AIR TRANSPORTATION

1. WestJet reports December load factor of 81.7 per cent
On January 6, 2014, WestJet announced its December 2013 traffic results. Its load factor was 81.7 per cent, its revenue passenger miles (RPMs), or traffic, increased 7.2 per cent year over year, and capacity, measured in available seat miles (ASMs), grew 7.4 per cent over the same period. For the 2014 fourth quarter, its load factor, traffic and capacity changed by -1.6 points, 6.1 percent and 8.3 percent. For the calendar year of 2013, load factor, traffic and capacity changed by -1.1 points, 7.3 percent and 8.6 percent. President and CEO Gregg Saretsky said "We are very pleased to finish the year with our second-highest fourth quarter and full-year load factors, as well as setting a new single-day record as we flew 60,566 guests on December 20th".

2. WestJet makes early return to Myrtle Beach
WestJet on January 6, 2014 announced that it will resume its non-stop seasonal service between Toronto and Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, on March 6, 2014, nearly two months earlier than in 2013. The twice-weekly service will operate on Thursdays and Sundays from March 6 to October 23, 2014, with a change in flight times effective April 27, 2014.

3. Air Canada Reports Record Load Factors for December and Full Year 2013
For the month of December 2013, Air Canada reported a record system load factor of 82.7 per cent, versus 82.1 per cent in December 2013, an increase of 0.6 percentage points. System traffic increased 4.8 per cent on a system-wide capacity increase of 4.0 per cent. For the full year 2013, load factor was a record 82.8 per cent, versus 82.7 per cent, an increase of 0.1 percentage points. System traffic increased 2.1 per cent on a system-wide capacity increase of 1.9 per cent. Calin Rovenescu, President and CEO of Air Canada, said “These strong results, for both the month and full year, underscore the effectiveness of Air Canada’s disciplined capacity management and our award winning product.”

4. Air Cargo Continues Moderate Recovery - Uneven Growth across Regions
The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released figures showing a 6.1% growth in demand (measured in freight tonne kilometers or FTK) for air freight in November 2013 over the same month in the previous year. November’s performance is an improvement on the 4.4% year-on-year demand expansion recorded a month earlier in October. This continues an improvement trend in the weak air cargo markets which has been developing over 2013.

5. Passenger Demand Moderates in November
The International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced global passenger traffic results for November 2013 showing a moderation in the pace of recent demand growth. Total revenue passenger kilometers (RPKs) rose 4.1% compared to November 2012. This was slower than the 6.5% year-over-year growth recorded in October 2013. In November

* The views indicated are those of the authors and not of Industry Canada or the CTRF.
capacity expanded by 6.1% which out-paced demand growth. This led to a 1.4 percentage point slip in the load factor to 76.3%.

6. **WestJet Encore to launch new service between Saskatchewan and Manitoba**
WestJet Encore launches new daily flights between Regina, Saskatchewan, and Winnipeg, Manitoba, beginning Wednesday, January 15, 2014.

7. **November Airline Consumer Complaints Down From Previous Year, October**
Airline consumer complaints filed with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)’s Aviation Consumer Protection Division during November 2013 were down 23.6 percent from November 2012 and down 11.9 percent from October 2013, according to the DOT’s Air Travel Consumer Report released on January 14, 2014.

8. **British Airways to Provide More Reasonable Terms and Conditions**
In a decision released on January 20, 2014 (Decision No. 10-C-A-2014), the Agency deemed certain British Airways’ tariff provisions unreasonable and ordered the carrier to revise them accordingly, by February 14, 2014.

9. **WestJet spreads wings across Canada and beyond**
WestJet on January 20, 2014 announced its most comprehensive schedule release since the airline took to the skies in 1996. As part of the 2014 summer schedule, the airline is adding five new routes, increasing frequency on 20 existing routes across the network, while five seasonal routes move to year-round service.

10. **WestJet Vacations: no plans to announce currency surcharge**
WestJet Vacations said on January 22, 2014 that it has no intention of imposing a currency surcharge on vacation package bookings. In response to the falling Canadian dollar, most major tour operators are adding currency surcharges to their bookings.

