

REGIONAL LOGISTICS UPDATES – SOUTH AMERICA

Last update: 8 September 2020 at 09:00am GMT+1

Chile

Our office Chile was reopened gradually on 7 September 2020 for a reduced group of employees to return to work from the office for a few hours during the day. This measure will be closely monitored and regularly evaluated.

Even though the preventive quarantine was released for several locations in Santiago, allowing people to travel between locations, the health department keeps urging for the importance of social distancing and leaving home only for important/urgent matters. Protective masks still must be worn at all public sites. For all other locations, cities and neighborhoods in Chile mandatory quarantine remains unchanged.

The Bertling Chile team remains fully operational with access to emails and our systems and available for our clients. We are committed to support our customers and suppliers in the best possible way throughout this difficult situation. Most of our clients are working from home, too.

The nationwide curfew still applies from 11:00pm to 05:00am. This measure is being monitored in line with the development of the number of new coronavirus infections in the country.

AIR FREIGHT



Operating normally, slow but it is normal due to the actual contingency. We were notified that India Airports will remain closed until June 30th, and for shipments coming from Brazil we are facing delays due to lack of space and less people working.

SEA FREIGHT



We had some changes in bookings, rolled cargo and some transshipment delays, but no more than a week. Payments to shipping companies are made via online transfer, operations are usually carried out by email. Trucks are being sanitized at the time of entry ports.

We have faced some blank services which are informed by shipping lines and route service. For FCL shipments shipping lines are announcing about a rate increase from June 15th.

ROAD FREIGHT



In the area of operations, we have only coordinated local road transport request, without problems. Customers have limited working hours. No mayor problems affecting the inland transport. For local pickups Bertling has a special permit which enables us to do the pickups with our own truck without any inconvenience. Despite some restrictive working hours from the supplier's side we have had no problems with the inland transports.

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**PORTS**

All Chilean ports are operating without major impacts or restrictions include to project cargoes, all At the entrance of the ports, temperature controls are being made at the entrance and a series of sanitary safeguards measures have been taken inside the terminal.

Peru

Peru, in a global ranking, currently holds the 6th place in confirmed Covid-19 cases. The nationwide mandatory preventive isolation was lifted on 30 June 2020 in most parts of the country except for six southern districts. As from 17 June 2020, a gradual return to “normality” started with a reduced number of employees to return to office, all being tested negatively on Covid-19.

However, due to an increase of newly confirmed coronavirus cases, we have extended our work from home policy for all our employees until 30 September 2020. Some staff attend the office for specific tasks, but not on a permanent basis. We are monitoring the situation on a daily basis, and if the circumstanced should improve we will allow our employees to safely return to office but in no event it will be prior 30 September 2020.

Most logistics sectors are now working normally with very little restrictions in place.

**AIR FREIGHT**

There are only a few restrictions on cargo flights, which we monitor closely.

**SEA FREIGHT**

No disruptions in the services observed so far. Ports working normally.

**ROAD FREIGHT**

This is where we are facing many restrictions. This situation has opened up new business possibilities, as our customers are requesting us to store the cargo in warehouses near the port area, as trucks cannot reach many of the different areas in the city. Different situation with the heavy haul transport, that have more flexibility from authorities, as usually we are talking of special cargo.

Colombia

Bertling Colombia remains fully operational with all staff working from home and or in the office on split shifts.

**AIR FREIGHT**

International flights are allowed only for freighter flights. Some domestic passenger flights have resumed starting on 1 September 2020.

Currently only freighter flights are operated, e.g. from Colombia to Miami. Flights to New York or Los Angeles are suspended. Therefore any cargo flights to the USA will have to be handled via Miami. Fares have increased by 30% or 40% and are quoted on a case-by-case basis. Priority is

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given to food, medicines, perishable cargo, while the export of certain products (e.g. pharmaceuticals, disinfectants) is prohibited.

Colombia will resume international flights not before 1 September 2020, The Colombian Ministry of Transport announced. When domestic flights will start being operated again is still unsure. Colombia extended its health emergency until 31 August 2020, according to official statements.

Domestic passenger flights will start partially on 1 September 202 while international passenger flights should resume a month later.

SEA FREIGHT

Cargo is being handled according to ship schedule, frequencies, etc, however, the operations in the ports are influenced by control measures upon cargo arrival/departure. Customs processes are slower than usual, as there personnel is limited.

ROAD FREIGHT

At present, the transit of any type of cargo on import and export is permitted. However, there is a shortage in vehicles. Carriers who continue to provide road services have increased their rates as they have to return empty.

PORTS

Port operations decreased by a significant percentage due to prevention measures. Staff attendance is minimal and almost zero. Therefore all loading/unloading operations take longer.

GENERAL

Customs authorities handle specific cargo such as food, perishables and pharmaceuticals with priority.

Brazil

Brazil, in a global ranking, holds the 2nd place as per WHO exceeding the number of 116,000 deaths and 3,600,000 infected people. In some cities like São Paulo the number of newly confirmed cases has stabilized. However, Bertling in Brazil remains fully working from home.

AIR FREIGHT

Operations at the main Brazilian airports (with regards to cargo transports) proceed without significant impacts on import/export shipments. The main impact is caused by the reduction in passenger aircrafts (PAX), which are now also used to transport cargo. Major local airlines operating domestic passenger flights reduced their flight schedules by 30%.

SEA FREIGHT/PORTS

All main Brazilian ports are operating without major impacts or restrictions. This applies for project cargoes as well. The export sea freight market remains impacted with delays in booking confirmations.

ROAD FREIGHT



International road transports are still proceeding albeit the border closures since March 2020. However, there are delays on import/export processes due to Covid-19. Domestic road transports are considered essential and proceed as usual.

GENERAL

Some delays caused by measures against Covid-19 have occurred in all means of transport, but in general with minimal impact, except for booking confirmations for sea freight, which has been delays. Transports, which require inspection by authorities, whether customs or the Ministry of Agriculture, maybe delayed due to staff shortages.

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