

Data Systems & Information Development Committee
Adopted at the 96th Annual Convention
April 28, 2020

1. Urge CCC/USDA to allow and recommend EWR, Inc or another software provider to create a calendar based application with the availability of shipment ready dates, for example a report of available open shipments (in bales) by day, by warehouse code, or a report including the number of days out and/or next available date by warehouse for new shipment scheduling.
2. Urge CCC/USDA and other licensing authorities to require warehouses to obtain a unique Warehouse Code for any storage shed or building that is a separate physical location from the primary licensed facility's complex. Urge ACSA members to begin billing expenses incurred back to the warehouse due to having cotton stored in multiple physical locations under one USDA License.
3. Recommend the software providers build on the positive required changes of cotton flow by enhancing visibility and communication of the data, for example, add notification alerts when a new batch is received and add an interactive chat / communication tool for on-the-spot discussion and resolve of ready dates. Further, we recommend a web-based tool or report for shippers and carriers showing the status and availability of shipments. Until a more robust tool is designed, encourage EWR Inc enhance the 'Is My Load Ready' user interface to look up by mark only, removing the requirement for shippers to link the carrier to the load, while maintaining the security of the data.
4. Urge CWAA and CGWA to encourage all warehouses to enroll in the EWR electronic phyto-sanitary process. Recommend EWR Inc standardize mapping of data requirements to address implementation issues, for example invoice reference issues.
5. Urge ACSA working group to continue communication with APHIS to develop and support an electronic interface in addition to the manual process for phyto-sanitary applications through the Phyto-sanitary Certificate Issuance and Tracking System (PCIT). Further, encourage ACSA, APHIS, and appropriate USDA officials to work with the United Nations ePhyto Industry Advisory Group to assist in initiating full implementation of electronic phyto-sanitary certificates both domestically and in consuming countries.
6. Form a working group to recommend establishing guidelines and standards, in conjunction with ACSA Transportation Committee, for enhanced electronic communications with steamship lines to improve shipment visibility from booking request to final cargo delivery and to improve turn time and accuracy on documentation. Once a rough draft is prepared, request ACSA to organize a meeting with the steamship lines and relevant ACSA members to determine feasibility.
7. Recommend all members become aware of emerging technologies and ACSA form a working group to align with Cotton Technology Alliance to develop an industry repository of standards for interoperability between all parties within the cotton supply chain.

8. Recommend that ACSA, CWAA and CGWA form a working group to develop new processes or tools to create a more efficient and effective supply chain, for example, build a shipment appointment reservation system. (ACA)

9. Form an ACSA working group to work with the banking industry on modernizing document processing or other relevant matters.

10. To modernize supplier invoice processing, recommend ACSA form a working group of merchants, ginners, agents/brokers to develop a standard layout for supplier electronic sales invoicing and further recommend gins, merchants, and EWR/the Seam enhance programs to allow for the electronic invoicing with real time communication and processing, similar to electronic warehouse invoicing. In addition, request a new field created within the EWR Inc receipt record for field tract.

11. Recommend ACSA collaborate with Cotton Incorporated to focus on better utilization of EFS and develop enhancements to the current platform.

12. We support the themes of the US Cotton Trust Protocol to be recognized, integrated, subscribed to, and promoted for the overall benefit, competitiveness, and relevance of the US cotton industry compared to foreign growths that we compete with in our consuming markets.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Bain, Chair

Committee Members:
Meredith Abraham
Trey Jones
John Mitchell
John Romines
Mark Pryor

Barbara Meredith
Devon Larew
Melissa Velequaz

Guests:
Dale Cougot
Melissa Webster
Tom McCune
Joe Wyrick
Ronne Robbins