

Ethics Statement

IPro 307- Intermodal Container Transport

System Solutions for the Chicago Region

Overarching Principle:

The goal of this IPro is to double the effective traffic and capacity of an intermodal yard while minimizing the associated effects brought on by this increase, mainly the emissions and pollution that will increase proportionally as a result thereof.

- ❖ How are the team members going to relate to each other in a manner that is fair, equitable and honest?

IPro 307 has divided into two main subgroups: Facility Capacity Expansion and Resource Management. The expansion group is responsible for increasing the capacity and efficiency of the yard, along with developing the applications for green power. This group will plan out the use of and utilize the green(er) power provided by the resource management group. The resource management group is responsible for setting up the provided/purchased wind mill to help power developed applications and develop alternative uses for the energy. This group will assemble a demonstration of wind technology.

The subgroups are to have full disclosure with each other in regards to the IPro. All research and related work on the associated subjects will be demonstrated and presented before the entire group for constructive criticism and peer review. To provide a fair, equitable, and honest environment, each group member will be expected to make significant contributions to make progress toward the main goal. The members are encouraged to be honest in providing feedback on a topic once the presentation has been made since it will benefit the group as a whole to be able to analyze the work to improve upon it.

- ❖ What are the ethical challenges embedded in the particular project in which the team is involved?

The main ethical challenge concerning this IPro will be to impact the surrounding neighborhood as minimally as possible while executing the expansion plan. The goal is to increase capacity of the yard which will lead to increased tractor-trailer traffic in the region. To address this ethical problem we are working with our sponsor to incorporate new technology into the current facility that will decrease the amount of time the truck is sitting in the yard – the faster they get in/out and on their way, the less congestion will stay in the neighborhood. This provides an approach to both the emissions dilemma (reducing the time the trucks are in the area will reduce the amount of emissions that will be released there) and the traffic problem associated with numerous long trucks maneuvering through the neighborhood.

The second ethical issue deals with the ideas and concepts developed during the IPro. Assembling a group of students from various backgrounds is an effective way for new ideas to be developed, improved, and incorporated into a main goal. The members of this IPro agree not to divulge private information entrusted upon us by the sponsor and will use the innovative solutions discussed to provide a solution geared towards the capacity expansion of the intermodal yard while employing a strictly green approach to limit the negative effects to the neighborhood and hopefully provide positive ones instead.