| In the Dispute Between | |
|----------------------------|---|
| UIIA MC, Appellant, and |) Case Number: 20160405-10-XXXN-PD |
| UIIA EP, Respondent |) Date of Decision: 08/10/2016) |

THE MOTOR CARRIER DISPUTES THE FOLLOWING INVOICE:

| Inv | Invoice # | Container # | Inv. Date | Facility | Outgated | Ingated | Date MC rec'd inv. | Date MC disputed the inv. | Date EP responded to MC's dispute | Notice of Intent Rec'd |
|-----|------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|----------|----------|--------------------|---------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | P160200876 | HDMU6568474 | 02/18/16 | NIT/VIG/NIT | 10/21/15 | 02/18/16 | 02/18/16 | 02/26/16 | 03/25/16 | 04/05/16 |

MOTOR CARRIER'S BASIS OF DISPUTE:

The Motor Carrier basis of dispute is Sections B.13, B.24, and E.1 of the UIIA. The Motor Carrier reports that it pulled the unit from NIT on November 3, 2015. When they returned the unit on the same day, the unit was rejected and the Port advised the Motor Carrier to take the unit to VIG since NIT was not open due to the Port of Virginia's extended gate hours. The Motor Carrier stated that they followed the Port's instructions and returned the container to VIG on November 3, 2015. The Motor Carrier also reported that it received an email from the Equipment Provider regarding the status of the unit on January 21, 2016, at which time the Motor Carrier informed the Equipment Provider that the unit was returned on November 3, 2015 to VIG.

The Motor Carrier believes it returned the equipment as directed by the Port of Virginia, the entity that received physical possession of the container as defined in Section B.24 Provider, which states in part, "The Party or Parties authorizing delivery and/or receipt of physical possession of Equipment with a Motor Carrier." The Motor Carrier argues that If VIG was an improper satellite return location, the container should have been rejected at VIG. The Motor Carrier indicated that if the UIIA contemplated that only the steamship line

could give direction about returning empty containers, Section E.1. would state that the notification return of an empty would come from the "Equipment Owner" as opposed to the "Provider". The Motor Carrier does not believe they should be charged per diem because they were directed by the facility to return the unit to a different location. The Motor Carrier did provide a screen print of VIT's system showing proof that the unit was rejected from the port.

EQUIPMENT PROVIDER'S RESPONSE TO MOTOR CARRIER'S DISPUTE:

The Equipment Provider responded by stating that the container was returned to the wrong location and that VIG is not one of their return locations. The Equipment Provider indicated that no representative from their company advised the Motor Carrier to return the container to VIG, which was the incorrect location. The Equipment Provider advised the Motor Carrier that they would agree to a 20% discount for the container detention charges. The Motor Carrier feels that the full amount should be waived.

DISCUSSION:

The Motor Carrier submitted its basis and narrative relating to the initial dispute of the charges as its supporting documentation for this claim. The Motor Carrier reports that they pulled the unit from NIT on November 3, 2015, and returned the unit that same day to VIG, per the Port's instructions. The Motor Carrier believes it returned the equipment to the Equipment Provider in accordance with the UIIA.

The Equipment Provider argues that the equipment was returned to the wrong location. The Equipment Provider believes the charges are valid as invoiced. However, the Equipment Provider agreed to provide the Motor Carrier a 20% discount on the container detention charges billed in order to settle the dispute.

DECISION:

The panel carefully reviewed all documents and evidence submitted by the parties. Based upon the supporting documents and evidence submitted, the Motor Carrier panel member found in favor of the Motor Carrier stating that the Motor Carrier attempted to deliver the container to the PY depot in Portsmouth which should have been open at that time, but was directed by port personnel to deliver the empty container to VIG, which the Motor Carrier did just minutes later. The Motor Carrier panel member stated that the Motor Carrier repositioned the container at no charge as an accommodation to the ocean carrier and that the Motor Carrier should not be responsible for any charges. In support of this finding, the Motor Carrier panel member referenced a February 17, 2016, email from VIT's Director of Customer Service discussing the return.

