




# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Soy Transportation Coalition forms to address freight system services**

Urbandale, Iowa – The Soy Transportation Coalition is a new initiative designed to help improve U.S. transportation systems on behalf of the soybean industry. The coalition will work to develop a course of action to solve current and impending transportation challenges affecting the soybean industry.

The Soy Transportation Coalition was established by seven state soybean associations – the Illinois Soybean Association, Indiana Soybean Alliance, Iowa Soybean Association, Nebraska Soybean Board, North Dakota Soybean Council, Ohio Soybean Council and South Dakota Soybean Research and Promotion Council.

The soybean associations, along with the American Soybean Association and the United Soybean Board, have committed resources to establish the STC. In addition, the National Grain and Feed Association and National Oilseed Processors Association will serve as ex-officio members of the Soy Transportation Coalition board of directors.

“This is a timely effort, given the realignment of acres and expansion of the biofuels industry. Many factors are increasing pressure on the rail network and other transportation systems. Farmers have a lot at stake and they will play a critical role in finding solutions to these issues,” says Kirk Leeds, chief executive officer of the Iowa Soybean Association.

Mike Steenhoek is executive director of the Soy Transportation Coalition. He will direct daily activities of the STC and work with leaders in the agriculture and transportation industries.

“Agriculture today is high-tech and we need a constant and reliable transportation system to move our products to market and on to customers,” says Mike Steenhoek, executive director of the Soy Transportation Coalition.

It’s important for the agriculture industry to not only be concerned with what we grow, how we grow it and who purchases it, but also how we get it there,” says Steenhoek

For more information about the Soy Transportation Coalition, please contact the STC at 515-727-0665, or view the Web site, [www.soytransportation.org](http://www.soytransportation.org).