

CANADA Daily News and Updates January 15th 2024

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Air Updates

\$74 Million in Federal Funding to Expand Vancouver International Airport's Cargo Facilities

Cargo-handling facilities at Vancouver International Airport (YVR) will be expanded through an infusion of over \$74 million in new funding from the federal government.

This will directly go towards expanding the capacity for the movement of larger aircraft between cargo facilities and the runways, including increasing aircraft parking space capacity to accommodate additional widebody freighter aircraft, upgrading an access road, and preparing the site for the construction of a new air cargo warehouse.

Read more in an [article from Daily Hive](#).

Ocean Updates

Shippers Face 'Eye-Watering' Rates and Rollovers as Carriers 'Cherry-Pick' Cargo

Shippers are scrambling to bring forward orders in a bid to mitigate the impact of the longer transit times from Asia to Europe as vessels are re-routed around the Cape of Good Hope.

However, equipment in Asia is in extremely short supply, due to the delayed backhaul voyages, and container release is being restricted to large-volume 'VIP contracts' or shippers prepared to pay a hefty premium.

And even then, there is still no absolute guarantee that containers delivered to the quay will be shipped before the Chinese New Year on February 10, as carriers cherry-pick much-higher-paying spot cargo and roll over low-rated contracts.

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

Houthi Launch New Attacks in Gulf of Aden Hours After U.S.-UK Strikes

The Houthi rebels resumed launching missiles and mounting their attacks only hours after the forces of the U.S. and UK struck at their capabilities. While ships are being warned to use caution and avoid the Bab el-Mandeb in the aftermath of strikes, reports are coming in of an attack in the Gulf of Aden.

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

Dispute at Australian Ports Heats Up, Leading to Threat of 'Lockouts'

Work stoppages have resumed across Australian ports after the latest round of bargaining between DP World and the Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) proved unsuccessful.

Until January 22, DP World's Sydney, Brisbane and Fremantle terminals will see no work, while limited operations are being performed at its Melbourne terminal.

The action by union members primarily relates to the loading and unloading of trucks and trains, and includes a ban on overtime and shift extensions.

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

Transnet Seeks International Help for South Africa's Port Operations

South African ports operator Transnet is seeking international assistance in its efforts to turn around the operational issues at the country's terminals. The company has launched a series of tenders seeking to bring in expertise as it struggles with the operations and persistent delays and backlogs in the major ports including Durban and Port of Richards Bay.

Issues at the perennially underperforming ports grew especially bad in the past few months, with South African President Cyril Ramaphosa personally intervening after a strike and other operational issues ballooned the problems at the two primary ports. Ramaphosa called for immediate action and investigations saying people would be held accountable for the problems.

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

Rail and Truck Updates

CPKC Customer Advisory: Extreme Winter Weather Conditions

Due to the extreme cold temperatures as low as -41C (-41.8F) and wind chills approaching -50C (-58F) in the Canadian Prairie region (Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba) and continued winter conditions in Northern Ontario and through the U.S. Midwest, CPKC's winter operating plan and train length restrictions have been enacted.

As of Friday at 3:30 pm ET, there were no service disruptions to report. However, CPKC encourages customers to build additional time into their plans when there is extreme winter weather.

Certain winter weather conditions require adjustments to rail operations to ensure safety, network resiliency, system velocity and capacity. These adjustments may cause delays to shipments moving through the affected areas. Customers also play a major role in preparing for challenging winter conditions by keeping all walking and parking areas free of snow and ice. Additionally, all intermodal equipment must be free from snow and ice buildup, including container roof.

See [CPKC's 2023-2024 Winter Contingency Plan](#).