

# **The Freight Shuttle System:**

## **A Private Sector Freight Transportation Solution**

Briefing for:

**U.S.-México Border Mayors Association**

El Paso, Texas, August 16, 2011







## TTI's Freight Shuttle System



## Freight Shuttle: Trailers or Containers

Length – 75 feet

Velocity – 62 mph

Loading – 35 tons



# The Freight Shuttle System

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- **A new approach to regional Intermodal & cross-border freight transport**
  - Concept developed over the last 7 years at the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI)
  - Based on known and understood technology
  - Effectively addresses both community and commercial needs

*Combines technology and operational strategies  
to provide freight transportation in an  
environmentally responsible manner*



# The Freight Shuttle System

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- **Automated Freight Shuttles**

- Hybrid system; uses the best features of truck and rail
- Single-container transports
- Linear induction motors (LIMs)
- Dedicated, small footprint guide way
- Fully elevated on existing highway ROW

*24/7 operations offer an option that may overcome throughput, capacity, and impact issues affecting freight transportation*

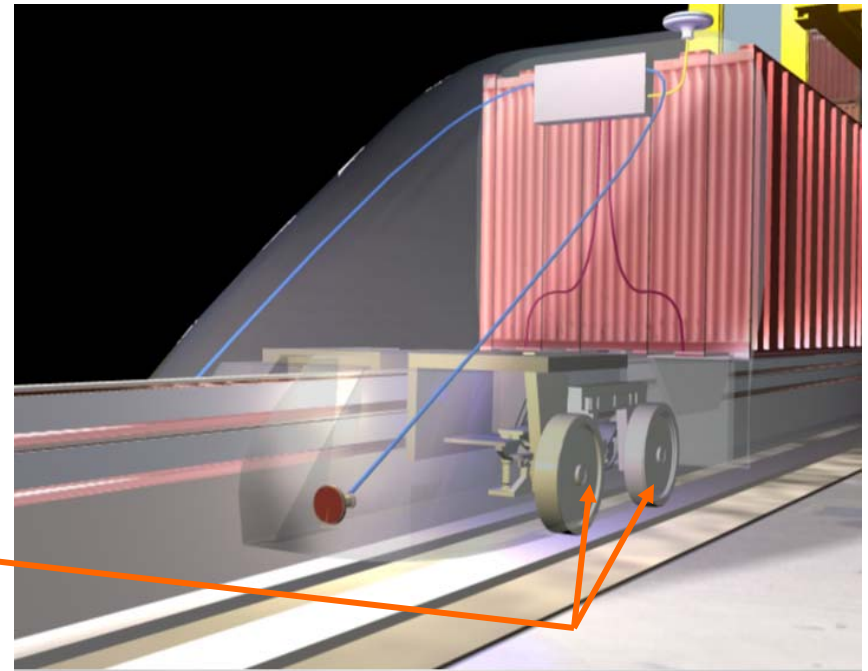




# The Freight Shuttle System

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- **High reliability**
  - Steel-on-steel for low rolling friction/low cost
  - LIM – linear motion from vehicle-guideway interaction
    - Small number of moving parts
  - Automated control system



# Texas Department of Transportation

- April 8<sup>th</sup> – TxDOT issued a RFP for “Low-carbon Emitting Freight Transportation Facilities”
  - The stated intent: **lease existing highway rights of way for alternative freight transportation technologies**
  - No public funds will be expended/no public costs incurred
  - Designed to monetize “under-performing” assets through leasing arrangements
  - Expecting D-B-O-M proposals that are privately funded



# I-35 Corridor - First Project



Approx. 600 Route Miles



# I-35 Corridor - First Project



Approx. 600 Route Miles

Image © 2007 TerraMetrics  
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Streaming 100%

