



We're on the case

Nobody likes litigation (except lawyers). But disputes are all too common in the transportation world—shipments arrive late or go missing, bills go unpaid, carriers or shippers go under, creditors are left hanging. Eventually, many of these problems end up in court, costing money, time and aggravation.

At last fall's CITT conference in Quebec City I was intrigued by a presentation on transportation law. Many of the seasoned transportation buyers at my table were stumped by the complex cases the presenter posed to the group. It set me thinking—if even experienced, credentialed shippers could be stymied by the intricacies of transportation law, then many of *MM&D's* readers are probably in the same boat (so to speak).

That's why we are delighted to welcome lawyer Marvin Huberman as our resident legal wrangler. His column, *Legal Link*, will examine specifics of transportation law, with an eye to helping the shipper avoid hassles.

Huberman has extensive experience in transportation litigation, and has represented individuals, businesses and organizations in litigation involving bills of lading, cargo claims, freight claims, motor carriers, railroads, regulations and trucking law. He also successfully represented the Ontario Trucking Association in a dispute with the Government of Ontario concerning the constitutionality of the Ontario tire tax.

In his inaugural column this issue (see page 26), Huberman looks at shipper liability for freight charges. Please have a look; while the news is not all good, there are instances when the shipper is not liable!

We hope that *Legal Link* will prove a useful resource for *MM&D's* readers as you negotiate your way through the complexities of contracts of carriage, 3PL deals, overseas sourcing or leasing warehouse space. With his extensive experience, our new legal expert will have insight into all these topics and more.

If you have a legal question that you would like Marvin Huberman to explore in a subsequent column, please let me know by e-mailing me at emily.atkins@mmd.rogers.com.

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