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# Transport Topics

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## Something To Be Said For Higher Fuel Costs

The cost of fuel is obviously a major issue for freight carriers, but how important is it to shippers?

Paul Svindland, director of transportation and logistics for ICG Commerce in Boston, said the effect of rising fuel prices is softened by the fact that transportation is a relatively small part of the total cost of most products.

"I haven't had any shippers say they wanted to change the supply chain because of fuel," he said.

Svindland, in fact, sees a silver lining for shippers. If rising fuel costs put a damper on economic growth, freight volume will be cut, capacity freed up and freight rates held in check.

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