Eye alt 499.64 mi



# I-35 Corridor - First Project



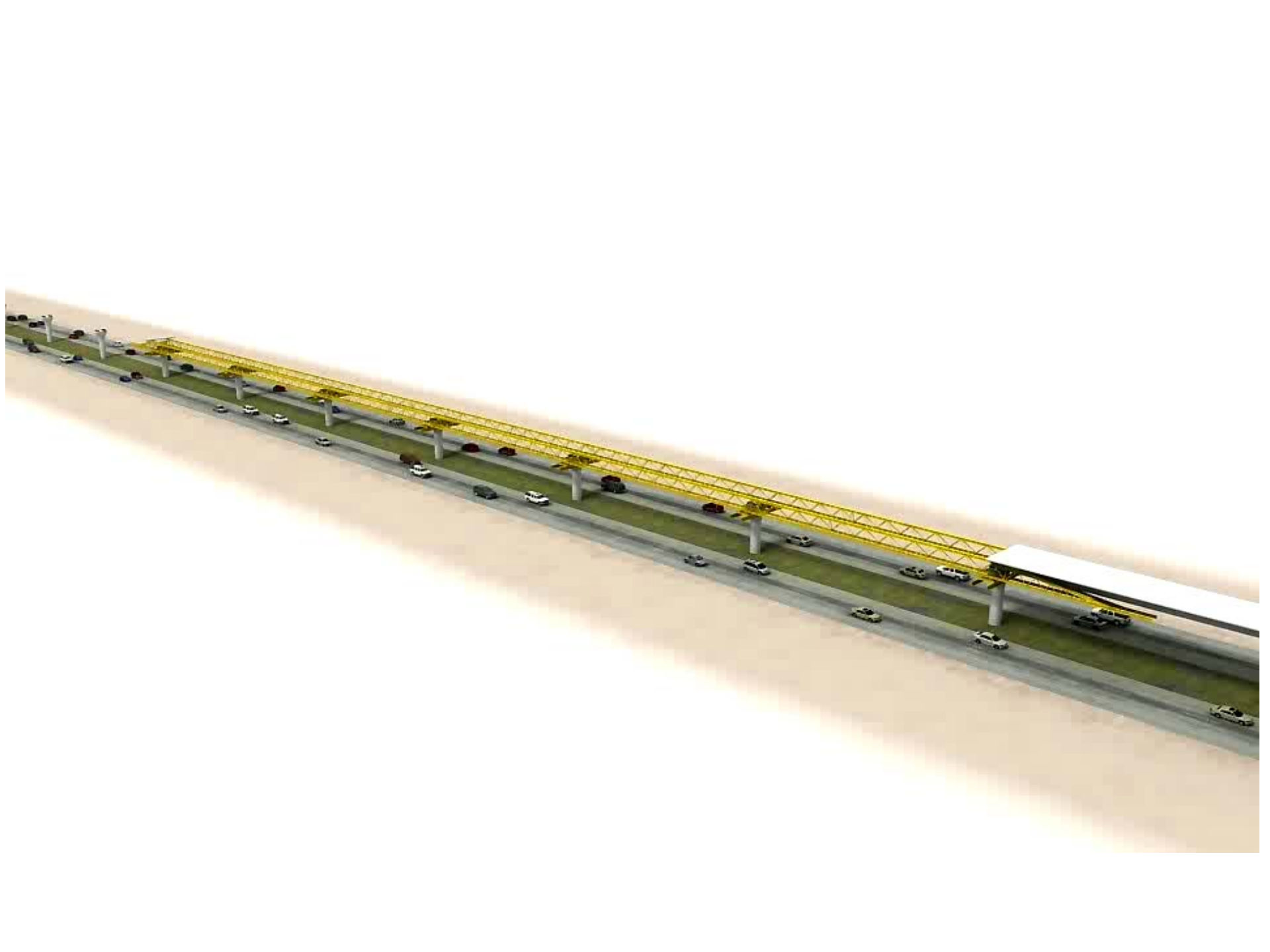
Approx. 600 Route Miles

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Streaming 100%

Eye alt 499.64 mi





# III. Freight Shuttle System Business Model



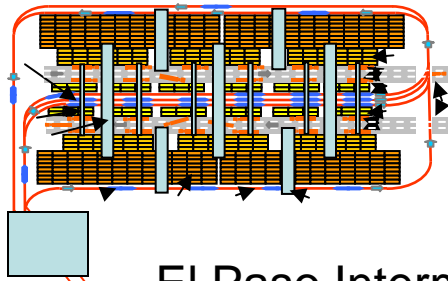
# Port of Entry Security

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2009 DOE – funded study assessing the  
Feasibility of bi-national FS operations  
Over a secure, elevated guideway with pre-  
Clearance in secure facilities