The Ocean Carrier panel member found in favor of the Equipment Provider. Before rendering a decision, the Ocean Carrier panel member requested confirmation that the ocean carrier had no cargo being gated in or out of the VIG facility during the time of the return. No gate activity was reported. Therefore, the Ocean Carrier panel member argues that the Equipment Provider had no way of knowing the container had been received.

Because the modal members could not reach a consensus, the third panel member was brought in to render the final decision pursuant to Exhibit D3 of the UIIA.

After receiving confirmation that VIG is not one of the Equipment Provider's return locations, the Rail Carrier panel member found in favor of the Equipment Provider. The Rail Carrier panel member stated that the Motor Carrier's obligation under the UIIA to return the equipment to the outgate terminal was not satisfied, and the terminal to which the Motor Carrier returned the equipment was not identified by the Equipment Provider as an acceptable satellite location.

UIIA PROVISIONS RELIED UPON BY BINDING ARBITRATION PANEL:

The panel relied upon the following provisions from the UIIA (June 8, 2015) to make its decision:

B. Definition of Terms

- 13. Equipment Owner: The holder of actual or beneficial title to the Equipment, regardless of the form of the title. [Revised 04/11/07]
- 24. Provider: The Party or Parties authorizing delivery and/or receipt of physical possession of Equipment with a Motor Carrier. The Provider of the Chassis and Container may not necessarily be the same Party. [Revised 06/08/15]

E. Equipment Use

1. Equipment Return

- a. Absent a separate bilateral equipment interchange agreement in written or electronic form between the Parties, the Motor Carrier shall use the Equipment for only the purposes for which it was interchanged, not authorize use by others, and promptly return the Equipment after its interchange purpose is complete. An Addendum to this Agreement does not constitute a separate bilateral equipment interchange agreement. [Revised 02/08/16]
- b. Motor Carrier shall return the Equipment to the physical location at which the Equipment was received unless the Provider directs the Equipment to be returned to a satellite location(s): 1) as governed by a written bilateral equipment interchange agreement between the Parties or 2) as specified in a notification from the Provider to Motor Carrier via internet posting or e-mail to return the Equipment to a Provider-designated satellite location, listed in IANA's Equipment Return Location Directory (ERLD). Satellite

location(s) are facilities which are within the same local commercial territory and support operations of the Provider for the location from which the Equipment was originally received. Whenever a return location is changed, Provider must notify the Motor Carrier by e-mail by 16:00 p.m. local time the business day prior to the change becoming effective. Motor Carrier must furnish the Provider with e-mail addresses to be used for Motor Carrier notification when return locations are changed. [Revised 02/08/16]

DECISION: The majority of the panel finds in favor of the Equipment Provider.

CASE REVIEWED AND DECIDED BY:

CLIFF CREECH Rail Carrier Member

THOMAS BARATTINI Ocean Carrier Member

JEFFREY LANG Motor Carrier Member

| In the Dispute Between |)) |
|----------------------------|--|
| UIIA MC, Appellant, and |) Case Number: 20160829-1-XXXP-PD |
| UIIA EP, Respondent |) Date of Decision: 03/9/17 |

THE MOTOR CARRIER DISPUTES THE FOLLOWING INVOICES:

| | | | | | | | Date | | Date EP | Notice |
|------|------------|-------------|-----------|------------------------------------|----------|---------|---------|----------|-----------|---------|
| | | | | | | | MC | Date MC | responded | of |
| | | | | | | | rec'd | disputed | to MC's | Intent |
| Inv. | Invoice # | Container # | Inv. Date | Facility | Outgated | Ingated | inv. | the inv. | dispute | Rec'd |
| 1 | PD00144346 | CCLU4786775 | 08/19/16 | OICT-SSA Oakland/Container Traders | 1/20/16 | 1/21/16 | 8/19/16 | 8/19/16 | 8/24/16 | 8/29/16 |

MOTOR CARRIER'S BASIS OF DISPUTE:

The Motor Carrier's basis of dispute are Sections E.1, E.2.a., E.6.c and E.6.d of the UIIA. The Motor Carrier reports that it pulled the unit from OICT (SSA) on January 20, 2016. When they returned the unit the next day (January 21, 2016), the unit was rejected and the Port advised the Motor Carrier to contact the Equipment Provider for instructions. The Motor Carrier stated their dispatch office contacted the Equipment Provider's Equipment Team at the number provided by the port and was instructed to return the container to 2405 West 14th Street in Oakland, California under release number P184938. The Motor Carrier complied with these instructions, returned the unit to the other location, and obtained an interchange showing matching container and release number.

