# The Barge Industry: Are We At Major Inflection Point?

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President Criton Corporation



Waterways Council Inc. Washington, DC February 13, 2018

### Criton Corp: What We Do



- Data Provider
- Commissioned Consulting Work
  - Market Analysis
  - Financial Due Diligence
  - Forecasting
- Policy Analysis



Prepared by

#### **Criton Corporation**

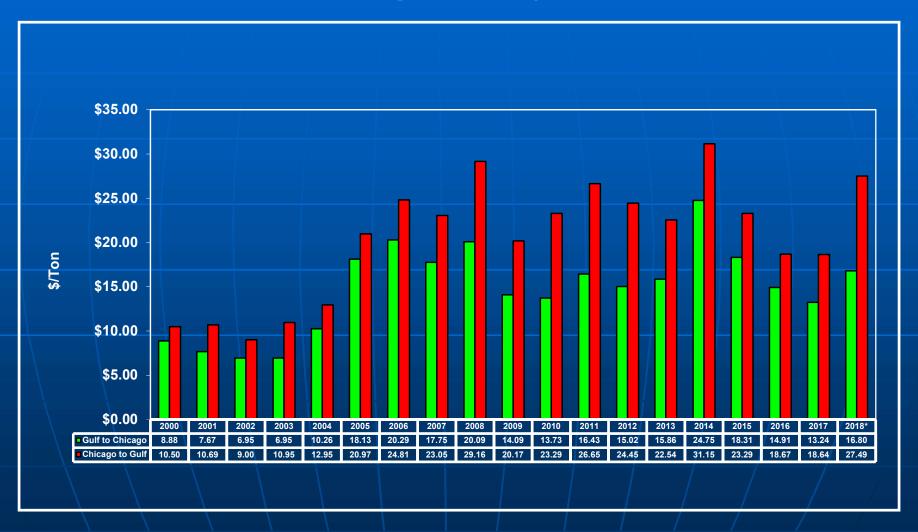
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## The Inland River System



## Annual Average Dry Spot Rates



## Barge Industry Inflection Point 2004-2006

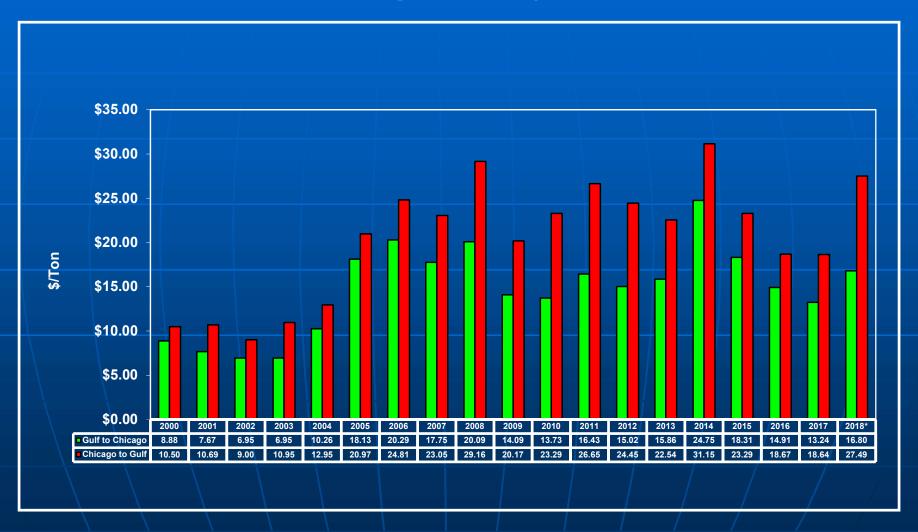
- Permanent Shift in Pricing
- Steel Industry Recovery
  - High Scrap Prices
  - Surging Raw Material Imports
  - High Finished Steel Prices
    - Dramatic Increase in New Barge Pricing
- Permanent Increase in Labor Costs
  - Effects both Towing and Harbor Services
  - Strong Economic Growth
  - Hurricane Katrina

#### Dry: What's Moving by Barge?

(Millions of Short Tons - 2017)

Commodity	Total	Export	Import	Trade Share (%)
Coal	107.4	6.8	**	6.3
Petroleum Coke	15.2	10.3	**	67.8
Farm Products				
Corn	32.7	31.2	**	95.4
Soybeans	34.8	33.3	**	95.7
Wheat	4.7	4.3	**	91.5
Other Grains	2.4	2.2	**	91.7
Feed/Meal	12.3	11.6	**	94.3
Subtotal	86.9	82.6	**	95.1
Fertilizer	17.8	**	8.7	48.9
Finished Steel	6.8	**	2.0	29.4
Semi-Finished Steel	3.8	**	3.5	92.1
Pig/DRI/Scrap	12.4	**	6.1	49.2
Ferroalloys	1.3	**	1.2	92.3
Iron Ore	0.7	0.1	0.6	100.0
Alum. Ore	1.6	**	1.6	100.0
Limestone	25.2	**	**	**
Sand/Gravel	33.9	**	**	**
Cement	8.4	**	0.2	2.4
Salt	6.3	**	0.3	4.8
Gypsum	2.3	**	**	**
Total	345.8	99.7	24.2	35.8

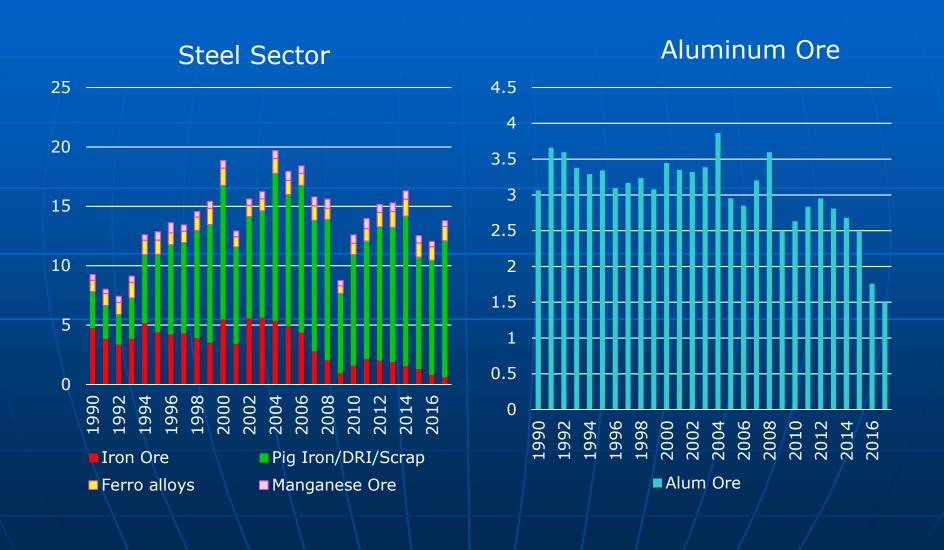
## Annual Average Dry Spot Rates



## 2018 Dry Market Developments

- 1<sup>st</sup> Half Flooding
  - Supply Restriction
  - Cost Increases
- S. American Harvest Losses (Spring)
- Chinese Tariffs on Soybeans, DDGS
- U.S. Tariffs on Steel, Aluminum
- General Strength in Steel Industry
  - Higher Scrap Prices
  - Higher Finished Steel Prices
  - Higher Barge Demand
- Increase in Coal Exports

### Steel and Aluminum Sectors



### Steel and Aluminum

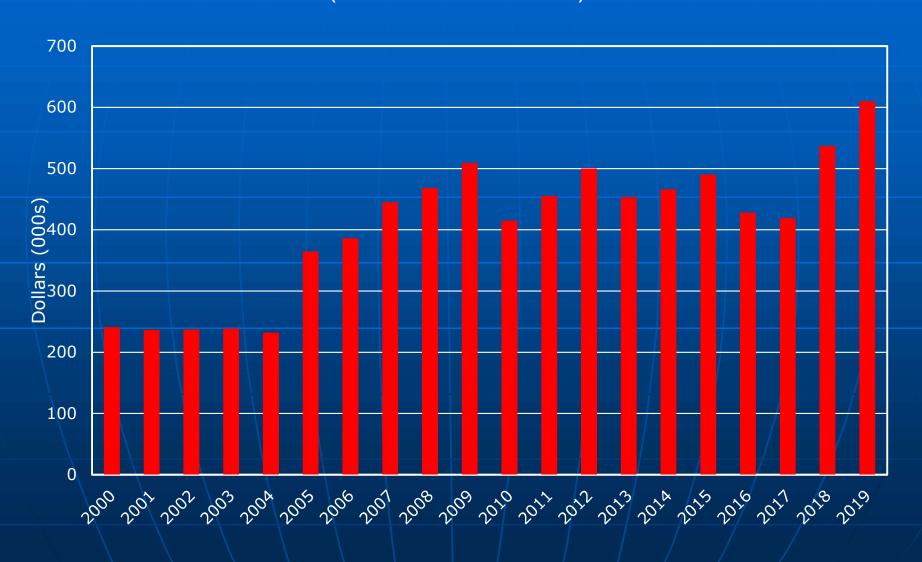
- JSW Steel
  - Acquires Former W-P Mill
    - Restart Existing EAF
    - Add New EAF
    - 3+ Million tons Add'l Raw Material Demand
- Big River Steel
  - New Steel Mill Startup 2017
  - Announces Major Expansion
    - Doubling Melt Shop to 3.2 million tons per year capacity
- Nucor
  - Announced Doubling of Capacity of Gallatin, KY Mill
    - Add'l 1.5 million tons per year of raw material demand.

#### Alcoa

- Restarting 3 of 5 potlines at Warrick
- Magnitude 7 Metals
  - Acquires Idled New Madrid Primary Aluminum Plant from Noranda
  - Restarting 2 of 3 Potlines
- Century Aluminum
  - Maintaining Sebree Plant at 100 Percent
  - Boosting Haweville, KY Plant from 40% to 100%

## Dry Cargo Hull Pricing

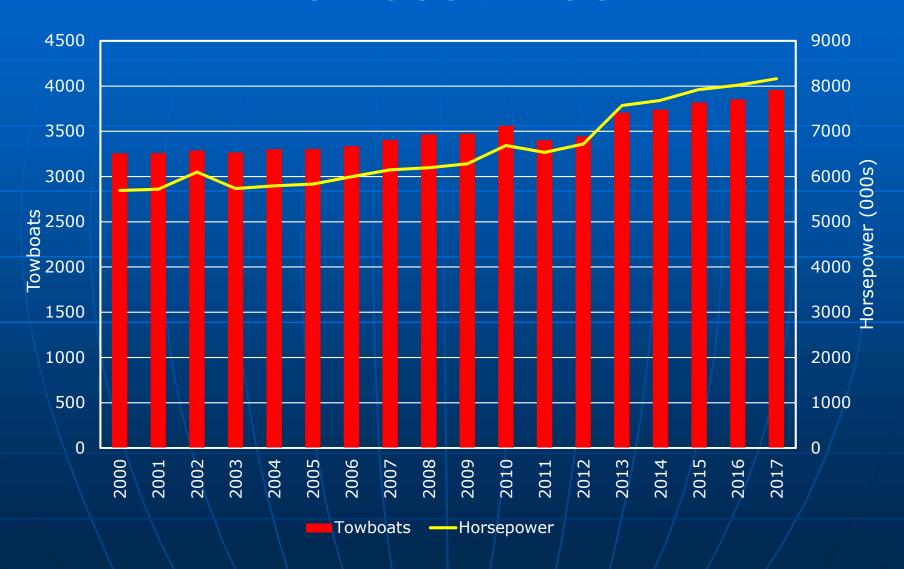
(Excludes Covers)



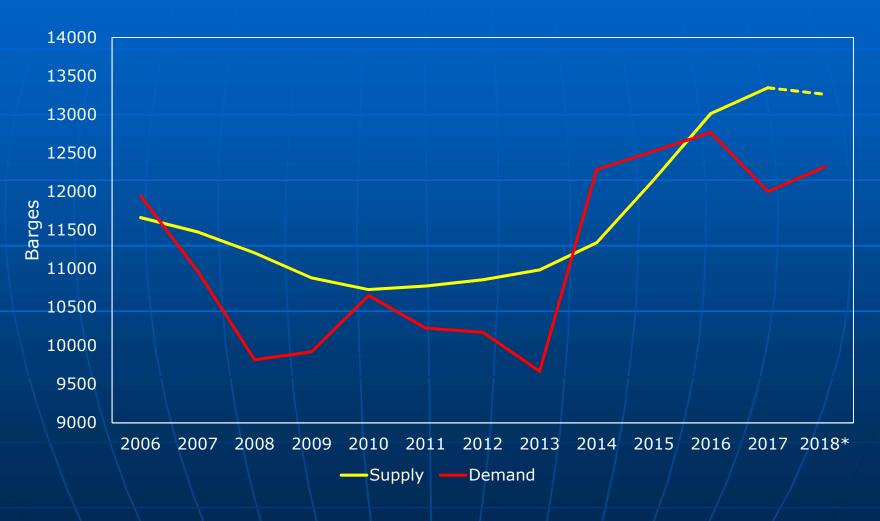
# Other Cost Pressures Going Forward

- Towing Costs
  - Subchapter M
    - Added Costs For Compliance
    - Numbers Leaving the Fleet?
  - Tier 4 Diesel Emission Limits
    - Dramatic Increase In New Towboat Costs

## Mississippi River/Gulf Coast Towboat Fleet



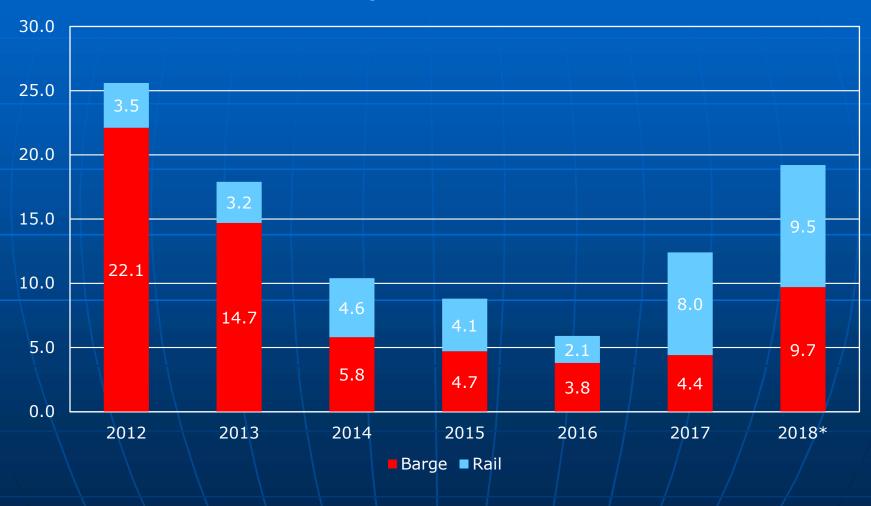
## Covered Hopper Supply and Demand



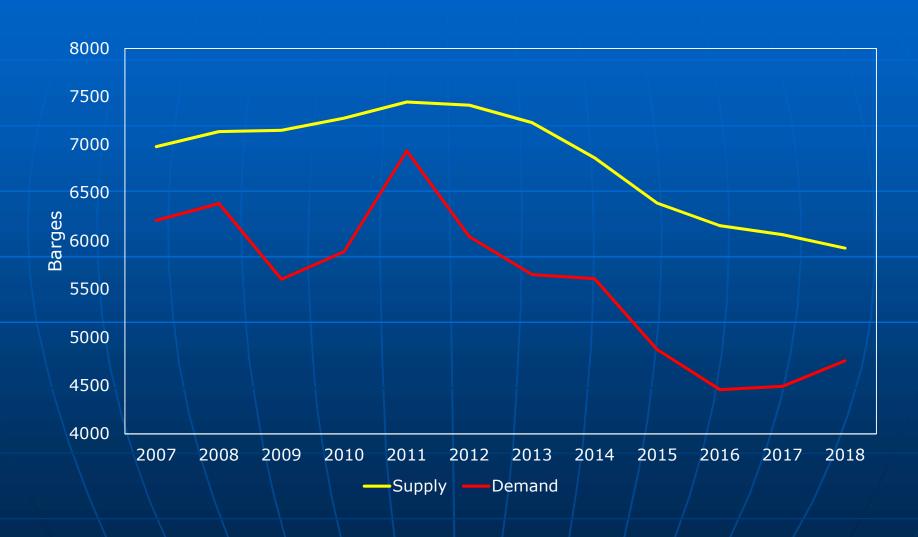
## Barged Shipments of Coal



# Lower Mississippi Coal Exports By Mode



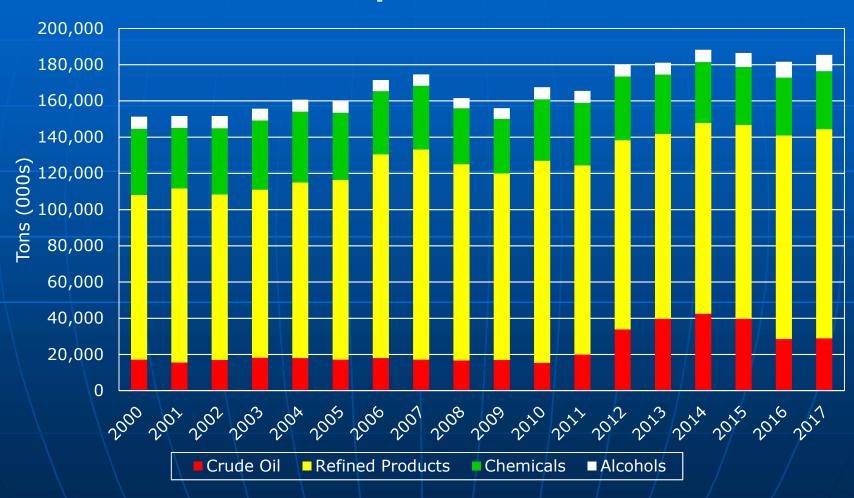
## Open Hopper Supply/Demand



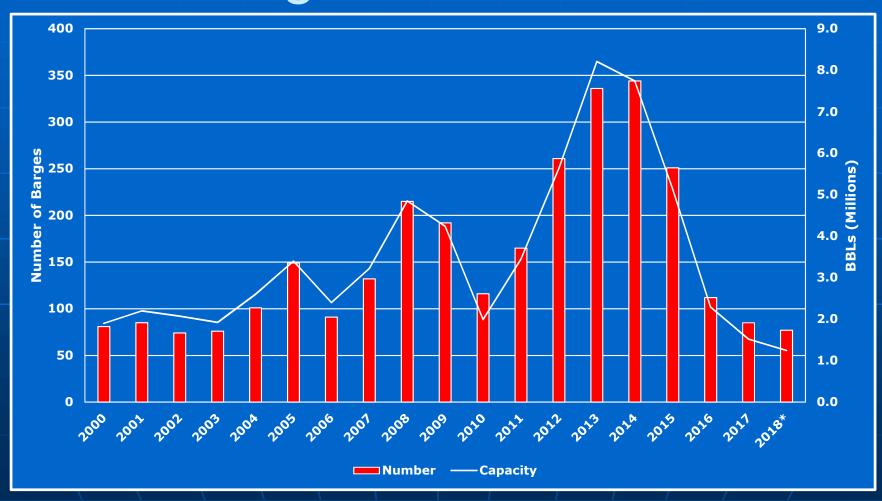
## Coal Challenges Going Forward

- Domestic Demand Will Continue to Decline
  - More Plant Closures Looming
    - Also Will Adversely Affect Limestone
    - Partial Offset: Gypsum (Covered)
- Coal Export Situation Uncertain Good Volume at Noncompensatory Rates?

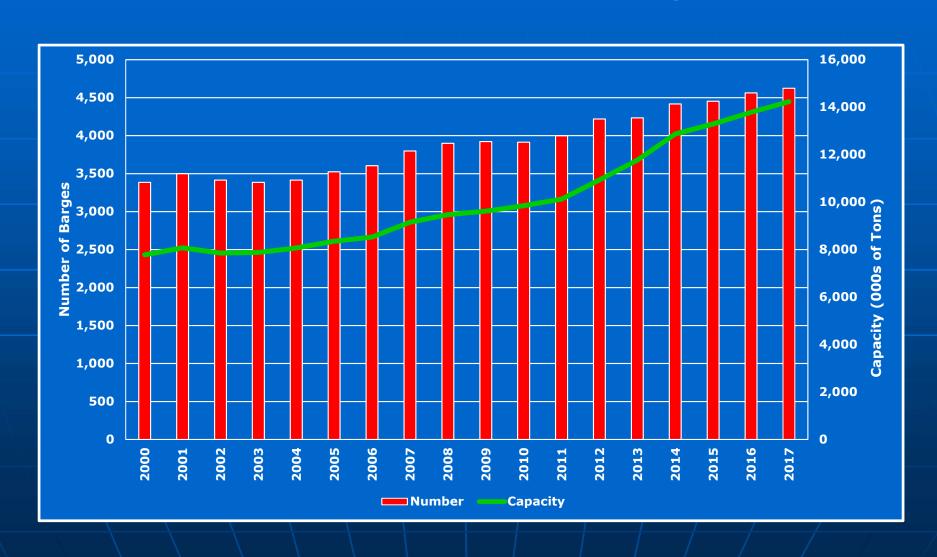
## MS River/Gulf Coast Liquids Shipments



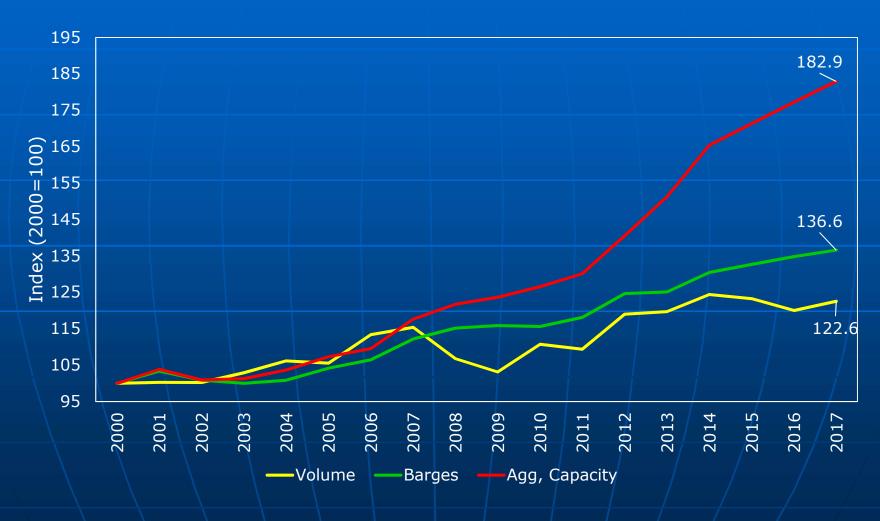
## Recent History of New Tank Barge Construction



## MS River/GC Tank Barge Fleet



## Changes in Tank Fleet, Capacity and Volume



## Issues Facing Liquids Sector

- Brief(?) Small Spike in Midwest Crude Volumes
- The Petrochemical Renaissance
  - 10K Segment
  - Primarily Export/Natural Gas Oriented
- Ethanol Segment Adds to Volatility
  - Global Sugar Prices Brazil
  - Chinese Domestic Mandates
- Pipeline Developments
  - Capline Reversal
  - Seahorse, Swordfish, Enbridge Line 3, Bayou Bridge
- Markets Remain Generally Weak