



The Chartered  
Institute of Logistics  
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North  
America

Transportation's Top Stories

## Air Transport Updates

### CANADA

#### Minister of Transport announces funding to increase cargo volume capacity and efficiency at the Vancouver International Airport



Source: Inside Logistics

On January 11, 2023, the Minister of Transport, Pablo Rodriguez, announced an investment of up to \$74.3 million under the National Trade Corridors Fund for an expansion at the Vancouver International Airport. This will equip the airport to handle more cargo, as well as improve its facilities and efficiency, and reduce pollution. This project will enable the movement of larger aircraft between cargo facilities and the runway. It will: 1. increase parking space capacity to accommodate four additional widebody freighter aircraft; 2. upgrade an access road; and 3. prepare the site for the construction of a new air cargo warehouse. This project will also support business growth of Canadian carriers, including Air Canada, WestJet and Cargojet. It is estimated that the project will reduce truck travel by up to 229 million kilometres over 30 years because local exporters will not need to transport their products to an airport further away. This will improve highway safety and reduce GHG emissions.

*Minister of Transport announces funding to increase cargo volume capacity and efficiency at the Vancouver International Airport, January*

*11, 2024, [www.tc.gc.ca](http://www.tc.gc.ca); and Vancouver airport getting \$74 million to increase cargo capacity, January 12, 2024, [www.insidelogistics.ca](http://www.insidelogistics.ca)*

#### Minister of Transport announces airport improvements in Whitehorse

On January 12, 2024, the Minister of Transport, Pablo Rodriguez, announced an investment of up to \$186.2 million under the National Trade Corridors Fund for a project that includes major upgrades at the Erik Nielsen Whitehorse International Airport. The airport infrastructure requires improvements to maintain existing essential services such as passenger and charter flights, as well as cargo handling activities. The project consists of four main improvements: 1. upgrading the parallel runway; 2. reconstructing the main runway; 3. replacing the Whitehorse air maintenance facility, and 4. building a new rotary operations (helicopter) area. In addition to upgrading the airport's critical infrastructure, the project aims to enhance safety measures and increase operational capacity to better support Yukon's mining and tourism sectors. The project will also work to increase the airport's resilience against the impacts of climate change.

*Minister of Transport announces airport improvements in Whitehorse, January 12, 2024, [www.tc.gc.ca](http://www.tc.gc.ca)*

#### Cargojet pulls back on aircraft acquisitions

A soft cargo market has prompted Cargojet to revisit its fleet plans through 2025. The carrier is getting out of commitments to buy four Boeing 777 freighters, as well as looking to either sell or lease four Boeing 767 freighters it already owns. "Forecasts continue to indicate that the international air cargo market will remain soft in the short to medium term and deploying B-777s into the market would not be strategically prudent. We have decided to exit our commitments for the four remaining B-777 aircraft, while continuing to flex our B-767 fleet to accommodate our organic growth strategy," said Ajay Virmani,

Cargojet's executive chairman. "Cargojet has substantially completed the operational groundwork to be able to enter the B-777 market should economic conditions change. Cargojet has also retained the rights to provide the optionality for future conversion slots." The measures are designed to hold the line on capital expenditures in order to "deliver strong cashflows and shareholder value," said Pauline Dhillon, co-chief executive officer.

*Cargojet pulls back on aircraft acquisitions, January 15, 2024, [www.insidelogistics.ca](http://www.insidelogistics.ca)*

## ✈ Porter's inaugural flight between Toronto and Los Angeles takes off

Porter Airlines is celebrating the start of daily roundtrip service between Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ) and Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) on January 16, 2024, fostering greater connectivity and cultural exchange between the two vibrant cities. Operating aboard the state-of-the-art Embraer E195-E2 aircraft, this route offers a 132-seat, all-economy configuration with a comfortable two-by-two layout, which means no middle seats for any passenger.