The Motor Carrier stated that on June 13, 2016, they were asked by the Equipment Provider to provide an update on the container and to send a copy of the interchange if it was returned. The Motor Carrier provided the Equipment Provider with a copy of the ingate. On August 15, 2016, the Motor Carrier received an invoice from the Equipment Provider showing the container value of \$00.00. On August 19th 2016, the Motor Carrier received another invoice from the Equipment Provider showing per diem charges from January 20, 2016 thru August 10, 2016 in the amount of \$00.00. On August 22, 2016, the ingating facility confirmed that the unit was mistakenly listed as a sales container and the container was sold. However, Cube/TCT (the alternate return location) did confirm that they would pay the invoice for the cost of the container of \$00.00. As for the per diem invoice, the Motor Carrier feels that they should not be held liable for the per diem invoice since they complied with the instructions that were provided by the Equipment Provider in regards to the return of the equipment.

EQUIPMENT PROVIDER'S RESPONSE TO MOTOR CARRIER'S DISPUTE:

The Equipment Provider responded to the claim stating that the container should have been ingated at the same location it was originally picked up, which was (OICT (SSA)) and that TCT (The Container Traders) is not a depot used by the Equipment Provider. The Equipment Provider provided an e-mail communication from the OICT (SSA) facility confirming that their records showed that there were never any "no return" constraints on this container during the interchange dates associated with this claim. In addition, the Equipment Provider also stated that it confirmed that the release number P184938 was not associated with the CCLU4786775 container related to this dispute. This release number was related to unit CCLU2746006, which was redelivered on January 22, 2016. Therefore, the Equipment Provider feels that the Motor Carrier is responsible for the per diem invoice since the container should have been returned to the original point of interchange.

DECISION:

The panel carefully reviewed all documents and evidence submitted by the parties. Based upon the supporting documents and evidence, the Motor Carrier panel member finds in favor of the Motor Carrier noting that the Motor Carrier returned the unit to a location directed by the Equipment Provider and has interchange documentation to substantiate the return. The Motor Carrier panel member commented that the Motor Carrier should not be held responsible for whatever confusion occurred between Cube/TCT and the Equipment Provider. The Motor Carrier panel member does not believe the Equipment Provider provided evidence to refute the Motor Carrier's claim.

The Ocean Carrier panel member finds in favor of the Equipment Provider. The Ocean Carrier panel member believes the facts show the Equipment Provider had a return location of OICT that indicated there was no restriction on return. The Ocean Carrier panel member states that the Motor Carrier provided no evidence that they were turned away from the return location. In addition, the release number provided by the Motor Carrier is not for the container in question and there is no written correspondence between the Equipment Provider and the Motor Carrier regarding this transaction. Follow-up by the Equipment Provider in June ultimately revealed that the Motor Carrier took the container to a different location than expected and was ultimately sold.

Because the modal members could not reach a consensus, the third panel member was brought in to render the final decision pursuant to Exhibit D 3. Of the UIIA.

The Rail panel member also finds in favor of the Equipment Provider. The Rail panel member observed the following:

- 1. The Motor Carrier stated they attempted to return the unit to the original location of pick-up and that the terminal (OICT) turned them away at the gate stating that the container could not be returned there; however, no documentation was provided by the Motor Carrier or OICT that confirms this rejection.
- 2. The Motor Carrier stated that they called the Equipment Provider's Equipment Team for an alternate return location and was provided a release number (P184938) with instructions to take the unit to Cube/TCT where the container was ultimately sold in error; however, no written documentation was provided confirming return instructions that Motor Carrier stated it received from the Equipment Provider.

In addition, the Rail panel member commented that although she believes verbal communication may have taken place between the Equipment Provider's Equipment Department and the Motor Carrier, there is not sufficient documentation to substantiate that the Motor Carrier was provided instructions to redeliver the unit to Cube/TCT.

