

# CANADA Daily News and Updates December 20th 2023

## Air Updates

- Staff Shortage and Extreme Weather Throws Lufthansa Cargo Off Course

## Ocean Updates

- U.S. Announces Naval Coalition to Defend Red Sea Shipping from Houthi Attacks
- Brace for Increased Shipping Rates as Lines Avoid Red Sea

## Air Updates

### Staff Shortage and Extreme Weather Throws Lufthansa Cargo Off Course

Lufthansa Cargo has warned customers of severe delays and cancellations until the end of the year, and said it is reviewing existing bookings. The carrier added that it “cannot ensure the usual quality of service.”

The disruption is at Lufthansa’s Frankfurt and Munich hubs, caused by an “exceptionally high level of staff sickness and recent extreme winter weather conditions.”

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

## Ocean Updates

### U.S. Announces Naval Coalition to Defend Red Sea Shipping from Houthi Attacks

The U.S. has announced the creation of an enhanced naval protection force operating in the southern Red Sea in an attempt to ward off mounting attacks from Yemen’s rebel Houthis on merchant shipping.

Britain said it would be among the countries participating, but notable absentees were Arab nations Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Analysts speculated that shipping would continue to be disrupted and attacks continue.

Lloyd Austin, the U.S. defence secretary, said the new effort would be called Operation Prosperity Guardian and was necessary to tackle the “recent escalation in reckless Houthi attacks originating from Yemen.”

Other participants in the effort, Austin said, included Bahrain, Canada, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Seychelles and Spain.

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

### **Brace for Increased Shipping Rates as Lines Avoid Red Sea**

Four of the top five largest container carriers will be avoiding the Red Sea and the Suez Canal until security is restored to the waterway. Together with ZIM, who was already diverting its Red Sea traffic, these carriers represent 56 percent of global capacity, meaning an estimated 17 percent of global volumes will be taking a longer, more expensive route from Asia around the southern coast of Africa.

Container diversions will take an extra seven to 14 days in transit time depending on the lane, and mean a 15 to 20 percent increase in costs for carriers. In addition to longer voyages and higher costs, disruptions to scheduled arrival times could cause congestion at destination ports and some equipment shortages, as empty containers take longer to get back to origin ports.

Read more in an [article from Inside Logistics](#).