

# Watco Transportation Services, Inc. Announcement

**Date:** January 16, 2009  
**To:** Watco Team  
**From:** Terry Towner  
President and COO  
**Subject:** Central and Gulf Region Chief Operating Officer

Effective this morning, Mitch Becker has accepted the position of Chief Operating Officer of the Central Region and Gulf/East Region of Watco Transportation Services, Inc. (WTS).

Mitch and his team have been instrumental in implementing several improvements in the Gulf/East Region and I am especially pleased that he has agreed to provide his leadership in the Central Region. Mitch's office will be located in the Pittsburg Corporate Office effective immediately. Mitch can be contacted by cell phone at 620-704-7356 or by email at [mbecker@watcocompanies.com](mailto:mbecker@watcocompanies.com).

Over the next few weeks Mitch will be traveling to locations across the Central Region to meet members of the Central Region team and our Customers. Additionally, Eddie Arredondo, Human Resource Manager of the Gulf/East Region will assume added duties in the Central Region and will report directly to Mitch. Eddie can be contacted by cell phone at 620-704-4104 or by email at [earredondo@watcocompanies.com](mailto:earredondo@watcocompanies.com).

In the Gulf/East Region, Keith Barksdale will assume the position of Assistant Chief Operating Officer with responsibilities for day-to-day operations. Keith will report directly to Mitch Becker in his new role. Keith started with WTS as the General Manager of the Timber Rock Railroad, and was recently appointed to the position of Director of Operations, Gulf/East Region. Keith can be contacted by cell phone at 409-291-9368 or by email at [kbarksdale@watcocompanies.com](mailto:kbarksdale@watcocompanies.com).

Mitch will be replacing David Eyermann who has chosen to pursue other professional opportunities. I want to personally thank Dave for all of the contributions he has made to the company over the past three and a half years. There were a number of improvements made under his watch and we wish him the best in his future.

