



Smithsonian  
*National Museum of American History*  
*Kenneth E. Behring Center*

## Guide to the Containerization Oral History Collection

NMAH.AC.0639

Alison Oswald

2000

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
<b>Title:</b>	Containerization Oral History Collection
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAH.AC.0639
<b>Date:</b>	1995-1998.
<b>Extent:</b>	0.5 Cubic feet
<b>Creator:</b>	Harlander, Leslie Gibson, Andrew Donovan, Arthur Cushing, Charles Boylston, John Seiberlich, Carl Pfeiffer, Robert Powell, Stanley Richardson, Paul Seaton, Bruce Horvitz, Wayne Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation. Katims, Ron Morrison, Scott
<b>Language:</b>	English

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## Administrative Information

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation.,NMAH, Dept of History, 12th St. and Constitution Ave., N.W., Room 1016, MRC 604, Washington, D.C. 20560.,Made for NMAH.,00/00/00.,1999.3073.

### Ownership and Custodial History

Oral history created by Arthur Donovan and the Lemelson Center.

### Processing Information

Collection processed by Alison Oswald, 2000.

### Preferred Citation

Containerization Oral History Collection 1995-1998, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

## Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

## Restrictions on Access

Audio cassettes: Original tapes not available to researchers.

## Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

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## Biographical / Historical

This project consists of oral history interviews with individuals who initiated and implemented the post-World War II revolution in the transportation industry known as containerization. This technological and organizational revolution, a product of American innovation and entrepreneurship, has transformed the way cargos are loaded and moved on ships, trains, trucks, and barges. The introduction of trailer-sized containers as the units for loading cargo aboard ships has transformed commercial shipping. Loading items aboard ship in boxes, barrels, and bags, a system known as break-bulk, was replaced by containerization. Containerization is one of the fundamental technologies in modern society.

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## Scope and Contents

Original audio cassettes and transcripts of oral history interviews with individuals involved in the transportation industry known as containerization: Arthur Donovan, interviewer.

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## Arrangement

Divided into 2 series: (1) Original audio cassettes; (2) Transcripts. Unarranged.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Container industry -- 1990-2000
- Container ships -- 1990-2000
- Containerization -- 1990-2000
- Containers -- 1990-2000
- Shipment of goods -- 1990-2000
- Shipping -- 1990-2000 -- United States
- Ships -- Cargo -- 1990-2000

Transportation -- 1990-2000  
Transportation equipment industry -- 1990-2000

Types of Materials:

Audio cassettes -- 1990-2000  
Interviews -- 1980-2000  
Oral history -- 1990-2000  
Transcripts