



ZENITH ECLIPSE JOURNAL

MULTIMODAL

The handoffs make the route.

Two or more modes can serve one delivery requirement. The useful comparison connects the entire corridor: collection, terminals, line-haul, borders and receiving. We define the interfaces, document roles and approval points that turn a proposed combination into a reviewable service plan.

THE COVER STORY

Compare collection, transfers and delivery. Keep identity clear between every mode. Link accepted units and agreed documents.

03

DEFINE THE SERVICE

Choose the option that fits the brief.

04

AGREE THE CONTROLS

Read the evidence and responsibilities.

06

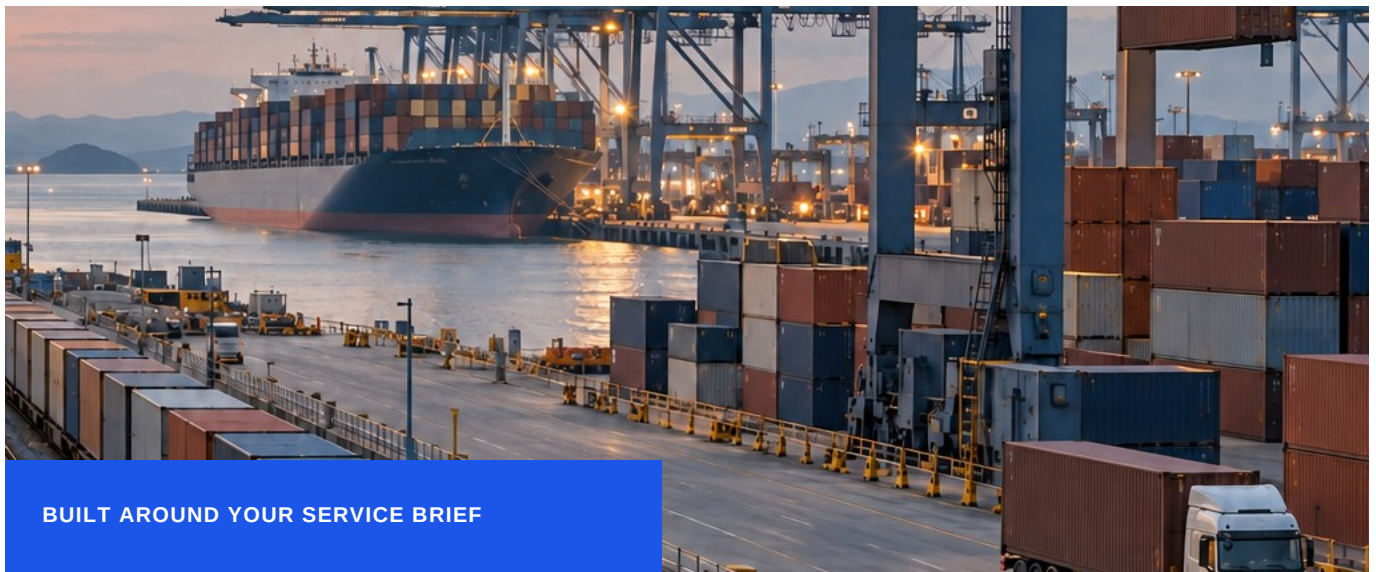
CONNECT THE PLAN

Align milestones and handoffs.

THE ZENITH ECLIPSE APPROACH

Begin with the whole corridor.

A route combines modes, terminals and borders. A service brief connects their responsibilities, acceptance conditions and evidence with the cargo's final receiving requirement.



BUILT AROUND YOUR SERVICE BRIEF

We review multimodal enquiries against the complete origin-to-destination requirement. Start with cargo identity, shipping units, readiness and receiving constraints. Add the proposed mode sequence, transfer points and customs arrangements so the comparison includes first and last legs, terminal dwell and connection risks.

Multimodal transport uses two or more modes. Intermodal transport retains the same loading unit or road vehicle without handling the goods when modes change. If goods are unpacked and transloaded, that interface needs a separate cargo-handling plan and acceptance record.

The physical route does not determine the contract. A movement may use one transport contract, separate leg contracts or forwarding coordination. We identify the proposed service role, document issuer and responsibility boundaries, then confirm the participating operators and applicable conditions in writing.

