

CANADA Daily News and Updates January 12th 2024

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Ocean Updates

More Delayed Cargo Arrivals in Halifax This Week

What's the one thing nearly two out of every three ships arriving in Halifax this week have in common? They're running late. Of the 17 cargo ships, container ships, bulk carriers and oil tankers that have berthed – or are still scheduled to berth – in Halifax before Sunday, 11 are behind schedule. And those delays vary anywhere from a day to nearly two-and-a-half weeks.

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

Shippers Must Pay a Heavy Price for Capacity, as 'Ships Are Filling Up'

The capacity crunch following carrier decisions to veto Red Sea routes will leave shippers with little choice but to pay premium rates, despite having long-term contracts.

Crowd-sourced freight rates platform Xeneta said the Red Sea shipping crisis would get worse before it got better, and shippers needed to “get their act together quickly” to secure capacity in the run-up to Chinese New Year next month.

In its latest analysis, Sea-Intelligence also warned that shippers exporting from Asia would have limited access to capacity in the coming weeks.

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

U.S., UK Strike Houthi Targets in Yemen in Response to Red Sea Attacks

The United States and Britain conducted a series of airstrikes on Houthi positions in Yemen Thursday night in a massive response to escalating attacks on vessels in the Red Sea, U.S. President Joe Biden confirmed.

The move marks a dramatic escalation of a simmering regional conflict in the Middle East sparked by Hamas' deadly attack on Israel last October and Israel's responsive offensive on Gaza.

Multiple U.S. officials told the Associated Press and Reuters the airstrikes were targeting logistical hubs, air defence systems and weapons storage locations used by the Houthi rebels in Yemen. More than a dozen targets were successfully hit, the officials said.

Read more in an [article from Global News](#).

Maersk to Send Boxes Overland to Avoid Panama Canal Delays

Maersk is taking steps to alleviate some of the choke points in its ocean routes, reporting to customers that it will begin providing a novel approach for one niche route as an alternative to avoid potential delays at the Panama Canal. The carrier is seeking to provide shippers consistency while dealing with the disruptions coming from the reduced number of transits at the Panama Canal.

“Reflecting on the ongoing water situation in the Panama Canal and the possible impacts on cargo movements, we wanted to inform you on changes to services, as well as what Maersk is doing to mitigate the situation,” the carrier writes in a customer advisory issued on January 10. “To ensure that your cargo continues to move with as few delays as possible, we are amending our OC1 service, operating between Oceania and the Americas.”

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

Armed Robberies of Ships in Asia and Near Singapore Increase 19% in 2023

Incidents of armed robbery on ships in Asia increased significantly in 2023 and specifically in the region around the Singapore Strait and the Strait of Malacca. ReCAAP (Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery), however, in its annual review of 2023, pointed to a few encouraging recent developments while also saying more needs to be done, including efforts to eradicate the organized criminal groups operating in the area around Singapore.

The data highlights a nearly 20 percent increase in armed robberies during 2023, specifically with more incidents in which the perpetrators were carrying knives and seven cases where crewmembers were tied up. There was a total of 99 incidents and one attempted in 2023 versus 84 in 2022.

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