*Porter's inaugural flight between Toronto and Los Angeles takes off, January 16, 2024, [www.flyporter.ca](http://www.flyporter.ca)*

## ✈ Porter Airlines CEO sees potential path to IPO within five years

The top executive of Canada's Porter Airlines said he sees "a future potential path" to an initial public offering within five years, a move that would revive earlier ambitions of listing on public markets. "I don't think it's a next year, or this year, type item," Chief Executive Officer Michael Deluce said on January 18, 2024 in an interview at Bloomberg's Toronto bureau. "It could be in the two- to five-year range." Deluce's comments come nearly 14 years after Porter Airlines tested the waters for an IPO before pulling back on the plans. Porter sought to raise about C\$120 million from a stock sale in May 2010 to expand operations and buy more turboprop planes, but scrapped the effort weeks later amid a slump in Canada's stock market. The privately owned airline is expanding, seeking to fill a void left by WestJet Airlines' decision to pull back in Eastern Canada. It's adding dozens of Embraer E195-E2 aircraft, launching new North American routes, and even developing a new terminal at an existing airport in suburban Montreal.

*Porter Airlines CEO sees potential path to IPO within five years, January 18, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*

## ✈ Aircraft Interiors International.com 2024 Showcase - Second generation Supersonic-Cabin by Jennifer Coutts-Clay, CMILT

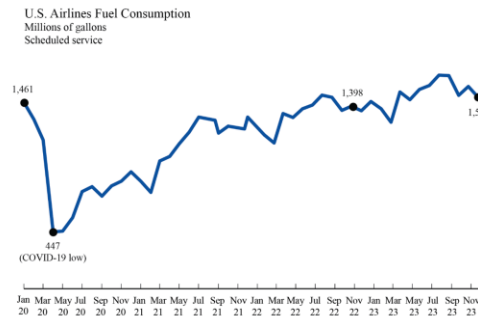
Jennifer Coutts Clay, founder of jetlinercabins.com, looks at the remarkable story that leads to the design of second-generation supersonic aircraft cabins. To read Jennifer's article, please visit:

<https://aii.mydigitalpublication.co.uk/2024-showcase?m=63715&i=813043&p=86&ver=html5>

*Aircraft Interiors International.com 2024 Showcase, January 17, 2024, Aircraft Interiors International Magazine, <https://www.aircraftinteriorsinternational.com/>*

## US/WORLD

## ✈ U.S. Airlines' November 2023 Fuel Cost per Gallon Down 3.4% from October 2023; Aviation Fuel Consumption Up 4.1% from Pre-Pandemic November 2019



Source: BTS

The Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) on January 12, 2024 released U.S. airlines' November 2023 fuel cost and consumption numbers indicating U.S. scheduled service airlines used 1.504 billion gallons of fuel, 5.4% less fuel than in October 2023 (1.589 billion gallons) and 4.1% more than in pre-pandemic November 2019. The cost per gallon of fuel in November 2023 (\$3.01) was down 11 cents (3.4%) from October 2023 (\$3.12) and up \$1.02 (51.5%) from November 2019. Total November 2023 fuel expenditure (\$4.53B) was down 8.6% from October 2023 (\$4.96B) and up 57.8% from pre-pandemic November 2019. Year-over-year changes in fuel consumption and cost for November 2023 include 5.4% increase in domestic fuel consumption, 4.6% decrease in domestic fuel cost, and 9.4% decrease in cost per gallon. Domestic

fuel consumption decreased 5.2% from October 2023 to November 2023, while increasing 3.2% from November 2019. Increased fuel consumption reflects an increase in airline passenger travel over the same period.

*U.S. Airlines' November 2023 Fuel Cost per Gallon Down 3.4% from October 2023; Aviation Fuel Consumption Up 4.1% from Pre-Pandemic November 2019, January 12, 2024, [www.bts.gov](http://www.bts.gov)*

## ✈️ Third Quarter 2023 Average Air Fare Decreases 6.9% from Second Quarter 2023

### U.S. Average Domestic Fares (in comparison to Q3 2023)

From 2Q 2023: ↓ -6.9%  
From 3Q 2022: ↓ -7.1%



Source: BTS

The average U.S. domestic air fare decreased in the third quarter of 2023 to \$368, down 6.9% from the second quarter 2023 inflation-adjusted fare of \$395. Passenger demand decreased in the third quarter to 86.6 million passengers, down from 88.8 million passengers in the second quarter.