11. **Research and Markets releases report on international global air cargo market**
Research and Markets has released "2013 Report on the International Global Air Cargo Market" including forecasts to 2016. The global air cargo market has been witnessing an increase in the number of new air routes. However, the increasing competition from surface routes pose the greatest challenge to the air cargo market growth.

12. **Civil aviation operating statistics, November 2013**
Operational data on civil aviation are now available for November 2013 on Statistics Canada website.

13. **Air Canada Provides Pension Plan Solvency Update - Domestic Plans Estimated to be in a Small Surplus Position as at January 1, 2014**
Air Canada provided on January 22, 2014 an update regarding its Canadian pension plans solvency status. Based on preliminary estimates and the factors outlined below, Air Canada projects its Canadian registered pension plans at January 1, 2014 to be in a small surplus position. The Canadian registered pension plans solvency deficit at January 1, 2013 was $3.7 billion.

14. **Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports, November 2013**
Aircraft take-offs and landings at the 93 Canadian airports with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers and flight service stations decreased 4.2% in November 2013 from November 2012. These airports reported 420,171 movements in November 2013.

15. **Air Canada rouge to Offer More Caribbean Destinations this Summer from Toronto and Montreal**
On January 27, 2014, Air Canada announced that its leisure carrier subsidiary, Air Canada rouge™, is expanding its choice of more Caribbean destinations this summer. It will offer 22% more seats to the Caribbean than last summer and more flights from Montreal, Port-au-Prince and Punta Gorda. Routes previously operated by Air Canada from Toronto and Montreal to Cuba, Dominican Republic, Bahamas, Barbados, Haiti, Cancun and Tampa, FL, will be converted beginning this spring to Air Canada rouge service.
16. Air cargo industry must act now to avoid crisis: TIACA, IATA, ICAO, FIATA project
A task force led by The International Air Cargo Association (TIACA), with active participation from the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Federation of Freight Forwarder Associations (FIATA) has published the results of a two-year research project. The research project focused on identifying educational needs for the next-generation of managers for the worldwide air cargo industry. It called for the need for training programs to service the future air cargo industry so that its competitive advantage would not be lost.

17. Air Canada’s next hurdle: the falling loonie
Just when Air Canada has put its threatening pension deficit behind it, the sudden fall of the Canadian dollar has thrown the airline another hurdle. “We have a massive exposure to the U.S. dollar,” said Calin Rovinescu, Air Canada’s chief executive officer, after a speech at the Canadian Club of Montreal. The purchase of fuel and planes which is in US dollars will affect the carrier. Air Canada estimated that a $0.01 change in the value of the Canadian dollar would have about a $33-million impact on its yearly operating income.

18. 3rd-Quarter 2013 Domestic Air Fare Up 5.1% from 3rd Quarter 2012 (Adjusted for Inflation)
The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) reported on January 28, 2014 that the average domestic air fare increased to $390 in the third quarter of 2013, up 5.1 percent from the average fare of $371 in the third quarter of 2012, measured in constant 2013 dollars.

19. Aircraft movement statistics: Small airports, October 2013
In October 2013, 133 airports without air traffic control towers reported 52,924 movements (take-offs and landings). Barrie–Orillia–Lake Simcoe Regional, Ontario (2,716 movements) and Goose Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador (2,664 movements) were the most active sites.

WATER TRANSPORTATION

1. Containership Oversupply to Continue
The amount of capacity on idle, unemployed containerships reached 718,000 TEU in mid-December 2013, according to Alphaliner, and “is expected to continue to rise until the end of March 2014, as the current excess supply is aggravated by accelerating vessel deliveries due in the first half of 2014.” Idle capacity averaged 595,000 TEU in 2013 compared to 651,000 TEU in 2012, it said. The information service forecasts that the idle fleet will not be eliminated in 2014 and 2015.

2. Shipping firms face antitrust fine in Japan
The Japan Fair Trade Commission (JFTC) has decided to impose fines on some shipping firms for allegedly violating the antitrust law in transporting automobiles.