El Paso Intermodal Terminal

Inspect-in-motion

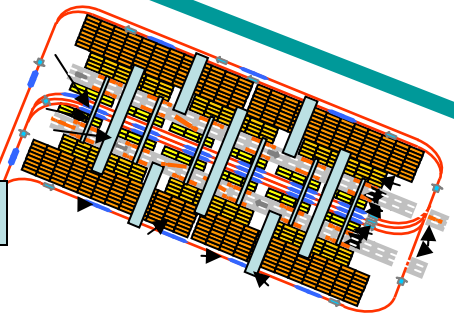


El Paso

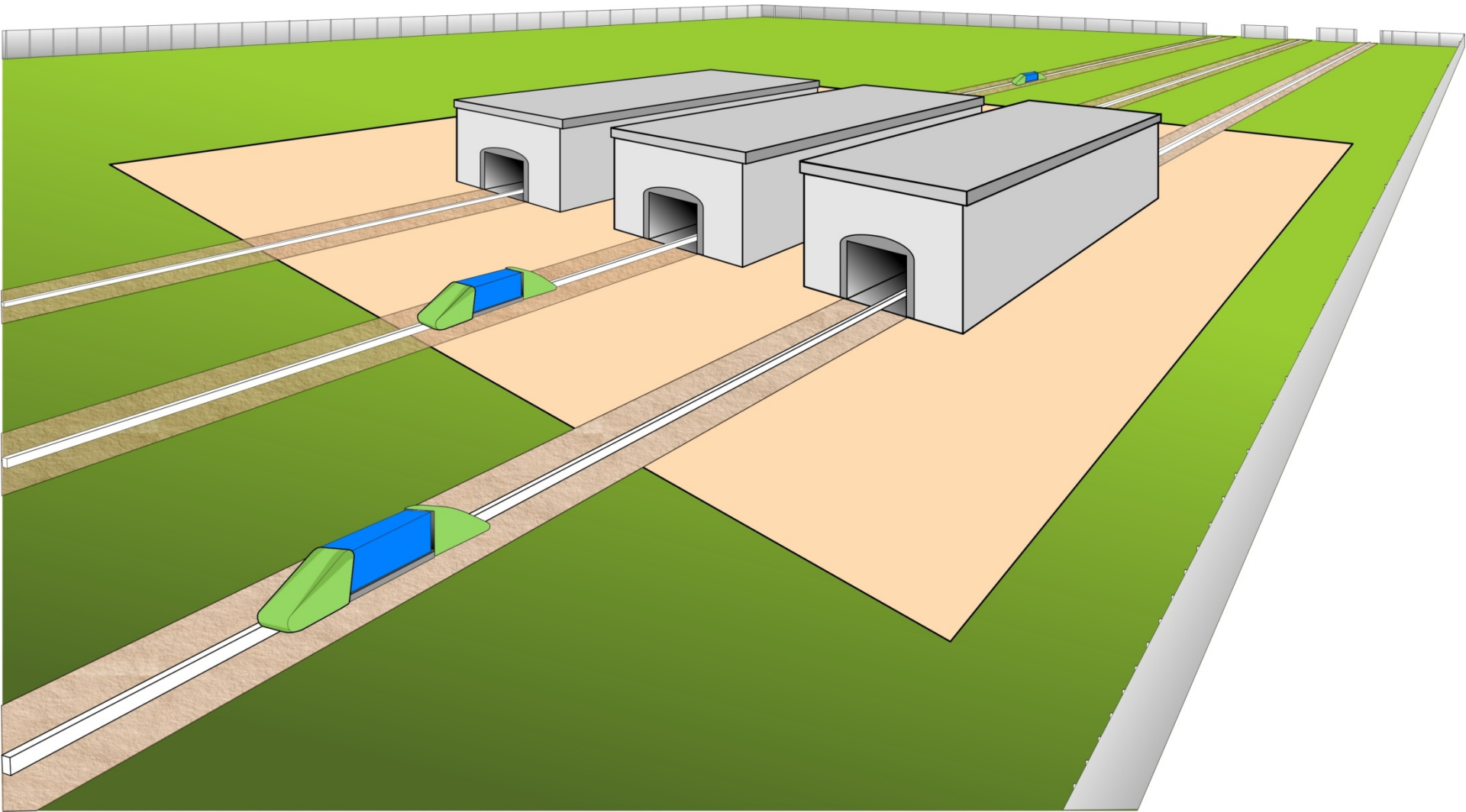


Ciudad Juarez

Inspect-in-motion