IN THIS EDITION

- 03 Choose the mode combination
- 04 Record the interface controls
- 05 Connect units and responsibilities
- 06 Use milestones with evidence
- 07 Build the multimodal enquiry
- 08 Connect with our freight team

SCOPE CLARITY

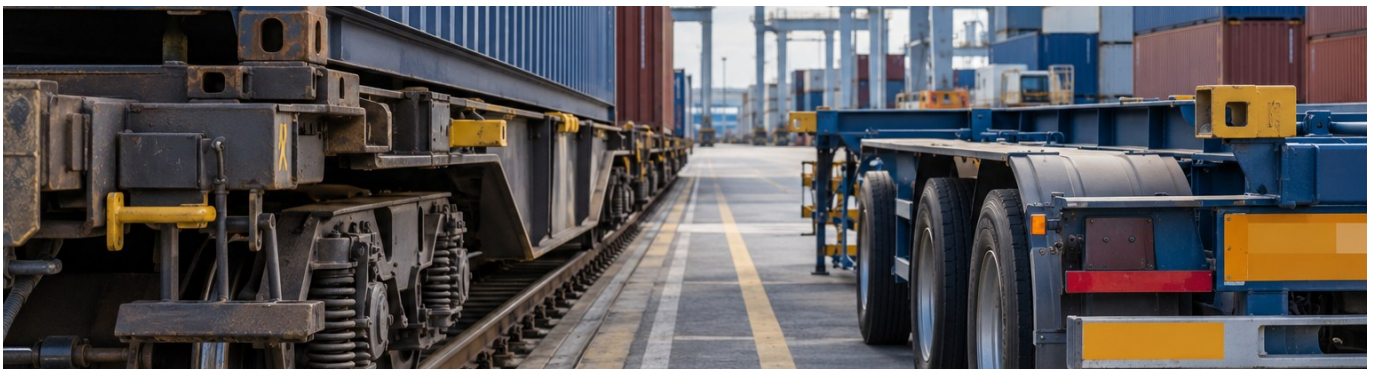
CONTROL CONFIDENCE

HANDOFF ALIGNMENT

SERVICE OPTIONS

Choose the mode combination.

Compare combinations against cargo acceptance, total lead time and receiving needs. Capacity, connections and permissions require confirmation for the actual corridor.



01 Sea, rail & road

Connect ocean carriage with an inland rail corridor and road interfaces where the cargo and terminals permit. Compare port release, train acceptance and destination collection together. Confirm container continuity or planned transloading, plus responsibility for documents and each terminal handoff.

02 Rail & road

Use road collection or delivery to connect accepted rail stations with the shipper and consignee. Review equipment compatibility, terminal handling and receiving access as one sequence. Confirm road-leg responsibility, border documents and any gauge-change interface before booking the proposed corridor.

03 Air & road

Connect airport carriage with origin or destination road legs for cargo accepted by the participating operators. Review package dimensions, terminal handling, customs and delivery appointments. Time-sensitive or controlled cargo needs its own approval and interface conditions throughout the proposed journey.

04 Sea & air

Review a planned ocean-to-air interface against cargo acceptance, customs procedures and flight connections. Confirm the transfer location, handling arrangement, documents and responsible parties. Compare total corridor time and cost, with schedule assumptions visible and alternatives subject to approval before movement.

SERVICE CONTROL GUIDE

Record the interface controls.

A useful multimodal proposal makes route, unit, contract and document assumptions visible. Confirm which party supplies and accepts the evidence at each interface.



CONTROL	WHAT TO AGREE AND VERIFY
Route & transfer points	Record each mode, terminal, border and delivery location. Include collection, transfer and receiving constraints. Confirm the proposed connection sequence with participating operators before treating the route as accepted.
Units & cargo acceptance	Confirm package or container identity, gross weight, dimensions and suitability across every leg. Retain the securing and handling responsibilities; acceptance by one operator does not approve the entire chain.
Contract & service role	Identify whether the arrangement is carriage, a multimodal transport contract or forwarding coordination. Record the contracting parties, liability terms and boundaries; multiple modes do not automatically create one contract.
Documents & issuer	Agree the document sequence, issuer and required particulars. FIATA lists distinct receipt, transport and multimodal documents; their use depends on eligibility, agreed terms and the actual service role.
Cutoffs & charges	State connection assumptions, operator cutoffs, quote validity and included charges. Allocate storage, waiting, missed-connection and extra-handling costs through applicable terms, with named approval contacts for changes and exceptions.
Special cargo conditions	Declare dangerous, temperature-sensitive or otherwise restricted cargo before route selection. Confirm the applicable mode, jurisdiction and operator conditions, together with approved facilities and responsible specialist parties where required.

A mode sequence does not define the contract.