3. Prince Rupert Port Authority – Monthly Traffic Report
On January 9, 2014, the Port of Prince Rupert released its monthly traffic report for December 2013. The statistics for total traffic indicate that the number of TEUs for December 2014 was 39,993.75 compared to 48,932.75 a year earlier, representing a decline of 18.27%. Year to date (January to December) traffic indicates a decline of 5.03%, a decline to 536,429.25 TEUs from 564,856.65 TEUs

4. Vancouver expansion delayed
Port Metro Vancouver’s plan to build a second container terminal at Roberts Bank will now be subject to an independent environmental review. The process will now be longer and is expected to take at least another year.

5. Accumulated Container Statistics, Year to date Port of Montreal
On January 20, 2014, the Port of Montreal released its container statistics. For the calendar year 2013, 1,356,810 TEUs moved through the Port down from 1,375,327 i.e. (-1.3%). Inbound traffic was 659,481 TEUs and outbound traffic was 697,329 TEUs for the year compared to 680,510 and 694,817 TEUs (i.e. a change of -3.1% and 0.4% ) in 2012.

6. Investment for Rehabilitation of Yarmouth Ferry Terminal

The Government of Canada is investing up to $2.5 million for the rehabilitation of the Yarmouth Ferry Terminal and customs annex building. The service is expected to be started in May 2014. The Government of Canada is exploring options for a long-term strategy for Eastern Canada ferry services.

7. Port of Halifax – Accumulated Container Statistics – 4th Quarter and Year to date 2013
The Port of Halifax reported its cargo statistics on January 27, 2014. For the fourth quarter of 2013, total containers moved in terms of TEUs were 110,515, a decline of 3.4% from 114,411 TEUs for the same quarter a year ago. Imports increased by 1.9% and exports decreased by 8.1%. For the fourth quarter compared to the same quarter a year ago. For the calendar year 2013, total containers moved were 442,173 TEUs compared to 416,572 TEUs in 2012, an increase of 6.1%. Imports increased by 8.3% and exports increased by 4.2% for 2013 compared to 2012.

8. Port of Halifax – Cruise Statistics – 4th Quarter and Year to date 2013
The Port of Halifax reported its passenger cruise statistics on January 27, 2014. For the fourth quarter of 2013, total cruise passengers were 76,283 down from 91,809 in the same quarter a year ago, a 16.9% decline. For the 2013 calendar year, the total cruise passengers were 252,121 compared to 252,847 in 2012, a decline of 0.3%. Total number of vessels calling at the port remained the same in both years.

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

1. North Dakota train derailment to trigger debate about safe oil transport
A December 30, 2013 train derailment and fire in North Dakota that forced the evacuation of a nearby town will trigger debate about the safety of transporting oil as the U.S. reviews TransCanada Corp.’s proposal to build the Keystone XL pipeline.

2. Canadian Pacific to sell west end of its Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern line to Genesee & Wyoming
Canadian Pacific and Genesee & Wyoming Inc. said that they have executed an agreement pursuant to which CP will sell the west end of its Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern (DM&E) line to G&W for continued rail operations. The west end encompasses approximately 660 miles of CP’s current operations between Tracy, MN and Rapid City, SD; north of Rapid City to Colony, WY; south of Rapid City to Dakota Jct., NE; and connecting branch lines, as well as certain trackage rights.

3. Bakken crude more dangerous to ship than other oil: US regulators
The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is issuing a safety alert to notify the general public, emergency responders and shippers and carriers that recent derailments and resulting fires indicate that the type of crude oil being transported from the Bakken region may be more flammable than traditional heavy crude oil.

4. CP’s Line Sale Puts Railroad on Track for Higher Profits
Canadian Pacific Railway will sell the western end of its Dakota, Minnesota and Eastern line to Genesee & Wyoming for $210 million. This sale by CP is the latest effort to boost its profitability by cutting non-core assets.

5. Intermodal Rail Traffic increases in 2013
Intermodal freight rail traffic in Canada and the United States rose in 2013, according to new figures released by the Association of American Railroads. Canadian railroads reported a total volume of 4,083,936 carloads in 2013, up 1.8 percent from 2012 and 2,790,389 intermodal units, up 4.5 percent from last year, according to trucking info.