## Parallel Scanning Stations Allow for 100% Inspection Using High-Energy Scanning Equipment



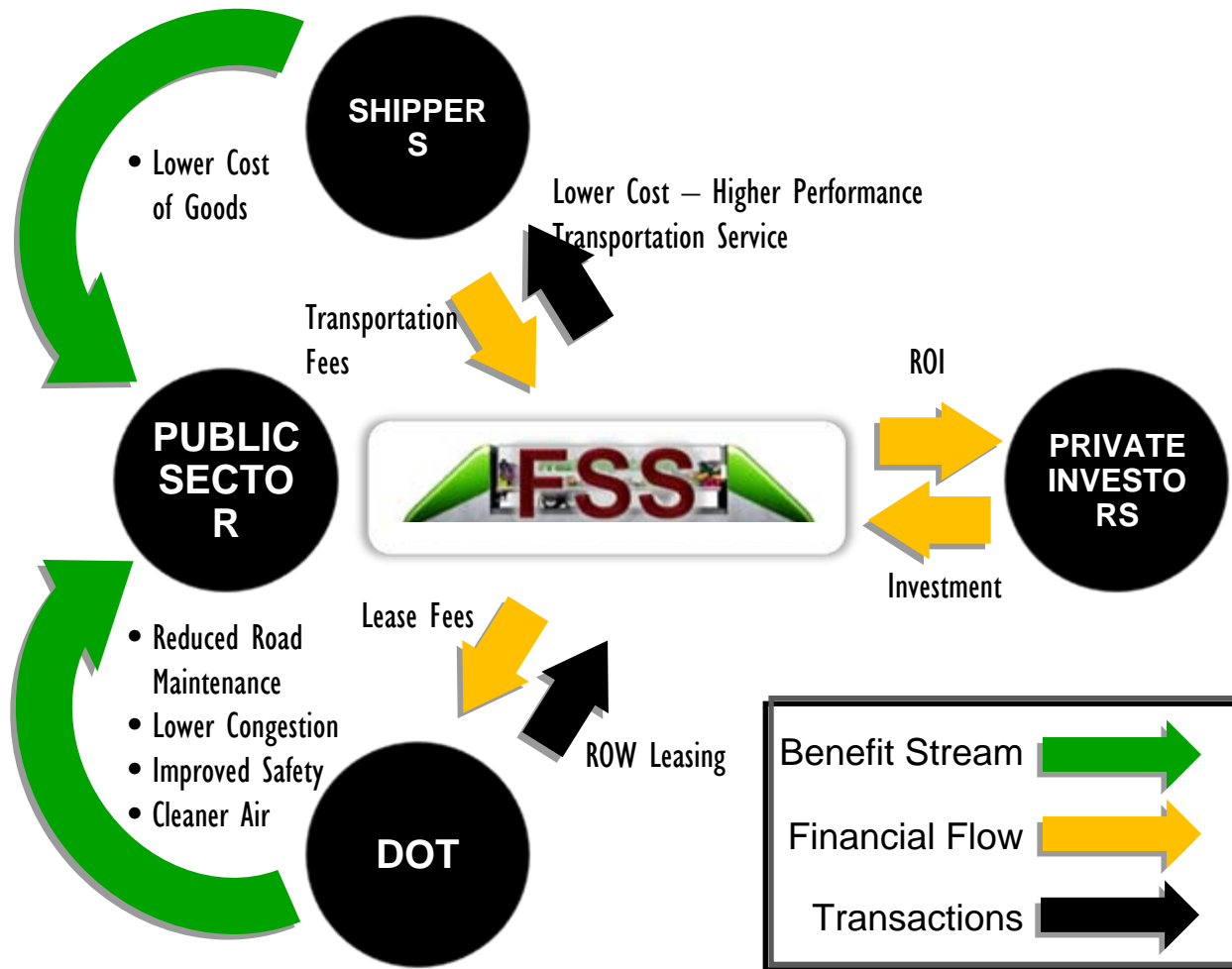
# Overview of Freight Shuttle International

