CANADA Daily News and Updates February 7th 2024

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Air Updates

Strike by Ground Staff Set to Disrupt Lufthansa's Cargo Operations

Strike action by ground staff at Lufthansa Cargo is expected to cause significant disruption to freighter operations today.

On Monday, Lufthansa warned customers that labour union ver.di had called on ground staff at Lufthansa and Lufthansa Cargo to strike on Wednesday from 4:00 am CET until Thursday at 7:10 am.

Lufthansa Cargo said: "All German locations are affected, including the Frankfurt and Munich hubs." The German carrier also has facilities at Hamburg, Berlin and Dusseldorf.

The carrier advised customers: "Depending on the strike participation of the employed ground staff, changes in the flight schedule may result. At present, significant cancellations of belly capacities and cargo aircraft are to be expected."

Read more in an article from The Loadstar.

Ocean Updates

BCMEA/ILWU Local 514 Bargaining Update

Further to the appointment of conciliation officers by the Minister of Labour on January 19, the BC Maritime Employers Association (BCMEA) and International Longshore and Warehouse Union Ship and Dock Foremen Local 514 (Local 514) are resuming negotiations this week with the assistance of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services.

Pursuant to the Canada Labour Code, the conciliation officers have a 60-day mandate from the day of appointment (up to March 19). Any extension beyond the 60 days can be made only by mutual consent of the parties. At the end of the conciliation period, a 21-day cooling-off period begins (up to April 9).

Read more in an update from the BC Maritime Employers Association.

Ocean Freight Industry Lagging in Digitization, Report Finds

A new study has found that 40 percent of ocean freight carriers are not using digital solutions to expedite operations. The report, based on a large-scale survey conducted by ODeX, provides in-depth insights into the operational challenges, adoption of digital documentation and the evolving landscape of maritime logistics.

The survey, which garnered responses from a diverse group of industry professionals, revealed the following findings.

Three quarters of respondents experience operational bottlenecks frequently or occasionally, with 50 percent citing documentation issues as a major challenge. The most common issues included delays, errors and difficulties in obtaining originals. Approximately 30 percent cited logistical challenges such as blank sailings and roll overs as significant bottlenecks. Around 20 percent of participants pointed out delays and complexities related to customs and regulatory compliance.

Read more in an <u>article from Inside Logistics</u>.

Rail and Truck Updates

CPKC Customer Advisory: Line Clear – Brooks Subdivision

A track outage on the Brooks Subdivision, southeast of Calgary, is now clear. Customers may experience near-term delays of up to 24 hours (sent at 12:40 pm ET on Tuesday).