



As the arrow of the worldwide economy continues its trajectory up and to the right, this upward trend is hauling the transportation sector along with it, with robust, year-on-year growth being experienced on the road, on the tracks, and over the sea. Driven by an increase in freight tonnage, most downstream sectors—especially trucks and trailers—continue to be driven by complementary sectors of the global marketplace.

RAISING EXPECTATIONS

As non-residential building starts rise, so do the fortunes for crane manufacturers and rental companies.

▲ 3%
NEW CONSTRUCTION STARTS
PROJECTED 2018, YOY
Increase to \$765 billion
Source: Dodge Data & Analytics

▲ 95%+
TOWER CRANE UTILIZATION
Based on recent GA appraisals

TAKING THE HIGH ROAD

Both the truck and trailer markets continue roaring down the far left lane, easily passing last year's numbers.

Source: ACT Research

NEW CLASS 8 TRACTOR SALES: ▲ 31%

▲ 36.8%

▲ 29%

TRAILER ORDERS: ▲ 36%

30,000 units

▲ 28%

254,000 units

MARCH 2018, YOY

Q1 2018, YOY

PROJECTED 2018, YOY

EVERYTHING'S COMING TOGETHER

Its strong finish in 2017 is likely to continue as the North American intermodal sector anticipates a vital 2018.

2016

2017

▲ 5.4%
TOTAL INTERMODAL VOLUMES

Q4 2017, YOY

▲ 5.8%
INTERMODAL VOLUME

Q1 2018, YOY

▲ 7.2%
INTERMODAL MOVEMENTS
Strongest quarter for the intermodal industry in nearly four years

Q1 2018

▲ 7.0%
INTERNATIONAL CONTAINER VOLUME

Q1 2018

▲ 6.2%
DOMESTIC CONTAINER VOLUME

Q1 2018

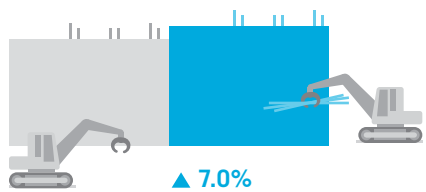
▲ 14.5%
TRAILER LOAD VOLUME

MARCH 2018, YOY

▲ 5%
TOTAL COMBINED U.S. FREIGHT RAILROAD TRAFFIC
2.13M carloads and intermodal units after a 3.3% gain in February 2018

BUILDING ON LAST YEAR'S FOUNDATION

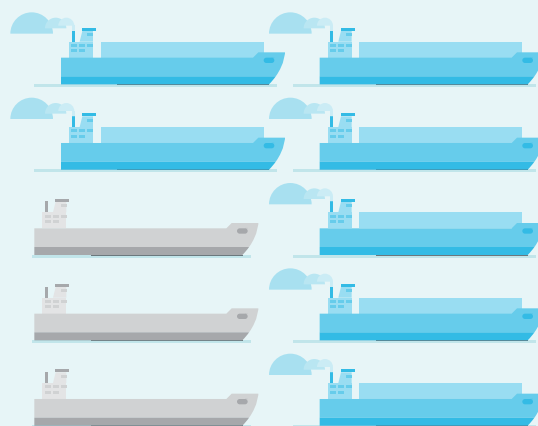
Industry observers are standing by their optimism for 2018 and expect construction starts and activity to continue.



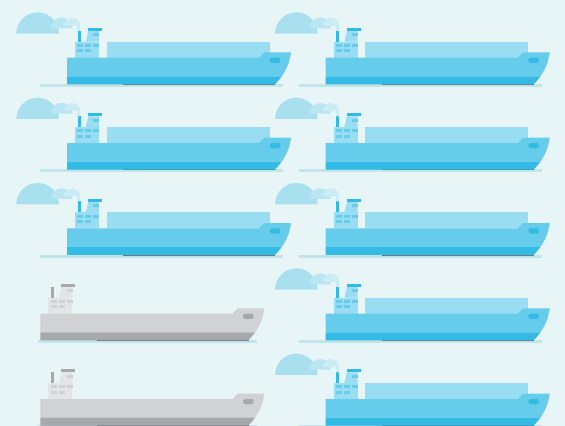
▲ 7.0%
TOTAL ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION SPENDING
PROJECTED 2018, YOY
Compared to a 4.0% increase in 2017

A RISING TIDE

Few containerships remain idle as high demand not only keeps fleet availability tight but also holds back scrapping.



▼ 72%
LESS IDLE CONTAINERSHIPS
JANUARY 8, 2018
99 vessels or 377,784 TEUs
Compared with 351 ships or 950,000 TEUs a year ago



▼ 83%
LESS CONTAINERSHIPS SOLD FOR SCRAP
APRIL 18, 2018
12 ships or 21,778 TEUs
Compared with 70 ships or 230,000 TEUs a year ago

FULL THROTTLE GROWTH

Transportation remains the broader economy's "canary in the coal mine," singing when things are solid, and falling silent in retraction. As other sectors continue to steam ahead, key indicators remain positive: order boards for dry van trailers are full for 2018; demand for oceangoing tonnage remains tight; and construction starts continue their upward climb. And while recent tariffs keep steel and aluminum prices uncertain, transportation as a whole is on solid ground and calm seas for now.

TO LEARN MORE, DOWNLOAD GA'S TRANSPORTATION MONITOR AT GREATAMERICAN.COM/RIGHTONTHEMONEY