UIIA PROVISIONS RELIED UPON BY BINDING ARBITRATION PANEL:

The panel relied upon the following provisions from the UIIA (June 13, 2016) to make its decision:

E. Equipment Use

1. Equipment Return

- a. Absent a separate bilateral equipment interchange agreement in written or electronic form between the Parties, the Motor Carrier shall use the Equipment for only the purposes for which it was interchanged, not authorize use by others, and promptly return the Equipment after its interchange purpose is complete. An Addendum to this Agreement does not constitute a separate bilateral equipment interchange agreement. [Revised 02/08/16]
- b. Motor Carrier shall return the Equipment to the physical location at which the Equipment was received unless the Provider directs the Equipment to be returned to a satellite location(s): 1) as governed by a written bilateral equipment interchange agreement between the Parties or 2) as specified in a notification from the Provider to Motor Carrier via internet posting or e-mail to return the Equipment to a Provider-designated satellite location, listed in IANA's Equipment Return Location Directory (ERLD). Satellite location(s) are facilities which are within the same local commercial territory and support operations of the Provider for the location from which the Equipment was originally received. Whenever a return location is changed, Provider must notify the Motor Carrier by e-mail by 16:00 p.m. local time the business day prior to the change becoming effective. Motor Carrier must furnish the Provider with e-mail addresses to be used for Motor Carrier notification when return locations are changed. [Revised 02/08/16]
 - c. Provider may add or delete satellite locations to its listing by giving fourteen (14) days written notice to IANA. [Added 02/08/16]
 - d. Should the notification required under subsection 1.b. above not be made one (1) business day prior to the effective date of the change, and the late notification delayed the Interchange of Equipment, then the Motor Carrier would be entitled to one (1) additional business day to return the Equipment. [Added 02/08/16]
 - e. Nothing in Section E. shall be interpreted to preclude Motor Carrier from receiving compensation when Provider directs Equipment to be returned to a satellite location. Compensation for services rendered in these circumstances is outside the scope of this Agreement. [Added 02/08/16]

- 6. Free Days, Per Diem, Container Use, Chassis Use/Rental and/or Storage/Ocean Demurrage Charges
 - c. Provider shall invoice Motor Carrier for Per Diem, Container Use, Chassis Use/Rental and/or Storage/Ocean Demurrage charges within sixty (60) days from the date on which Equipment was returned to Provider by Motor Carrier. If Motor Carrier is not invoiced within the established timeframe, the right of the Provider to recover such charges will be lost. [Revised 01/17/12]
 - d. Provider shall provide the Motor Carrier documentation as is reasonably necessary to support its invoice.

DECISION: The majority of the panel finds in favor of the Equipment Provider.

CASE REVIEWED AND DECIDED BY:

LaVERSIA (ELLE) SPENCER Rail Carrier Member

AL SMERALDO
Ocean Carrier Member

DAVE MANNING Motor Carrier Member

| In the Dispute Between |) |
|----------------------------|--|
| UIIA MC, Appellant, and |)) Case Number: 20171020-1-XXXA-PD) |
| UIIA EP, Respondent |) Date of Decision: December 20, 2017 |

THE MOTOR CARRIER DISPUTES THE FOLLOWING INVOICE:

| | | | | | | | | | Date EP | |
|---------|------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|----------|---------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | | | | | | Date MC | responded | Notice of |
| | | | | | | | Date MC | disputed | to MC's | Intent |
| Invoice | Invoice # | Container # | Inv. Date | Facility | Outgated | Ingated | rec'd inv. | the inv. | dispute | Rec'd |
| | | | | APMT | | | | | | |
| | | | | Newark/APMT | | | | | | |
| 1 | P171001666 | CAIU7396786 | 10/16/17 | Newark | 9/07/17 | 9/13/17 | 10/17/17 | 10/17/17 | 10/17/17 | 10/20/17 |

MOTOR CARRIER'S BASIS OF DISPUTE:

The Motor Carrier's basis of dispute is Section E.1. of the UIIA. The Motor Carrier disputed the invoice stating that they pulled the container out as an import, delivered the container and then street turned it for an export move. However, because their customer cancelled the export booking, the Motor Carrier returned the container back to the port empty. The Motor Carrier states that because they returned the unit back empty the Equipment Provider charged them from the date of the street turn, due to the street turn not being cancelled in the system and because the unit was pulled out empty and returned empty. The Motor Carrier feels they should not be held liable due to not being aware they would be charged for not cancelling the street turn request and returning an empty container.

