CANADA Daily News and Updates July 19th 2024

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- Trade Associations Urge 'Uncontactable' IATA to Play Fair Over CASS
- Cargo Logjam at Dhaka Airport as Clearing and Forwarding Agents Strike

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Trade Associations Urge 'Uncontactable' IATA to Play Fair Over CASS

Industry associations have joined the attack on IATA's "potentially ruinous" financial security requirements for companies wishing to become CASS associates.

Forwarders that have failed to get satisfactory responses from IATA have turned to TIACA and FIATA to help, as well as national competition authorities.

Glyn Hughes, secretary general of TIACA, said he was concerned that the IATA process was unfair, and could harm industry growth.

Turgut Erkeskin, FIATA president, said: "It's evident that SME freight forwarders are facing challenges due to the new financial security guarantees introduced by IATA."

Read more in an article from The Loadstar.

Cargo Logjam at Dhaka Airport as Clearing and Forwarding Agents Strike

Over 1,500 tonnes of export-import cargo is waiting at Dhaka Airport in Bangladesh, following a three-day strike by clearing and forwarding (C&F) agents protesting against the introduction of an express delivery system.

The customs authority introduced a new rule on June 6 allowing courier services to assess cargo weighing below 30kg themselves, which helped importers receive cargo within two days – which also allowed for faster exports – but meant C&F agents lost business.

Shipments handled by C&F agents are slower; importers must wait around a week for their cargo, resulting in factories being forced to delay production.

The C&F agents temporarily suspended the strike on Tuesday, but warned they would strike again next Monday unless a memorandum of understanding facilitating their business is signed by Sunday.

Boxes have piled up at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA), exacerbated by a government holiday following the strike, meaning cargo was not delivered for four days. Stakeholders say it will take at least a week to clear the backlog.

Read more in an <u>article from The Loadstar</u>.