Improvements to Support Domestic Jobs

[Americans for Modern Transportation](#) represents the nation's largest shippers, carriers and retailers, and we have a solution. AMT is committed to improving the safety and efficiency of America's transportation system to modernize the delivery of products across the country's highway network. Today our mission is more critical than ever, and we urge leaders to consider the benefits of allowing a modest five-foot length increase to the existing national standard for twin trailers. Disadvantaged communities and small business owners are disproportionately impacted in our current, capacity-constrained system. Adopting twin-33's will improve their ability to compete in the growing digital economy by increasing shipping capacity, keeping shipping costs low and reducing the environmental impact of surface transportation.

AMT's call to modernize an outdated trailer length rule, [set nearly 40 years ago](#) would harmonize trailer regulations across state lines and bring certainty to industries. Twin 33s are already [allowed to operate](#) in 20 states and increasing the twin trailer standard from 28 feet to 33 feet nationwide would encourage immediate private sector manufacturing investments, put workers first by supporting domestic jobs, help to support our economic recovery and bring meaningful long-term transportation benefits.

### TWIN 33s WOULD:

- Abide by the current 80,000 lb. weight limit.
- Only operate on the federal highway network-not on city streets or local roads.
- Bring immediate benefit to the U.S. transportation system at no cost to U.S. taxpayers.

## The following efficiency gains would have been realized in 2018 had Twin 33s been allowed nationwide:



**3.36 BILLION**  
Fewer Vehicle  
Miles Traveled



**\$2.8 BILLION**  
Saved in  
Shipping Costs



**57.2 MILLION**  
Hours Saved Due  
to Less Congestion



**274 MILLION**  
Fewer Gallons  
of Fuel



**3.12 MILLION**  
Fewer Tons of  
CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

## TWIN 33s WOULD:

### BRING ENVIRONMENTAL GAINS, CONSUMER BENEFITS

AMT's solution will drive [environmental gains](#).

- The adoption of twin 33' trailers [equates](#) to 274 million fewer gallons of fuel, 3.12 million fewer tons of CO2 emissions and 3.36 billion fewer vehicle miles traveled with transportation efficiencies.
- Furthermore, studies have shown that twin 33' trailers can move the same amount of freight with 18 percent fewer truck trips, reducing congestion and allowing [consumers](#) and businesses to realize the [\\$2.8 billion annually in lower shipping costs](#) with quicker delivery times.

### SUPPORT CONSUMER TRENDS: ECOMMERCE IS HERE TO STAY

The pandemic has been devastating for our country and presented numerous day-to-day challenges for Americans, including how we obtain food and household items. The trucking industry has been a vital lifeline to the U.S. economy during the COVID-19 pandemic by supporting the rapid increase of ecommerce and movement of essentials goods across the country.

- New habits have formed, including an overwhelming reliance on e-commerce. This new post-COVID consumer reality accounts for a growth of 15 percent of total retail sales; this could grow to 25 percent, according to [Korn Ferry](#) as approximately 100 million people shift temporary habits to permanent habits. [Morning Consult](#) reinforced this reality with a recent poll, showing 28 percent of U.S. adults are now spending more online. Each item ordered is a delivery.
- [Produce and food industries](#) are highly dependent upon efficient transportation flows to deliver fresh high-quality food items quickly from farm to table.

### DELIVER SAFETY BENEFITS

Nationally, twin-trailer trucks have crash rates that are among the lowest in trucking, and among all types of motor vehicles.

- [Research](#) by Ronald R. Knipling, PhD, shows that widespread adoption of twin 33s would reduce truck miles driven by [3.36 billion](#), avoiding 4,500 accidents per year.
- John Woodrooffe, PhD [found](#) that lengthening twin trailers from 28' to 33' improves their high-speed dynamics. This makes twin 33s more stable and less likely to roll over or jackknife.
- Moreover, twin 33s would include the latest in automatic braking, electronic stability control and other advanced safety features that are already being deployed on large fleets and are helping to ensure that highways are even safer.

### BRING ESSENTIAL TO GOODS MOVEMENT

Trucking is a vital mode of transportation for a wide-range of goods movement.

- America's trucking industry as a whole employs [7.8 million people](#) across the country and approximately 5.8 percent of all full-time jobs in America are related to trucking.
- As the [National Freight Strategic Plan](#) stated, "Trucks are involved in the movement of most goods... Trucks carry nearly 72 percent of all domestic freight by weight and 73 percent by value."
- [CBS News](#) noted, "Supply chains have to keep moving if we are going to overcome this pandemic and get food from where it is produced to where it is needed." We must look for clear and clean transportation efficiencies across all modes in this post-COVID economy and beyond.

#### PROPOSED TWIN 33 SAFETY FEATURES WOULD INCLUDE:

