

# CANADA Daily News and Updates October 30th 2023

## Ocean Updates

- Tentative Agreement Reached, St. Lawrence Seaway Reopens
- Carriers Under Fire as Call Comes for Clearer Rules on Invoicing D&D Charges
- Delays Grow at Australia's Ports as MUA Expands Job Action Against DP World

## Ocean Updates

### Tentative Agreement Reached, St. Lawrence Seaway Reopens

The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC) and the union representing 360 unionized employees reached an agreement that ends the strike that began on October 22. The agreement will have to be ratified by employees in the coming days.

Employees were expected to return to work this morning.

Read more in a [press release from SLSMC](#).

### Carriers Under Fire as Call Comes for Clearer Rules on Invoicing D&D Charges

An investigation into allegations that MSC wrongly billed D&D charges has raised claims that the carrier may not be alone in such practices.

The FMC's audit of detention and demurrage charges from 2021 was part of its investigation into claims MSC had misapplied reefer rates to non-operating reefer shipments, and was also charging parties, including brokers, forwarders and hauliers, that had no contract with the carrier.

Executive director of the US Agriculture Transportation Coalition (ATC) Peter Friedmann wrote on *LinkedIn*: "The FMC asks why MSC is billing brokers instead of contracted shippers. The strong FMC message is 'don't, it violates law and regulations'.

"Brokers around the U.S. are saying 'thank you FMC' – and it's not just MSC, plenty of carriers are doing the same, and it needs to stop."

Read more in an [article from The Loadstar](#).

### Delays Grow at Australia's Ports as MUA Expands Job Action Against DP World

Dockworkers at one of Australia's busiest container terminals launched a 24-hour work ban on Friday while announcing plans to step up their work bans this week at each of the country's major ports. The strikes are part of an ongoing labour dispute between the Maritime Union of Australia and terminal operator DP World that mirrors similar actions that have interrupted port operations in other parts of the world.

Read more in an [article from The Maritime Executive](#).