EQUIPMENT PROVIDER'S RESPONSE TO MOTOR CARRIER'S DISPUTE:

The Equipment Provider responded to the claim stating that the Motor Carrier originally outgated the equipment as an import move. They later requested to street turn the unit, which the Equipment Provider approved. After the approval, the Motor Carrier's customer cancelled the booking, so the unit was returned back empty to the Equipment Provider. The Equipment Provider believes the charges billed are in accordance with the terms of Section 1, Item H. of its addendum as it relates to empty to empty returns.

DECISION:

After careful review of all documents and the evidence submitted by the parties, the panel unanimously finds in favor of the Motor Carrier. The Ocean Carrier panel member noted that normally, the Equipment Provider addendum allows for equipment used to move import and export shipments by HMM to be granted four (4) working days free. The entire time between release and return was 4 working days total. Of interest would be the specific language in the Equipment Provider's addendum related to the termination of any free time relative to equipment associated with canceled bookings, which reads at Section 1. H. "For intermodal equipment, which is released empty and later redelivered empty (i.e. empty to empty) without an intervening shipment, Motor Carrier shall be entitled to no Free Time and the Motor Carrier shall be responsible for the payment of Detention Charges as per this Addendum." The important part of this clause is actually stated twice for clarity: 1) equipment, which is released empty and later redelivered empty; and 2) (i.e. empty to empty). This clause was clearly designed to protect the Equipment Provider from the loss of a benefit (equipment usage) for which no economic compensation (the intervening shipment) was derived. As this unit was actually part of an intervening shipment (the import move) this clause would not apply. While the Motor Carrier should have contacted the Equipment Provider to report the street turn cancellation at the time, they admitted this mistake and this should not be supportive of the Equipment Provider's misapplication of their addendum language. The appropriate action for the Equipment Provider would have been to accept the miscommunication, cancel the street turn and recalculate the per diem owed based on the import movement alone. As the equipment was actually returned empty within the Equipment Provider's stated free time afforded to the import move, no per diem would be owed.

The Motor Carrier panel member agreed stating the language in Section 1. H. of the Equipment Provider's addendum was intended to protect it from the use of its equipment without any compensation. This unit was used for an import move that clearly involved compensation to the Equipment Provider. Additionally, despite the cancellation of the street turn the equipment was still returned within the free time allowed for that initial import move. No per diem would have been charged had the street interchange never occurred.

UIIA PROVISIONS RELIED UPON BY BINDING ARBITRATION PANEL:

The panel relied upon the following provisions from the UIIA (May 1, 2017) to make its decision:

EP's ADDENDUM TO THE UNIFORM INTERMODAL INTERCHANGE AND FACILITIES ACCESS AGREEMENT

Section 1. Free Time and Use Charges

In the absence of any other written agreement with Motor Carrier and in accordance with Section E.6 of the UIIA, the following free time shall be allowed and the following use charges assessed to Motor Carrier.

- Equipment Free Time and Use/Rental Charges
 - A. For Equipment used to move import and export shipments by HMM, the following free time shall be allowed: (see notes)
 - 1. Regular Equipment: Four (4) working days.
 - 2. Refrigerated/Tank Equipment: Three (3) working days.
 - 3. Open Top/Flat Rack Equipment: Three (3) working days
 - 4. Chassis: Four or three working days based on the type of corresponding containers.

H. For intermodal equipment, which is released empty and later redelivered empty (i.e. empty to empty) without an intervening shipment, Motor Carrier shall be entitled to no Free Time and the Motor Carrier shall be responsible for the payment of Detention Charges as per this Addendum.