6. After record crop, grain industry faces transport challenges
The grain industry says it needs more trains to meet global demand and capitalize on strong prices, and that the rise in moving crude oil by rail is creating new competition for track space and locomotives. But given the largest grain crop in Canadian history not much can be done. The

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

Canada

14. Canada, U.S. transportation safety
railways indicate that they are doing everything they can but the increased demand from the oil industry is doing nothing to alleviate the capacity problem.

7. N.B. train derailment fire renews questions of oil-by-rail’s dangers
A fiery derailment in New Brunswick on the night of January 7, 2014 was the third time a crude-oil laden train has caught fire in recent weeks. Three of the tank cars that derailed in New Brunswick at night were loaded at a terminal in southwestern Manitoba, according to Canadian National Railway Co. This rail derailment and fire renews questions of safe oil transportation by rail.

8. Canadian rail investors urged to look past harsh winter
Harsh winter weather is expected to be a drag on the earnings of the country’s largest railways during the 2013 fourth quarter. But investors in Canadian National Railway Co. and Canadian Pacific Railway Ltd. are being encouraged to look past the short-term headaches to the improving volumes in 2014 due to a record crop in Canada, increasing crude-by-rail movements and continued intermodal market share gains against trucks.

9. Transport Canada moves to further improve the safe transportation of dangerous goods
The Honourable Lisa Raitt, Minister of Transport, announced proposed regulatory amendments to further improve the safety of the transportation of dangerous goods by rail. These amendments will be published in the Canada Gazette, Part I, on January 11, 2014. The proposed regulations will introduce new standards for certain rail tank cars, replacing existing standards. This amendment will also enhance the classification regime for the transport of dangerous goods. Specifically, it requires that the person who classifies a dangerous good before transport keep a record of classification of those goods, as well as a record of the sampling method for crude oil. Additionally, this proposed regulation adds requirements to the shipping document. The proposed consignor’s certification would appear on the shipping document to certify that the person named on the shipping document has prepared the consignment according to the regulations that apply.

10. Senators: Crude transport by rail needs review
In the wake of yet another North American railroad accident involving the transportation of crude oil, two senators have urged “further action” to prevent accidents stemming from the transportation of crude oil. In a letter addressed to Department of Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx and Ernest Moniz, the secretary of the energy department, Senators John Rockefeller and Ron Wyden said recent governmental safety alerts and warnings about crude transportation are not enough.

11. Foxx says greater safety needed for crude-by-rail transport
The U.S. Department of Transportation must expand the Obama administration’s safety focus from distracted and drunk driving, and unsafe bus operators to aviation and the transport of energy supplies in the wake of last month’s fiery accident in North Dakota when a BNSF Railway unit train hauling crude oil collided with a car that had derailed on the opposite track, Secretary Anthony Foxx said on January 14, 2014.

12. Minister Raitt meets with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities on improving railway transportation
On January 22, 2014, the Honourable Lisa Raitt, Minister of Transport, attended the Federation of Canadian Municipalities’ National Municipal Rail Safety Working Group meeting to hear their views on improving risk assessments, emergency planning and response capability, as well as increasing insurance requirements for railways and shippers.

13. Federation of Canadian Municipalities asks government to reduce rail safety risks; close gaps in emergency response
While acknowledging the progress to date on rail safety, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) is calling on the federal government to reduce safety risks related to the transportation of dangerous goods by rail, for example, by closing gaps in the Emergency Response Assistance Plans (ERAP) system which
currently does not require ERAP for crude and ethanol. The government must also take concrete action to ensure that emergency response costs are not downloaded to local taxpayers.

14. **Canada, U.S. transportation safety boards unite to demand 3 key rail safety changes**

On January 23, 2014, the Canadian and US transportation safety board made three recommendations. They said “Today we are making three recommendations calling for tougher standards for Class 111 tank cars; route planning and analysis, and emergency response assistance plans.” The second recommendation referred to relates to choosing routes through less populated areas, inspection of lines, etc. The third recommendation relates to adopting more adept emergency response assistance plans.

15. **Minister Raitt responds to Transportation Safety Board recommendations following Lac-Mégantic**

The Honourable Lisa Raitt, Minister of Transport, issued this statement on January 23, 2014 in response to the Transportation Safety Board’s three recommendations related to the ongoing investigation into the July 2013 train accident in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec. “The safety of Canadians remains Transport Canada’s priority. Transport Canada officials are reviewing the Transportation Safety Board’s recommendations. The department is committed to doing all it can to maintain and enhance the safety of Canada’s rail sector.” She then described what action has already been done.

