

REGIONAL LOGISTICS UPDATES – NORTH AMERICA

Last update: 25 September 2020 at 05:00pm GMT+1

DOMESTIC TRUCKING

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- California will aim to halt sales of new gasoline-powered passenger cars and trucks by 2035, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced Sept. 23, a move he says would cut greenhouse gas emissions by 35% in the nation's most populous state. The proposed rule would not ban people from owning gas-powered cars or selling them on the used car market. But it would end the sales of all new gasoline-powered passenger cars and trucks in the state of nearly 40 million people. "Pull away from the gas pumps," Newsom said. "Let us no longer be victims of geopolitical dictators that manipulate global supply chains and global markets."
 - Trucking and technology trade organizations said an interim rule requiring federal government contractors to locate and purge telecommunications equipment made by five Chinese companies is confusing and fails to give them time to complete searching their operations. Most said they support the goals of the interim rule, a requirement included in Sec. 889 of the fiscal 2019 Defense Authorization bill. But they said they don't understand some of the terms of the provision aimed at eliminating potential national security threats contained in Chinese systems, ranging from cameras and cellphones to GPS products and computer routers.

BERTLING USA AIRFREIGHT UPDATE

Airfreight Update

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- IL-76 and An-124 October charter aircraft slots have openings and the sector continues trending towards a normal demand pattern.
 - Saudia Cargo has increased its cargo capacity across its network with the addition of a Boeing 747-400F freighter, bringing the total number of aircraft in its fleet to seven (four Boeing 777 and three Boeing 747-400F). The company said the aircraft, which started operations this month, is helping to meet the surge in demand for medical supplies as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.
 - EL AL has further expanded its cargo operations through a new service to Dubai and also by entering into a new partnership with CargoJetX on operations between Europe, Asia and the US. The new Dubai service, operated by an Atlas Air B747F, will run on a weekly basis as part of the Tel Aviv-headquartered airline's Liege operation.
 - Cargolux has added Shenzhen to its network as it looks to strengthen its presence in China. The freighter operator said the weekly frequency is routed Luxembourg-Bangkok-Shenzhen before returning westbound to Luxembourg via Bangkok with an additional stopover in Budapest. Shenzhen is Cargolux's sixth destination in mainland China.

- Cathay Pacific will move about 40% of its fleet to long-term storage locations overseas, as it adjusts downwards its forecasted capacity for the coming months. In its monthly traffic results for August, Cathay confirmed that it is parking a significant number of aircraft overseas, given that it “will be operating just a fraction of our services in the foreseeable future”. This is an upward adjustment of earlier figures of about a third of the Cathay fleet, which was disclosed during its earnings briefing in August. The carrier said then that a first batch of aircraft was being moved to Alice Springs, and that it was in discussions with other locations at the same time. Cathay group chairman Patrick Healy added that the move was a “prudent asset-management decision that is necessary to ensure that the condition and value of our aircraft are maintained while they are not flying”.
- LATAM Cargo has increased its flight frequencies between Colombia and the US in response to increased demand — in particular for flower exports. The carrier has upped its number of flights between Bogota and Miami from 14 to 17 per week. These flights are in addition to the five weekly services from Medellin to Miami, which LATAM Cargo is maintaining. Therefore, in total, the carrier is now operating 22 weekly flights between Columbia and the US.
- Korean Air has begun cargo operations with a freight-optimized Boeing 777-300ER, after it received regulatory approval to modify the popular wide body. The aircraft, registered HL8208, operated its first cargo flight on 8 September, from Seoul Incheon to Columbus, Ohio in the US. The carrier said that Columbus is “an emerging cargo base” for American clothing and logistics companies. “Korean Air is meeting the demand for items such as automobile parts, electronic devices and garments,” it added.
- Other airlines, as previously reported, continue to offer cargo only transport via passenger aircraft
- Freighter services continue to be affected by ground handling/country specific issues on a case by case basis.
- Air freight rates and space availability continue to be volatile and need to be checked on a case by case basis



OCEAN FREIGHT – TEXAS PORTS

Texas ports: No known closures due to COVID-19. All ports are continuing normal operations.

- [Port Houston](#) (public docks): Port Condition Recovery
- [Galveston Wharves at the Port of Galveston](#) : Port Condition Recovery
- [Port of Corpus Christi](#)
- [Port of Brownsville](#)
- [Port Freeport](#) : Port Condition Recovery
- [Port of Port Arthur](#)
- [Port of Beaumont](#)

 OCEAN FREIGHT – OTHER PORTS

Other ports: No known closures due to COVID-19. All ports are continuing normal operations.

- [Port of New York & New Jersey](#)
- [Port of Los Angeles](#)
- [Port of Long Beach](#)
- [South Carolina Ports](#)
- [Georgia Ports Authority](#)
- [Port of New Orleans \(Port NOLA\)](#)
- [Port of South Louisiana](#)
- [Port of Mobile](#)
- [Port of Virginia](#)
- [Port of Baltimore](#)
- [Jacksonville Port Authority \(JAXPORT\)](#)

FEDERAL/STATE/AGENCY UPDATES

- IMO's Maritime Safety Committee adopted a resolution on [Recommended action to facilitate ship crew change, access to medical care and seafarer travel during the COVID-19 pandemic](#), which urges specific action to address the issue, including designating seafarers as key workers with access to the necessary safe travel arrangements. More than 300,000 seafarers are currently stranded on board ships, with some now having been working for more than 17 months at sea, without a break. A further 300,000 workers are unable to join ships and potentially face unemployment due to Government-imposed travel restrictions and quarantine measures in different parts of the world.

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