

Ross Corthell

Vice President of Transportation
Packaging Corporation of America

Ross Corthell is Vice President of Transportation for Packaging Corporation of America (PCA) where he has responsibilities for the safe and efficient operations of PCA's trucking and short line railroad divisions. Additionally, Mr. Corthell oversees the procurement, performance and supplier relationships of transportation vendors supporting PCA's Paper Mill and Corrugated operations.

Mr. Corthell serves as Chair of the NIT League Rail Committee and currently serves on the Board of Directors for NIT League and the National Freight Transportation Association (NFTA) and has held previous board seats for the Idaho Trucking Association and various volunteer boards.

Mr. Corthell holds a BS from the University of Nevada, Reno, and an MBA from Boise State University. He has completed executive education in global supply chain management at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He resides in the Chicago area and is based out of PCA's Lake Forest Headquarters office.

C. Edward Elkins Jr.

Vice President Industrial Products
Norfolk Southern Corporation

Ed Elkins started his railroad career with Norfolk Southern in 1988 and has served in various roles including transportation operations, market and product development, pricing, sales management, and marketing for Intermodal and Industrial Products. He served most recently as Group Vice President Chemicals Marketing.

Ed is a native of southwestern Virginia and holds an MBA from Old Dominion University with a concentration in Port & Maritime Economics and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature from the University of Virginia-Wise. He holds management certificates from Harvard Business School, The Darden School of Business, and the University of Tennessee Supply Chain Institute.

Ed is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. Ed and his wife, Ruth, reside in Norfolk, VA with their two children.

Jeffrey Lytle

President
CIT Rail

Jeffrey Lytle was appointed President of CIT Rail effective April 1, 2018. Previously, he served as Senior Vice President CIT Rail – having served in such capacity since August 2005. In that role, Mr. Lytle had leasing responsibility for CIT Rail's tank, plastic hopper and boxcar railcar portfolios. Prior to joining CIT Rail, Mr. Lytle spent nearly 10 years with GE Capital Railcar Services where he held several management roles culminating as Senior Vice President with commercial responsibility for the petrochemical business segment. Mr. Lytle began his career at Ashland Chemical in sales roles within the General Polymers Division. He received a BA degree from Indiana University and a MBA from Arizona State University.

Dan Mack

Executive Vice President

Northern Plains Rail Companies

Dan Mack serves as Executive Vice President for Northern Plains Rail Companies. In this role, Dan is responsible for leading the administration, marketing and sales activities for multiple businesses owned and operated by Northern Plains.

Prior to his current position, Mack spent two decades in senior leadership roles within the agriculture, energy and rail industry, leading multi-modal transportation teams and bulk commodity facility operations.

Throughout his professional career, Mack has served on numerous industry and professional boards, including: National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA), The Fertilizer Institute (TFI), North America Freight Car Association, CHS Hedging, Tacoma Export Marketing Company, and Future Farmers of America (FFA).

He is a graduate of North Dakota State University and holds a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics. He currently resides with his family in Woodbury, MN.

Martin J. Oberman

Chairman

Surface Transportation Board

Martin J. Oberman was designated Chairman of the Surface Transportation Board by President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. on January 21, 2021. Marty was sworn in as a member of the Board on January 22, 2019. He is serving in his first, five-year term following his confirmation by the United States Senate on January 2, 2019. His current term expires December 31, 2023.

Marty has had an extensive career in both the public and private sectors. His first public position was serving as the first General Counsel to the Illinois Racing Board from 1973 to 1974, where he worked closely with the Board's chairman to bring long needed reforms to the Illinois horse racing industry.

From 1975-1987, Marty served on the Chicago City Council as Alderman of the City's 43rd Ward where he earned a reputation as a reform leader, committed to promoting transparency in key governing processes while also working to reduce government corruption and profligate spending.

Following his departure from the Council, the Mayor of Chicago appointed Marty as Chairman of a special commission to fix Chicago's eroding shoreline, which required collaboration with an extensive set of stakeholders, and resulted in the publication of formal recommendations, many of which have since been implemented.

In 2013, Marty was appointed to the board of Metra, the Chicago region's commuter railroad, the second largest in the U.S. In 2014, he was unanimously elected Metra chairman and served until the end of 2016. While at Metra, he gained approval for the agency's first long term fare program aimed at tackling the agency's multi-billion dollar state-of-good-repair backlog, and led the Board's effort to institute transparency and professional management in an effort to overcome an historic culture of politics and patronage abuses at the railroad.