16. **Province of New Brunswick and CN Commit to Preserve Rail Freight Service in Northern New Brunswick**

The Province of New Brunswick and CN have reached an agreement to preserve rail freight service on the line in northern New Brunswick. Under the agreement, the Province of New Brunswick will invest up to $25 million in rail infrastructure improvements to the Newcastle subdivision. CN will in turn spend a comparable amount to maintain and operate the line, ensuring continued rail freight service for a 15-year period on the northern and southern sections of the rail line: between Ivaco, N.B., and Nepisquit Junction, N.B., in the north and between Catamount, N.B., and Nelson Junction in the south, where there are active rail freight customers.

17. **Railway Carloadings, November 2013**

Canadian railways carried 29.7 million tonnes of freight in November 2013, up 8.4% from the same month last year. Among the strongest factors contributing to this growth was increased demand for iron ores and concentrates. Intermodal traffic was up in November 2013, as the combined number of units of containers and trailers shipped rose 4.6% to 171,000. The tonnage of these units increased 3.7% to 2.6 million tonnes. Rail traffic coming from the United States rose 3.3% in November 2013 to 3.3 million tonnes.

18. **Regulators address rail transport of oil**

As regulators try to figure out how to respond to a rash of North American rail accidents that have occurred during the shipment of oil, officials across both the Canadian and U.S. governments are proposing new ways forward for shipping oil and other hazardous goods. In Chicago, Mayor Rahm Emanuel has proposed a federal freight fee on both the oil manufacturers and the end users, which he said will help encourage regulation compliance. The funds could be used to upgrade rail transportation to ensure less accidents.

19. **Canadian Pacific announces record fourth-quarter and 2013 full-year financial results**

Canadian Pacific Railway Limited on January 29, 2014 announced record Q4 and 2013 full-year results that clearly demonstrate the significant progress made to date in its corporate and operational turnaround. Total revenues were $1.6 billion, an increase of 7 per cent and a quarterly record; Reported operating expenses were $1.5 billion, an increase of 4 per cent; Adjusted operating expenses were $1.1 billion, a decrease of 6 per cent; Reported operating income was $114 million, an increase of 90 per cent; Adjusted operating income was $547 million, an increase of 45 per cent; Adjusted operating ratio was 65.9 per cent, a 890 basis-point improvement and an all-time record; and Free cash totaled $212 million, an increase of 194 per cent. CP reported that net income in the fourth-quarter was $82 million, or $0.47 per diluted share, versus $15 million, or $0.08 per share, in the fourth-quarter 2012. Also adjusted net income in the fourth-quarter was $338 million, or $1.91 per diluted share, representing a 49 per cent improvement versus fourth-quarter 2012.

20. **CP results for 2013**

For 2013 CP reported that total revenues were $6.1 billion, an increase of 8 per cent and a Company record compared to 2012. For the full year compared to last year, reported operating expenses were $4.7 billion, a decrease of 1 per cent; Adjusted operating expenses were $4.3 billion, a decrease of 2 per cent; Reported operating income was $1.4 billion, an increase of 50 per cent; Adjusted operating income was $1.8 billion, an increase of 41 per cent; Adjusted operating ratio was 69.9 per cent, a 710 basis-point improvement and an all-time record; and Free cash totaled $530 million for the year, an increase of 470 per cent. Reported
net income for 2013 was $875 million, or $4.96 per diluted share, versus $484 million, or $2.79 per share, in 2012. Adjusted net income for the year was $1.1 billion, or $6.42 per diluted share, representing a 48 per cent improvement versus year-end 2012. “The transformational pace of change at CP has definitely exceeded expectations,” said Harrison CEO of CP.

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION

1. TransForce’s Counter Offer to Acquire Vitran Accepted
TransForce on December 30, 2013 agreed to acquire Vitran for approximately $136 million, including the $29 million in debt.

