

MOVING MATERIAL THAT NEEDS GREATER CLEARANCE AND HEAVIER PAYLOADS?

YOU MAY NEED A PERIMETER TRAILER. LET EVANS PROJECT LOGISTICS HELP.

You are driving down the road and see a massive piece of equipment loaded on a trailer that looks like something you built with your Erector set decades ago. For the younger generations, it seems closer to your LEGO Technic set. More than likely, you just saw a perimeter trailer, and they are quite a bit more complex than the models of your youth.



A perimeter trailer is highly specialized equipment for greater clearance and heavier payloads. They utilize heavy steel beams on the outside with supporting girders on the inside of the beams. The freight straddles the outside beams, allowing it to move closer to the ground. It can help prevent the need for bucket trucks and utility work when transporting taller material. Another benefit for perimeter trailers is that they do not have nearly as much flex or camber as a traditional open deck trailer. For specific goods being transported, camber can cause damage in transit.

Despite the many positives of a perimeter trailer, there are a few drawbacks. To start with, they are rare and expensive to purchase. Once you decide to leverage a perimeter trailer, they are not only a permitted load to the destination but also require permits on the backhaul. Other specialized trailers that haul similar freight can collapse, so they are not a permit load once empty. The biggest challenge today is the available capacity of these trailers.

Over the past decade, the demand for perimeter trailers has grown. In a post-Covid environment, the demand is only increasing. Onshoring, the passing of the Infrastructure Bill, and the CHIPS Act have all contributed to the growing demand for more data centers, large manufacturing equipment, heavy construction equipment, and backup power generation equipment.

In 2020, major manufacturers realized the risk of leveraging China in a just-in-time model, and this caused many to reevaluate their supply chain and look towards nearshoring or onshoring their networks. The US Census Bureau reported private and public manufacturing buildings have increased over 65% from last year. Many large manufacturers have equipment requiring perimeter trailers to transport materials to the new facilities. Similarly, the CHIPS Act passed in August of 2022 caused a boom in electronic companies building new manufacturing facilities.



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In late 2021, the United States Congress passed the \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Bill. Of the total, \$284 billion is for new spending on transportation. With efforts in adding and improving bridges and roads comes the need for heavy construction and supporting equipment. MarketsandMarkets Research's recent report shows that the global demand for heavy construction equipment will grow from \$190.3 billion to \$252.4 billion in 2028.

Also, as we advance towards a world that runs on data and the cloud, the need for data centers has grown significantly. Fintech Association reports that the Global Data Center market is expected to expand from \$77 billion in 2022 to \$279 billion in 2032. On top of that, Technavio Plus advised the data center IT equipment market will increase by \$65.26 billion by 2027. These data centers typically require large equipment and power generation to complete the facilities. The power generation equipment also requires height, weight, and limited camber perimeter trailers. Mordor Intelligence reports that data generation demand will grow from \$4.98 billion in 2023 to \$6.46 billion in North America by 2028.

The demand for perimeter trailers is not waning anytime soon. In conversation with a significant player in the perimeter trailer market, they advised they are already 100 trailers short of their demand for next year. Going into next year, if you have plans to move significant material that could require a perimeter trailer, it is essential to plan now. The more lead time, the better. Contact the Evans Project Logistics team if you are unsure where to start or think your current relationships may not meet your demands. They have decades of experience moving specialized freight. Learn what it is like to leverage the #EX on the project side!

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