

# CANADA Daily News and Updates October 30th 2024

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## Air Updates

### IATA to Offer Digital Currencies in Financial Settlement Systems

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) will offer digital currencies in the financial settlement systems it operates for the aviation industry.

The first digital currency to be offered is the digital Renminbi, which will be available in the China Billing and Settlement Plan (BSP) by the end of 2024. “China is one of the most advanced countries in the world in the adoption of digital currency. Recognizing the trend, IATA’s China Airline Committee requested for the digital Renminbi to be included in the BSP. This is an important development and IATA will accommodate the digital Renminbi by year-end,” said Muhammad Albakri, IATA’s Senior Vice President for Financial Settlement and Distribution Services.

IATA is also examining the potential to offer other digital currencies in its settlement systems based on the needs and requirements of the industry. “The experience gained in introducing the digital Renminbi will help IATA in onboarding other digital currencies in the future,” said Albakri.

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

## Ocean Updates

### Port of Montreal Labour Negotiations Update

The Maritime Employers Association (MEA) has asked Minister of Labour Steven MacKinnon to appoint a special mediator to break the deadlock between the MEA and the Longshoremen's Union.

The MEA is concerned about operational upheavals expected from the union's unlimited general strike at the Viau and Maisonneuve terminals starting on Thursday, and the financial impacts they will have.

Read more in an [update from the MEA](#).

## Rail Updates

### Unifor Files for Conciliation in Contract Talks with Canadian Pacific Kansas City

The union that represents mechanics and labourers at Canadian Pacific Kansas City Ltd. has filed for conciliation in its contract talks with the railway company.

Unifor, which represents more than 1,200 mechanics, labourers, diesel service attendants and mechanical support staff at Calgary-based CPKC, said Tuesday its negotiations with the railway are at an impasse.

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

## International Business/Government

### Four Arrested in Poland Following Claims Russia Shipped Explosive Parcels

Poland has arrested four people on allegations of endangering DHL freighters and crew, as concerns deepen over suspected Russian efforts to plant explosives in EU supply chains. Poland openly accused the Russian security services of being behind recent activity and closed Russia's consulate in Poznan.

Citing investigators, *Cargo Forwarder* claimed that the suspects belong to a group allegedly sending packages containing dangerous materials, including hidden explosives, to fake recipients in the EU, Canada, the UK and the U.S. It further alleged the packages had been prepared so they ignite autonomously or explode while airborne or being trucked.

The arrests follow warnings last month from German officials to European logistics companies to be on the lookout for “unconventional incendiary devices” being sent via freight, after DHL packages caught fire at hubs in Birmingham and Leipzig in July.

In alleging Russian state involvement in the attacks, Poland has made public what many have suspected for months, with all the parcels involved having purportedly been sent from Baltic countries, one source citing Lithuania.

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