Most recently, he served on the board of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) until November 2018.

Since 1975, Marty also maintained a successful practice in Chicago as both a trial and appellate lawyer.

His unique combination of litigation experience, elected public service, and exposure to the significant complexities of railroad infrastructure finance and operations will inform his work as a Member of the Surface Transportation Board.

Marty graduated from Yale University and the University of Wisconsin Law School, cum laude, and served as a Note Editor of the Wisconsin Law Review. He has been married to his wife, Bonnie, since 1971, and has two children, and three grandchildren. Marty is a native of Springfield, Illinois.

Patrick J. Ottensmeyer

President and Chief Executive Officer

Kansas City Southern

Mr. Ottensmeyer is president and chief executive officer of Kansas City Southern (KCS) (NYSE: KSU). He has served in this role since July 1, 2016. Mr. Ottensmeyer is also a member of KCS' board of directors. Headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, KCS is a transportation holding company that has railroad investments in the U.S., Mexico and Panama. KCS' North American rail holdings and strategic alliances with other North American rail partners are primary components of a unique railway system, linking the commercial and industrial centers of the U.S., Mexico and Canada.

Prior to also becoming chief executive officer, Mr. Ottensmeyer served as president since 2015. From 2008 to 2015, he was executive vice president sales and marketing, and from 2006 to 2008, he was executive vice president and chief financial officer.

Prior to his employment at KCS, he served from 2000 to 2006 as executive vice president and chief financial officer of Intranasal Therapeutics, Inc., a specialty pharmaceutical company. From 1993 to 1999, he was vice president finance and treasurer for Santa Fe Pacific Corp and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corp. Earlier in his career, Mr. Ottensmeyer held executive positions at Security Pacific National Bank and Bank of America, including the position of senior vice president and head of the corporate banking group in New York.

Mr. Ottensmeyer holds a bachelor of science in finance from Indiana University. He is U.S. chairman of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's U.S.-Mexico Economic Council and recently served as its U.S. chairman of the strategic trade initiatives working group of the U.S.-Mexico CEO Dialogue. He is a member of the advisory board of the Woodrow Wilson Center's Mexico Institute. In 2019, Progressive Railroading magazine recognized Mr. Ottensmeyer with its Railroad Innovator Award and Railway Age magazine recognized him with its Railroader of the Year Award. Mr. Ottensmeyer serves on the boards of the Association of American Railroads, Truman Library Institute, The Civic Council of Greater Kansas City and The Kansas City Metropolitan Crime Commission.

Mike Pyle

Chief Economic Advisor to the Vice President of the United States

Mike Pyle is the Chief Economic Advisor to Vice President Harris. Previously, Mike served for five years in the Obama-Biden Administration, including in the White House as a special assistant to the president for economic policy and in international affairs at Treasury and in the Office of Management and Budget. Most recently, Mike was the global chief investment strategist at BlackRock, after prior multi-asset investing roles there, first as a portfolio manager and then as deputy chief investment officer. He began his career as a law clerk to Judge Merrick Garland. Raised in a farming community in Central Illinois, Mike was educated at Dartmouth College, Yale Law School, and Cambridge University. He now lives in Brooklyn with his wife Chloe Schama and their three young sons.

James Shefelbine

Executive Vice President

PLG Consulting

James is the Executive Vice President for PLG Consulting, bringing over 30 years of experience with Fortune 500 companies and entrepreneurial startups. His expertise is in developing and executing marketing and sales strategies, constructing new organizations and capabilities and redesigning processes while motivating teams to solve problems in innovative ways. James specializes in implementing core business processes that drive profitable and measurable results.

Most recently, James led GE Transportation's initiative to provide business solutions enabling clients to leverage data to achieve their strategic supply chain objectives through the use of analytics, optimization and applications. Prior to GE Transportation James was the Vice President of Marketing for RailAmerica, managing all commercial functions to support RailAmerica's forty-five short line and regional railroads operating in twenty-eight states and three Canadian provinces with over 7,500 miles of track.

As the Director of Sales and Marketing for CSX Transportation, James led their commercial organizations responsible for delivering profitable revenue growth and improving the customer experience. He led market share growth in non-traditional market segments by developing new transportation products, sales channels and sales tools. James began his transportation career at Burlington Northern Santa Fe as a planning specialist, marketing manager and director of finance where he led capital investment strategies and optimization of network capabilities.

James lives in Jacksonville, Florida with his wife Kelly. He is a graduate of Hamline University.