*Third Quarter 2023 Average Air Fare Decreases 6.9% from Second Quarter 2023, January 16, 2024, [www.bts.gov](http://www.bts.gov)*

## ✈️ U.S. Cargo and Passenger Airlines Gained 1,809 Jobs in November 2023; Employment Remains 8.8% Above Pre-Pandemic November 2019



Source: BTS

U.S. airline industry (passenger and cargo airlines combined) employment increased to 814,190 workers in November 2023, 1,809 (0.22%) more workers than in October 2023 (812,381) and 66,047 (8.83%) more than in pre-pandemic November 2019 (748,143). U.S. scheduled-service passenger airlines employed 535,914 workers in November 2023 or 66% of the industry-wide total. Passenger airlines added 529 employees in November 2023 for a thirty-first consecutive month of job growth dating back to May 2021. United Air Lines led scheduled passenger carriers, adding 429 employees; Southwest added 309, and Envoy Air added 114. U.S. cargo airlines employed 273,573 workers in November 2023, 34% of the industry total. Cargo carriers gained 1,333 employees in November. FedEx, the leading air cargo employer, increased employment by 1,600 jobs.

*U.S. Cargo and Passenger Airlines Gained 1,809 Jobs in November 2023; Employment Remains 8.8% Above Pre-Pandemic November 2019, January 17, 2024, [www.bts.gov](http://www.bts.gov)*

## ✈️ JetBlue's \$3.8 billion Spirit deal turns into a nightmare



Source: AJOT

It was supposed to be the merger from heaven — or at least, from 30,000 feet. But now, the collapse of the \$3.8 billion deal between JetBlue Airways Corp. and Spirit Airlines Inc. over antitrust concerns leaves the two carriers adrift, upending the low-cost travel sector and tarnishing the legacy of JetBlue's swashbuckling CEO as he heads for the exits. A federal judge's decision to scuttle the buyout means JetBlue will continue to be relegated to second-tier status behind the industry's big four carriers — United Airlines Holdings Inc., American Airlines Group Inc., Delta Air Lines Inc. and Southwest Airlines Co. — which wield unmatched pricing power and command vastly bigger fleets. It also leaves incoming JetBlue Chief Executive Officer Joanna Geraghty, who takes over next month, to pick up the pieces. "It leaves

JetBlue in a very challenging position,” said Samuel Engel, a senior vice president at ICF and former head of the consultant’s aviation group. For Spirit, the consequences appear dire. Its shares were cut in half on January 16, 2024 in their worst loss ever, and they were down another 18% in premarket trading on January 17, 2024. A buyout had represented a lifeline for the beleaguered carrier, which analysts from Melius Research and TD Cowen said may now face the prospect of a bankruptcy filing.

*JetBlue’s \$3.8 billion Spirit deal turns into a nightmare, January 17, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*



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## Rail Transport Updates

### CANADA

#### **CN and Unifor Affiliated CNTL Drivers Reach Tentative Agreement**

CN announced on January 17, 2024 that CNTL, a CN subsidiary dedicated to first and last mile trucking container pickup and deliveries, has reached a tentative agreement with owner-operators affiliated with Unifor. This four-year agreement covers approximately 750 owner-operators under contract with CNTL in Canada until December 31, 2027. Doug MacDonald, Executive Vice-President and Chief Marketing Officer at CN said “We are pleased that CNTL reached an agreement with Unifor and wish to thank the Union for their hard work throughout this process. We believe that this deal is good for the owner-operators and will support business needs, ensuring that they can continue delivering critical first mile and last mile services.”