2. Manitoulin steps aside, TransForce wins Vitran deal
Vitran Corp. has terminated its agreement with Manitoulin Transport and will instead be acquired by TransForce. Manitoulin entered in an agreement with Vitran to buy their Canadian assets for US $6.00 per share on December 9, 2013, beating TransForce previous offer of US $4.50 per share. Then, on Dec. 20, TransForce offered Vitran a “superior offer” of US $6.50 per share. Walter Spracklin, an analyst with RBC Capital Markets and Erin Lytollis, an associate with the same firm, pointed out that TransForce’s TL and LTL operations currently generate combined revenue of $1.2B and expect the company's recent acquisition of Clarke Transport and Clarke Road Transport will lift traditional trucking revenues by $190M (15%) in 2014. TransForce’s bid to acquire Vitran's Canadian LTL operations positions the company to increase LTL and TL revenues by a total of almost $400M (30%) next year, they said.

3. Funding Urban Transport in London
International Transport Forum (ITF) with the International Association of Public Transport (IATP) looks at how the challenges of financing urban transport systems in the face of increasing urbanisation are being met in 10 cities of ITF member countries. These case studies highlight the diversity of local situations and needs as well as the important role of national governments in supporting resilient funding architectures.

4. U.S. - NAFTA Trade Exceeds $100B for First Time on Record
U.S. trade with its North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners Canada and Mexico in October 2013 was $103.1 billion, up 4.5 percent from October 2012 and exceeding $100 billion for the first month on record, according to freight data released on January 7, 2014 by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation. For trade with Canada in October 2013 of the $56.7 billion of freight, trucks carried 53.5 percent followed by rail at 16.5 percent, pipelines at 13.7 percent, vessel at 6.0 percent and air at 4.5 percent. The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 83.8 percent of the total U.S.-Canada freight flows.

5. Freight Shipments Rose 1.2% in November from October
The amount of freight carried by the for-hire transportation industry rose 1.2 percent in November 2013 from the previous month, rebounding from a one-month decline to reach its highest all-time level, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Bureau of Transportation Statistics’ (BTS) Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI) released on January 9, 2014. The November 2013 index level (116.5) was 22.8 percent above the April 2009 low during the most recent recession.

6. St.George Moving & Storage partners with SCI Logistics
St. George Moving & Storage (Edmonton) Ltd., a long time division of Williams Moving & Storage, is pleased to announce a new partnership with SCI Logistics, the largest Canadian-owned third party logistics provider, to serve commercial accounts in the Edmonton and Northern Alberta regions. As of January 1, SCI Logistics will operate as an agent for Williams Moving & Storage with Williams to continue managing client relationships directly.

7. CTA Provides Recommendations on How Feds Can Better Help Truckers
In its submission to the Federal Government, the Canadian Trucking Alliance stressed four ways the government could help the trucking industry. 1. Reducing entry hurdles into Canada for qualified foreign drivers to address the driver shortage problem; 2. Encouraging investment and employment in the trucking industry by more friendly Capital Cost Allowance to; 3. Addressing the problems related to automated
border clearance processes; and 4. Using tax dollars collected for transportation infrastructure to reduce the infrastructure deficit.

8. Large Urban transit, November 2013
In November 2013, total operating revenue (excluding subsidies) for 10 of Canada's largest urban transit systems rose 5.7% from November 2012 to $284.3 million. Over the same period, ridership levels decreased 0.6% to 143.8 million passenger trips.

According to the November 2013 NAFTA freight data released on January 29, 2014 by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) three of the five transportation modes – truck, rail and pipeline - carried more U.S.-NAFTA trade in November 2013 than in November 2012 as the value of overall U.S. trade with its North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners Canada and Mexico rose 1.3 percent from year to year.

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION

Canada
1. Travel between Canada and Other countries, November 2013
Travel from the United States to Canada decreased in November 2013 while travel from Canada to the United States remained stable. At the same time, travel between Canada and overseas countries increased.

2. Obama cites infrastructure, trade goals in State of Union speech
U.S. President Barack Obama said in his televised State of the Union address to the nation that three issues of great importance to the freight industry — investment in transportation infrastructure, trade and energy — were among his top economic priorities for the upcoming year. Addressing these areas, he said, would create opportunities for middle-class workers and help close the wealth gap that has grown over the past decade as the richest Americans have benefited the most.