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Ocean Updates

Port of Halifax Wins IAPH Digitalization Award

The Halifax Port Authority and project partners have been recognized at this year's International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH) Sustainability Awards in the "Digitalization" category. Project partners in Data Enhancement Framework 2 (DEF2) are BlueNode Inc. (Everstream), PSA Global, Port Saint John, Canada's Ocean Supercluster, and Sentient Hubs.

By integrating data from cargo handling and transport, operations and other factors in an accurate and interoperable system, this project builds an assessment of CO2e intensity associated with operations, showing per container and per metric ton amounts of carbon.

The jury commended the comprehensive near real-time emissions monitoring and mitigation as well as the timely concept and clear framework design that included tackling multiple UN SDGs in collaboration with several stakeholders from the industry and ports abroad.

Read more in an [article from the American Journal of Transportation](#).

Rail and Truck Updates

CN Network Update: Track Disruption Near Sussex, N.B.

Service has been restored and tracks are now passable on CN's mainline between Moncton, N.B. and Saint John, N.B. CN crews and personnel are working to recover all traffic that was affected by the disruption.

Domestic intermodal and automotive operations in Moncton and Halifax, as well as traffic to and from the Port of Halifax, were not impacted by the service disruption.

CN Acquires Part of Nova Scotia Short Line from G&W

CN has acquired a stake in the Cape Breton & Central Nova Scotia Railway (CBNS) from Genesee & Wyoming Inc. The acquisition includes 145 miles of track, CN said in a press release.

In addition to acquiring a stake in CBNS – which interchanges with CN in Truro, Nova Scotia – the Class I will manage interline movements on the line. A G&W subsidiary will continue to operate the CBNS line from Truro to Point Tupper, Nova Scotia.

Read more in an [article from Progressive Railroading](#).

Canadian Business/Government

Notice to Industry: Importing Manufactured Foods into Canada with a Safe Food for Canadians Licence

On February 12, 2024, the CFIA will activate the automatic verification of SFC licences for imports of [manufactured foods](#). Food import transactions will be automatically rejected unless a valid SFC licence is declared.

The importer's SFC licence number must also be entered correctly on their import declaration.

If a transaction is rejected, the importer's shipment will be denied entry into Canada until their licensing error(s) are corrected and their import declaration is re-submitted.

Refer to the CFIA's updated guidance on [Importing food with a valid Safe Food for Canadians licence](#) for more information on automatic licence verification and the steps you can take to make sure your SFC licence is valid.

Read the [full notice](#).

D-98-08: Entry Requirements for Wood Packaging Material into Canada – Revised

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[Effective date: November 6, 2023](#)

[9th version](#)

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[This directive provides the requirements for the entry into Canada of all wood packaging material \(WPM\) including dunnage, pallets or crates from all areas except the continental United States \(U.S.\).](#)

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[Revisions](#)

- [This revision includes specific import requirements for dunnage entering Canada via marine vessels. Entry of non-compliant dunnage and the presence of live pests in wood packaging material and shipborne dunnage increases risk to Canada's forest and plant resource base. A shipborne dunnage management program has been developed to address this significant risk and is described in this revision.](#)
- [This directive has been revised to reflect the amendments made to the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures \(ISPM\) 15 regarding approved treatments associated with wood packaging material, as well as the mark and its application \(see Appendix 1\). The International Plant Protection Convention \(IPPC\) and its Commission on Phytosanitary Measures have adopted these revisions to provide further guidance to National Plant Protection Organizations \(NPPO\). These changes were adopted in 2018.](#)

[Read the full directive.](#)

International Business/Government

Garment Factories Set on Fire as Bangladesh Workers Demand 'Living Wage'

Demonstrations by garment workers in Bangladesh have forced stoppages at more than 400 factories as they seek a wage hike to combat nearly double-digit inflation.

The government on Thursday sent in the para-military Border Guard Bangladesh to disperse angry staff who had set fire to factories, and there are reports of two workers having died as the labour unrest spreads across industrial zones in Dhaka and adjoining areas.

For more than a week, workers in garment districts in Ashulia and Gazipur have been demanding minimum monthly wages of Tk23,000 (\$210), and real anger was sparked when they were offered only \$91. They currently earn \$72.50.

Factory owners have since agreed to put a higher offer, but labour leaders say workers won't accept a figure unless it is "enough to meet their needs."

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