

CANADA Daily News and Updates February 5th 2024

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Air Updates

January Pushes Air Cargo Volumes Up 10% as Red Sea Conflict and Lunar New Year Combine

Global air cargo volumes rose by 10% year on year in January as shippers' concerns over hostilities in the Red Sea and an early Lunar New Year more than compensated for an anticipated post-Christmas drop in ecommerce traffic, according to the latest weekly market analysis by Xeneta.

With plenty of available air cargo capacity in what is traditionally a quieter month for demand, however, fuller cargo holds are yet to translate into higher rates. Globally, general air cargo spot rates in January declined 12% month on month, to an average US\$2.27 per kg, consistent with the trend of the global dynamic load factor, which dropped three percentage points to 56% versus December. Xeneta's dynamic load factor analysis measures air cargo capacity utilization by considering both cargo volume and weight perspectives of cargo flown and capacity available.

Overall, the year-on-year growth of global air cargo market supply slowed down in January, as much of the missing capacity was restored last year.

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

Ocean Updates

Dock Workers Down Under End Strike at DP World

Australian shipping stakeholders have cause to celebrate as DP World and the Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) have reached an agreement that will end protected industrial action at Australian ports.

Dock workers throughout Australia have been striking since October in a pay dispute against port operator DP World, which it is estimated has cost the Australian economy A\$86m (US\$56m) a week.

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

Rail and Truck Updates

International Student Cap to Squeeze Driving School Enrolment

The federal government on January 22 capped the number of international student permits over the next two years. It will approve approximately 360,000 undergraduate study permits for 2024, a 35% reduction from 2023.

Each province and territory will get permits according to population, and Ontario is likely to see a 50% cut from present numbers.

“Driving schools in Brampton are fed by international students,” said Manan Gupta, regulated Canadian immigration consultant and president of Skylake Immigration based in the city. “Their intake is going to suffer.”

Raj Walia, owner of Trukademy based in Mississauga, Ont., said international students form a large part of trainees at truck driving schools in the area. He added there are schools in Brampton whose trainee intake is 60% to 70% international students, and they will be affected. “It will impact the training business and the overall trucking industry down the road,” he said.

Read more in an [article from Today's Trucking](#).

New Jersey Hikes Truck Insurance Minimum, Questions Abound Whether It Will Hit Trucks Just Driving Through

A recent change in New Jersey law requires a significant increase in the amount of coverage a large commercial vehicle must carry, raising the requirement to \$1.5 million.

The requirement will kick in for vehicles with a weight in excess of 26,000 pounds six months after its “enactment date.” A spokesman for the New Jersey Senate majority said Governor Phil Murphy signed the legislation January 16.

“There is no indication in the legislation that it is intended to apply only to intrastate New Jersey operations,” the trucking-focused law firm of Scopelitis said in a blast email. “There appears to be indirect evidence that the intent is that the new higher minimum limits under

this legislation will apply to all commercial vehicles within its scope, whether in interstate or intrastate operations.”

Greg Feary, a partner at Scopelitis, said that “from the four corners of the bill, I can’t see how they’re going to enforce it.”

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