

CASE STUDY

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Mammoth Oversized Rail Load Shipped Internationally Via Rail

Company Profile

A large Engineering and Project Management Company with a presence in over 80 countries in the gases, technologies and services for Industry and Health sectors.

Business Challenge

The customer was looking for an economically feasible way to transport 2 very large vessels from Duluth, MN to Red Deer Alberta, Canada. These vessels were one of the largest commodities ever shipped by rail in North America. Added concerns of size and weight made this transportation project complex.

Solution

BNSF Logistics provided an engineered securement that allowed for a combination of shipments with multiple customers. Continuous project coordination was maintained across all parties including BNSF and Canadian Pacific Railway. Continuous communication, verification of results, and innovative problem solving were combined to develop and implement a practical solution.

Process/Procedure

Understanding the logistics challenges and communicating clearly to the customer were paramount for project success.

- Developed securement design that included bolster plates to satisfy AAR Open Top Loading Rule requirements
- Designed and built an idler car to allow for the transport of the largest vessel to satisfy axle load spacing constraints
- Pre-inspected all railcars for defects/issues that may have delayed the project
- Performed an initial laser scan survey of all vessels to record actual profiles and areas of concern
- Worked with all parties both on and off site to successfully coordinate solutions
- Performed final inspection and laser scan survey

By providing seamless planning, engineering, and communication, BNSF logistics

BENEFITS ACHIEVED

- Successful delivery of commodities without incident as planned
- Increased efficiency by combining multiple projects into one transport shipment
- Reduced cost by reusing steel

