

WHAT IS THE FUTURE ROLE OF LAND-BASED ALTERNATIVES?

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What is the purpose of a land-based alternative?

Speed

Air is clearly
the fastest



Cost

Ocean is clearly
the most cost-
efficient for large
weight and/or
volume

Land-based is a compromise

The environmental perspective

Land-based, especially by rail, has a lower footprint than air

Long-term: In some places rail and road electrification could lead to faster path to zero-cargo transport than ocean

Also, carbon taxation can at times shift cargo between modalities – not from an environmental perspective but from a cost perspective



Geography matters

Whenever there is a crisis it leads to an upswing in focus on land-based alternatives

Just a few simple examples:

Transiberian

Middle East road and rail

Panama overland rail

Mexico Interoceanic Corridor



Alternatives needed to navigate problems

Land-based, especially by rail,
has a lower footprint than air

Long-term: In some places rail
and road electrification could lead
to faster path to zero-cargo
transport than ocean

A means to bypass sudden
problematic areas

Exposed to larger geopolitical
risks in some places than ocean
and air



At the end of the day: Money talks, B*S* walks

Land-based has the advantage that it can offer more rapid flexible solutions, especially in times of crisis

There will clearly be a space for land-based alternatives – but the keyword being “alternatives”