E. Equipment Use

- 1. Equipment Return
 - a. Absent a separate bilateral equipment interchange agreement in written or electronic form between the Parties, the Motor Carrier shall use the Equipment for only the purposes for which it was interchanged, not authorize use by others, and promptly return the Equipment after its interchange purpose is complete. An Addendum to this Agreement does not constitute a separate bilateral equipment interchange agreement. [Revised 02/08/16]
 - b. Motor Carrier shall return the Equipment to the physical location at which the Equipment was received unless the Provider directs the Equipment to be returned to a satellite location(s): 1) as governed by a written bilateral equipment interchange agreement between the Parties or 2) as specified in a notification from the Provider to Motor Carrier via internet posting or e-mail to return the Equipment to a Provider-designated satellite location, listed in IANA's Equipment Return Location Directory (ERLD). Satellite location(s) are facilities which are within the same local commercial territory and support operations of the Provider for the location from which the Equipment was originally received. Whenever a return location is changed, Provider must notify the Motor Carrier by e-mail by 16:00 p.m. local time the business day prior to the change becoming effective. Motor Carrier must furnish the Provider with e-mail addresses to be used for Motor Carrier notification when return locations are changed. [Revised 02/08/16]
 - c. Provider may add or delete satellite locations to its listing by giving fourteen (14) days written notice to IANA. [Added 02/08/16] d. Should the notification required under subsection 1.b. above not be made one (1) business day prior to the effective date of the change, and the late notification delayed the Interchange of Equipment, then the Motor Carrier would be entitled to one (1) additional business day to return the Equipment. [Added 02/08/16]
 - e. Nothing in Section E. shall be interpreted to preclude Motor Carrier from receiving compensation when Provider directs Equipment to be returned to a satellite location. Compensation for services rendered in these circumstances is outside the scope of this Agreement. [Added 02/08/16]

DECISION: The panel unanimously finds in favor of the Motor Carrier.

CASE REVIEWED AND DECIDED BY:

ROBERT CANNIZZARO
Ocean Carrier Member

FRED HUENNEKENS Motor Carrier Member

| In the Dispute Between |)) |
|------------------------|---|
| UIIA MC, |) Case Number: 20230213-1-XXXO-PD |
| Appellant, and |)) Data of Danisian, 06/09/2022 |
| UIIA EP, |) Date of Decision: 06/08/2023) |
| Respondent. |) |

THE MOTOR CARRIER DISPUTES THE FOLLOWING INVOICES:

| Invoice | Invoice # | Inv. Date | Date MC rec'd inv. | Date MC disputed the inv. | Date EP responded to MC's dispute | Notice of Intent Rec'd |
|---------|--------------|------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | 202212-STXO | 01/12/2023 | 01/12/2023 | 01/30/2023 | 01/31/2023 | 01/31/2023 |
| 2 | 202301-STXO* | 02/13/2023 | 02/14/2023 | 03/01/2023 | 03/02/2023 | |

^{*}The second invoice noted above was added to this claim on February 17, 2023, after the date of the notice of intent form.

MOTOR CARRIER'S BASIS OF DISPUTE

The Motor Carrier states they are filing this dispute on the basis that there have been discrepancies with chassis invoices they have received from the Equipment Provider. The Motor Carrier states that they noticed that their account was still being billed for chassis usage even after a different motor carrier took possession of the chassis. The Motor Carrier states that they have the ingate and outgate data from BNSF Hobart that lists the carrier SCAC codes and the date the chassis were outgated. The Motor Carrier provided this information to the Equipment Provider with their initial dispute and the Equipment Provider's response was that BNSF is not a start/stop location. The Motor Carrier states they understand that BNSF is not a start/stop location, however, they feel they have no control over other carriers operating under the UIIA outgating these chassis from the BNSF facility before they can recover and terminate the chassis to the proper yard. The Motor Carrier feels that carriers that are last in possession of these chassis are responsible for the rental/per diem fees. The Motor Carrier also feels that these billing practices are unethical and put a financial burden on the truckers. Therefore, the Motor Carrier believes they should not be held responsible for the full invoice amounts.

EQUIPMENT PROVIDER'S RESPONSE TO MOTOR CARRIER'S DISPUTE

The Equipment Provider did not respond to the claim but did respond to the Motor Carrier's dispute, stating that "[i]t should be noted that BNSF is not a valid [s]tart/stop location with our retail chassis. Per diem charges continue until the chassis is returned to its appropriate location." The Equipment Provider also states that if other Motor Carriers have been using the unit since, that the Motor Carrier would need to seek direct

reimbursement from those Motor Carriers as the Equipment Provider is unable to re-bill. The Equipment Provider also provided the Motor Carrier with the following:

In order to stop all future charges, you can either:

- a. track down the unit and ingate the chassis into a valid location,
- b. request a street turn to the Motor Carrier that may be currently using the unit (if applicable), or
- c. request a CV invoice.

