

Services Provided: TEMS provided a detailed assessment of Fast Ship technology and a demand forecasting analysis.

Description of Project. TEMS was asked to review the changes that are occurring in Fast Ship technology, as well as the potential impact of the technology on worldwide container freight movement.



The analysis initially assessed the existing Fast Ship fleet, including recent developments in the United States, Japan, Europe, and Australia. It assessed the rate of technology development and the level of implementation.

The second step in the analysis was to evaluate the potential growth of the Fast Ship fleet and the rate of commercialization of fast ship technologies in different markets. The third step involved an assessment of the impact of Fast Ship technology on world trade and the development of new trade relationships, specifically container movements.

The analysis concluded that Fast Ship technology is evolving rapidly, but that commercialization would take at least a decade as most developments were in the research phase. However, since Fast Ship technology would radically affect market relationships and tariffs. It was expected that once commercialization took off the introduction of Fast Ship technology would be rapid in key markets such as the movement of automobiles on the Pacific and Atlantic routes, given the likely financial savings in insurance and the just-in-time savings in inventory. Growth was also expected to be rapid in introducing new services (Asia to United States), and in developing new trade flows (Latin America to Europe and North America). In particular, the study identified the potential for “round the world” service options such as Western Asia (India, Thailand, Philippines) to Europe and North America.

Project Start Date:

June 1996

Similar Issues:

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