SOURCE READING

UNECE · Intermodal freight terminology

IMO / ILO / UNECE · CTU Code

FIATA · Transport document roles

OPERATING INTERFACES

Connect units and responsibilities.

Keep the cargo record consistent while identifying what changes at each transfer: custody, operator, transport unit, document or receiving responsibility.

01

ORIGIN TO FIRST OPERATOR

First-leg acceptance

Align the cargo schedule, unit identifiers and accepted loading arrangement with the first operator. Confirm collection access, documents and terminal readiness. Record condition and seal evidence where relevant, and resolve discrepancies through the named shipper and operator contacts.

02

ONE LEG TO THE NEXT

Mode-to-mode transfer

Confirm the transfer point, receiving operator and whether the loading unit remains intact. Where goods are transloaded, agree cargo-handling and condition records separately. Keep identifiers, document references and customs status aligned before the next operator accepts custody.

03

LAST OPERATOR TO CONSIGNEE

Final receiving interface

Connect arrival advice and release documents with the consignee's access and appointment requirements. Confirm unloading, unit return and the final handover evidence. Identify who records discrepancies and which contact decides any additional storage, handling or delivery arrangement.

Keep identity clear at every transfer.

The CTU Code provides non-mandatory guidance across sea and land interfaces; it supports planning alongside the applicable operator and regulatory requirements. Our written scope connects the handoffs while retaining the agreed roles of carriers, terminals, customs representatives and the receiving party.

Use milestones with evidence.

A shared event record makes connections reviewable. Distinguish planned, estimated and confirmed times, and agree how changes reach the receiving team.

PLAN

ACCEPT

TRANSFER

HANDOVER

Define the events needed for the corridor and the evidence available from each provider. Align booking, shipment and unit references so an update can be connected with the correct leg, transfer and receiving requirement.

01 Agree the event record

Name the required booking, departure, arrival, transfer and handover events. UN/CEFACT data standards support consistent information structures; actual system access and update frequency depend on the participating providers and scope.

02 Confirm the connection

Check the preceding leg's release and the next operator's acceptance against the proposed cutoff. Share changed estimates promptly. A timetable or planned connection remains an assumption until the relevant conditions are confirmed.

03 Approve the alternative

Escalate delays, document issues or cargo discrepancies to named decision-makers. Record the proposed alternative, acceptance conditions and cost responsibility. Obtain approval before changing the route or commissioning additional services and handling.

SOURCE READING

UNECE · [Multimodal data standards](#)

THE ENQUIRY WORKSHEET

Build your multimodal enquiry.

Give our freight team one clear corridor brief, with cargo facts and decision responsibilities that can be checked across the proposed modes.

YOUR MULTIMODAL ENQUIRY / EIGHT DETAILS

- ☐ Collection and delivery addresses, proposed terminals, borders and mode sequence.
- ☐ Cargo identity, package count, dimensions, verified weights and transport-unit details.
- ☐ Cargo readiness, required delivery date and receiving access or appointment constraints.
- ☐ Preferred route, acceptable alternatives and reasons for any mandatory mode or terminal.
- ☐ Intermodal unit continuity or planned transloading, with required condition and seal records.
- ☐ Customs representatives, document requirements, contracting role and intended document issuer.
- ☐ Commercial terms, included charge scope, insurance arrangements and approval contacts.
- ☐ Dangerous-goods, temperature-sensitive or other special conditions requiring acceptance across each leg.

Still defining the service scope?

Attach the cargo schedule and relevant restrictions. Specify whether you seek forwarding coordination, separate leg arrangements or a proposed multimodal transport contract, so the service boundaries can be reviewed. Send the brief to trans@zenitheclipse.com. We will confirm the proposed route, provider acceptance, document roles and schedule conditions through the written service scope.

[SEND YOUR MULTIMODAL REQUIREMENTS](#)



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YOUR NEXT SERVICE ENQUIRY

Connect the modes. Define the handoffs.

Let's connect the details.

Share the complete origin-to-destination requirement and the cargo facts behind it. Our freight team will review your multimodal enquiry, connect the proposed mode sequence and identify the acceptance, document and transfer conditions needed for a clear service plan.

SERVICE ENQUIRIES

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EXPLORE THE SERVICE

zenitheclipse.com

Scan for the service scope
and enquiry options.



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Confirm written scope, responsibility boundaries, provider acceptance and schedule conditions before movement. Imagery provides representative context and does not depict Zenith Eclipse-owned transport equipment, terminals or facilities.