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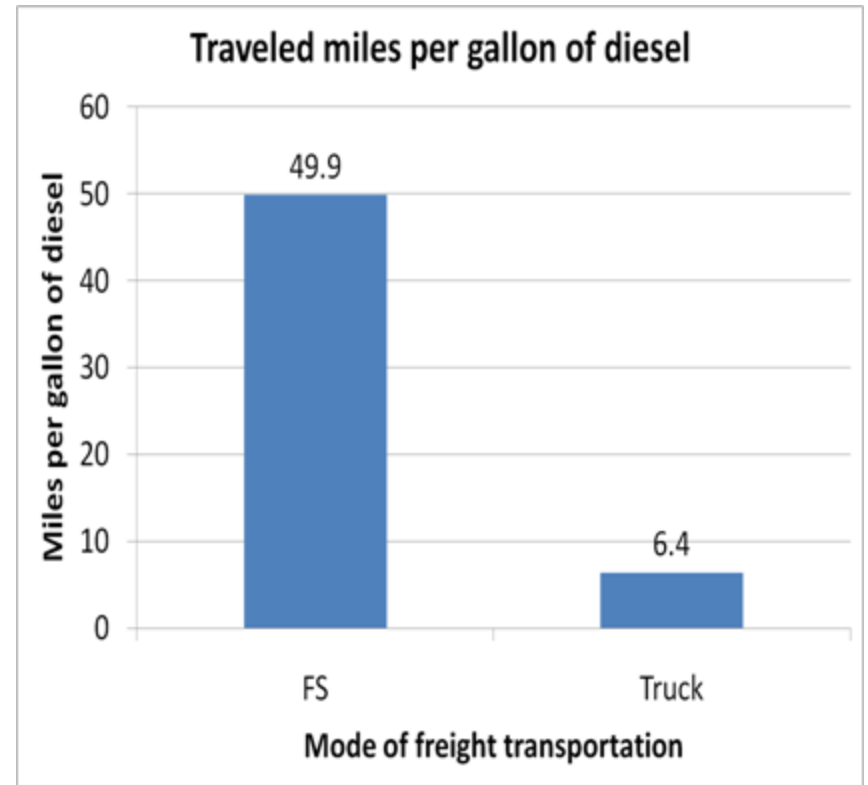
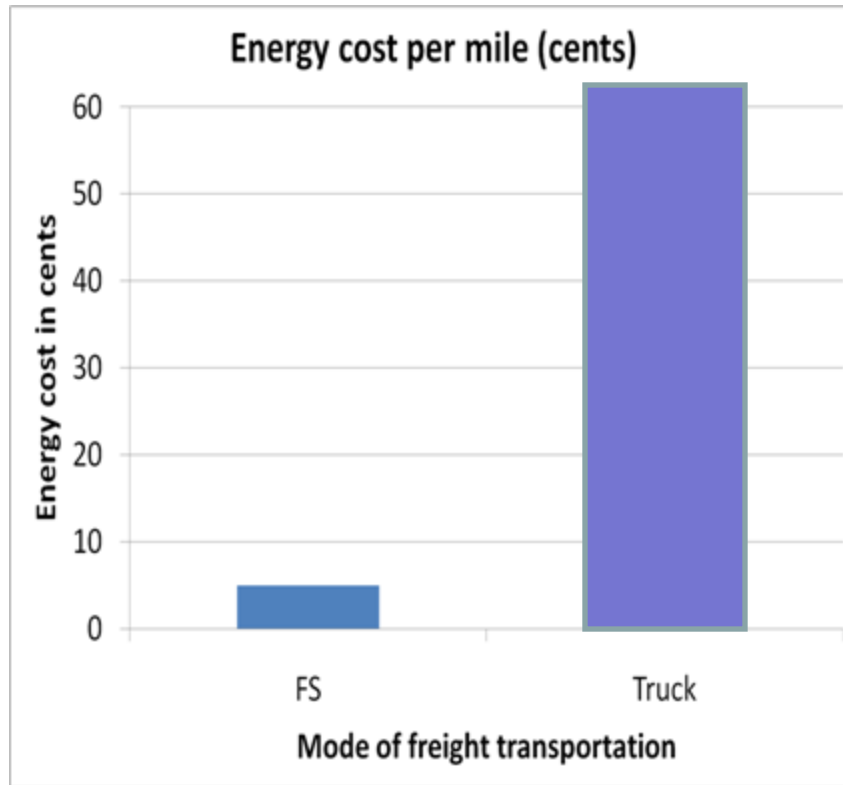
- FSI was formed to **commercialize** the Freight Shuttle technology developed by the Texas Transportation Institute
- The Freight Shuttle System is a **hybrid** mode of freight transportation that can move freight over international borders on a secure, grade-separated, electric-powered guideway
- The Freight Shuttle System will move freight in a more **secure and sustainable** manner than is currently possible



# FREIGHT SHUTTLE BUSINESS MODEL



# Improving Energy Efficiency



Based on BTU Equivalency