

CANADA Daily News and Updates September 16th 2024

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- WestJet Adopts New Business Model for Freighter Aircraft

Ocean Updates

- Ocean Freight Rates Continue to Tumble as Peak Comes to an Early End

Air Updates

Air Canada and ALPA Reach Tentative Agreement on a New Four-Year Contract

Air Canada on Sunday said it has reached a tentative, four-year collective agreement with the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA), representing more than 5,200 pilots at Air Canada and Air Canada Rouge.

Terms of the new agreement will remain confidential pending a ratification vote by the membership, expected to be completed over the next month, and approval by the Air Canada Board of Directors.

Read more in a [press release from Air Canada](#).

WestJet Adopts New Business Model for Freighter Aircraft

Canadian airline WestJet has pivoted to offering other airlines and logistics companies the option of chartering its small fleet of Boeing 737-800 cargo jets to move goods after recently discontinuing scheduled cargo service because of weak demand.

WestJet Cargo on Tuesday issued a news release promoting its charter service in North America and Latin America utilizing Boeing 737-800 converted freighters. The cargo division said it introduced charter service in the fourth quarter of 2023, but this is the first time there has been any public announcement about freighter aircraft being available for long-term rental.

The announcement said WestJet's cargo division has completed more than 40 charter flights since the product's inception. Most of those flights are being conducted by two 737-800 freighters running between Montreal or Toronto and Orlando, Florida, according to data on flight tracking site Flightradar24.

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

Ocean Updates

Ocean Freight Rates Continue to Tumble as Peak Comes to an Early End

Spot freight rates on every major container lane continued to tumble last week as demand remained flat, while a possible short-term pre-Golden Week upsurge has so far failed to materialize.

Golden Week begins on October 1 and the week-long public holiday sees work stop across China – in previous years there has often been a spike in demand over the fortnight before it begins.

However, it would appear shippers have more pressing issues, particularly the growing probability of a strike on the U.S. east and Gulf coasts, which would explain last week's dramatic collapse in Asia-North America east coast spot rates as their window to get import cargo into the east coast before October 1 has now disappeared.

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