Departures

Overview

There are two possible departures for the trailers at Orenda. The first is if a trailer is due or overdue to be returned to the Shipping Company that provided the trailer in the first place. The second is if the trailer is filled with goods and products to be shipped to the customer.

Releasing empty trailer

After a shipping company driver drops off their trailer in the lot, they typically like to pick up another trailer owned by their employer. The dispatcher will look at the return-by dates of the trailers in the system, as well as the shipping company owning the particular trailer, and the number of empty trailers available for transferring parts. Taking these three factors in to consideration, they may choose to release an empty trailer to the shipping company driver.

The dispatcher will then note in the system that that particular trailer is no longer taking up space in the lot, and has been returned to the shipping company.

Shipping to end customer

If there are not any trailers currently belonging to the driver’s company in the lot that are empty and available to be released, then they dispatcher will check if there are any loads to be sent to the end customer available. These will have been loaded at a dock, and are waiting for pickup by the shipping company driver that owns the trailer. The shipping company driver will deliver the products to the end customers.

Issues

The current problems mainly involve the overdue fees on releasing trailers to the shipping companies which own them. There needs to be a more efficient way to track the requirement of empty trailers, and which trailers are causing the most impact in regards to late fees. Another issue may involve the conflict between the dispatcher and the shipping company drivers when there are no trailers to release, and no shipments to be made.