Yard Operations

HUMP YARDS:

Cars are pushed over a hump and classified into one of many tracks

- 4 humps strategically located across the network
- Fixed-cost-model, highly efficient with large volume of cars
- Technologically advanced with highly automated processes

FLAT SWITCHING YARDS:

Locomotives shuffle and maneuver cars from track to track

- Nearly 100 switching yards across the network
- Marshalling traffic and serving local customers
- · Variable-cost-model, based on volume and need
- Yard sizes vary based on traffic level and operational requirements

CRITICAL ROLES FOR CAR SWITCHING

Switch crews move cars into the proper yard track to be make it on the right outbound train.

Yard Coordinators provide switch crews with a switch list: instructions for which track to place each car.

~40,000 cars processed daily in yards

Cars are 'switched' within yards across the CN Network. Switching consists of classifying cars from inbound trains to the right outbound train.



MacMillan Yard (Toronto) hump: Cars are pushed over the hump, and are sorted into one of many receiving tracks.



Flat switching yard: Switch crews classify cars into the proper tracks for the right outbound train.