The Equipment Provider also provided a resource link on their website that could be used if there were any doubt of where the proper offhire location is for a particular chassis: https://flexivan.com/chassis-lookup/. The Equipment Provider also noted that the chassis lookup would provide a number of other details about the unit itself that, in this instance, could have prevented this issue from occurring.

DISCUSSION

The panel carefully reviewed all documents and information provided by the parties. Due to the complexity and large dollar amount of the dispute, the panel spent a lot of time reviewing the information provided and asked follow-up questions of both parties. The Motor Carrier does not specify a particular section of the UIIA in filing its dispute. The panel determined that Section E.1.a. and E.1.b applies.

The Motor Carrier states that since other trucking companies used the chassis after they returned them in, the Equipment Provider should invoice those carriers for the chassis rental charges covering the period the chassis were in their possession. In the initial dispute, the Motor Carrier acknowledges that the BNSF is not a valid start/stop location for these chassis. They also acknowledge this in an email on February 14, 2023 to the Equipment Provider. In an email on March 14, 2023 to IANA, another person from the Motor Carrier disputes that the BNSF is not a valid start/stop location.

The panel reached out to the Equipment Provider for further clarification on this point. The Equipment Provider states that BNSF is a valid start/stop location for pool chassis, but these were not pool chassis. The Motor Carrier made a reservation at a different chassis location rather than utilizing a pool chassis and these chassis the Motor Carrier utilized are not allowed to be returned anywhere other than the origin point of pickup.

The panel determined that the Motor Carrier is correct in that they did not utilize these chassis for all the times for which they are being invoiced. However, Section E.1. requires the Motor Carrier to return the equipment to the original point of interchange unless directed by the Equipment Provider to return to a satellite return location. Because the chassis used by the Motor Carrier were not pool chassis, BNSF was not a valid stop/start location so the Motor Carrier would be required to return the chassis to the original point of interchange. Consequently, the panel finds the case in favor of the Equipment Provider.

UIIA PROVISIONS RELIED UPON BY BINDING ARBITRATION PANEL

The panel relied upon the following provisions from the UIIA (July 20, 2022) to make its decision:

E. Equipment Use, Item 1. Equipment Return

- a. Absent a separate bilateral equipment interchange agreement in written or electronic form between the Parties, the Motor Carrier shall use the Equipment for only the purposes for which it was interchanged, not authorize use by others, and promptly return the Equipment after its interchange purpose is complete. An Addendum to this Agreement does not constitute a separate bilateral equipment interchange agreement. [Revised 02/08/16]
- b. Motor Carrier shall return the Equipment to the physical location at which the Equipment was received unless the Provider directs the Equipment to be returned to a satellite location(s): 1) as governed by a written bilateral equipment interchange agreement between the Parties or 2) as specified in a notification from the Provider to Motor Carrier via internet posting or e-mail to return the Equipment to a Provider-designated satellite location, listed in IANA's Equipment Return Location Directory (ERLD). Satellite location(s) are facilities which are within the same local commercial territory and support operations of the Provider for the location from which the Equipment was originally received. Whenever a return location is changed, Provider must notify the Motor Carrier by e-mail by 16:00 p.m. local time the business day prior to the change becoming effective. Motor Carrier must furnish the Provider with e-mail addresses to be used for Motor Carrier notification when return locations are changed. [Revised 02/08/16]

DECISION

The panel unanimously finds in favor of the Equipment Provider. It is clear the chassis were not part of the regular pool that showed BNSF Hobart and Commerce as start/stop locations. From the initial files the panel received, the Motor Carrier states they were aware of this fact but continued to leave chassis at the ramps. While it is unfortunate that the Motor Carrier is being invoiced for days when they did not utilize the chassis, the terms of the UIIA (Section E.1.a. and E.1.b.) need to be enforced for the Agreement to continue to be effective.

CASE REVIEWED AND DECIDED BY

CHRIS GILTZ
Motor Carrier Panel Member

EJ BRONWASSER Equipment Leasing Company Panel Member