*CN and Unifor Affiliated CNTL Drivers Reach Tentative Agreement, January 17, 2024, [www.cn.ca](http://www.cn.ca)*

#### **Azure Planning CN-Served Renewable-Fuel Production Facility**

Azure Sustainable Fuels Corp. (Azure) on Jan. 18 reported advancing the development of a Canadian renewable-fuel production facility that will ultimately produce 20,000 barrels per day of predominantly SAF (Sustainable Aviation Fuel). The facility, to be served by CN, is expected to open in 2027.

SAF is considered “an essential component in reducing emissions in Canadian and global aviation, providing a renewable alternative that can reduce emissions by up to 80% relative to the fossil-based jet fuels that the aviation industry is currently reliant upon,” according to Azure, which is based in Calgary, Alberta. “SAF is a certified drop-in replacement fuel for commercial airlines and is already in use today across the globe.”

The company said it is developing three Canadian SAF-focused renewable-fuel production facility sites in parallel “to maximize optionality”; these potential sites are located in British Columbia, Manitoba and Ontario.

*Azure Planning CN-Served Renewable-Fuel Production Facility, January 19, 2024, <https://www.railwayage.com/>*

### US/WORLD

#### **UK train drivers to strike in January and February over pay**

Train drivers across much of the UK will strike again in the coming weeks following a long-running pay dispute between the Aslef union, rail bosses and government ministers. Aslef said on January 15, 2023 that its members would hold a series of walkouts on five separate days from Jan. 30 through Feb. 5, 2024. Each affected rail line will on hit a strike on one of those days, but drivers will also refuse overtime from Jan. 29 through Feb. 6, 2024 which could cause further delays and cancellations. Routes that serve many commuters into London — such as Southeastern, Southern, South Western and Thameslink — face industrial action on the first day of the strikes, Jan. 30, 2024. Aslef argued that it has had no contact from the Department for Transport for a year. “It’s clear they do not want to resolve this dispute,” said Mick Whelan, Aslef’s general secretary. Ministers have previously argued that it’s a matter for rail companies and the union to resolve, and that drivers have already been offered a raise to around £65,000 (\$82,800) per year for a four-day week.

*UK train drivers to strike in January and February over pay, January 16, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*



## FTR: Freight Rail Transitioning to Growth in 2024



Source: Railway Age

The author of this article offers his views on the outlook for railway traffic in the U.S. for 2024. “I have not been this optimistic about seeing real chances for future rail market share growth since about 2018. I became pessimistic during 2019, and then progressively more pessimistic with the oncoming pandemic—not about the financial dip for U.S. freight railroads, but about market share growth. Those are, of course, two different measurements of success or failure. Finally, I’m in the beginning of the plus side view. There are challenges ahead, but with possible solutions at least selectively by market segment and by certain strategic corridors.” Trucking is certainly seeing its own market and growth challenges, but it’s not giving up its market share lead. As railroaders, “never take our eyes off the leader.” There’s still lots of trucking capacity out there, and still a lot of truck drivers. Rail freight can’t gain share by hoping to see trucking stumble in those resource areas. Service robustness and reliability improvement by the railroads themselves are the ways to beat trucking. Let’s keep that in mind. Railway carload traffic volumes ought to significantly increase for specific commodities through 2024.

*FTR: Freight Rail Transitioning to Growth in 2024, January 16, 2024, [www.railwayage.com](http://www.railwayage.com)*

## North American Rail Volume Down Through Week 2, AAR



Source: Railway Age

Through the first two weeks of 2024 (ending Jan. 13), total North American carload and intermodal traffic dipped 1.5% from the same point last year, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported Jan. 17. The U.S. and Canada experienced declines, while Mexico saw a gain. North American rail volume for the first two weeks of this year on 12 reporting U.S., Canadian and Mexican railroads came in at 1,222,708 carloads and intermodal containers and trailers. Cumulative volume in the U.S. was 874,710 carloads and intermodal units, down 1.1% from 2023; in Canada, 295,353 carloads and intermodal units, down 4.9%; and in Mexico, 52,645 carloads and intermodal units, up 16.3%. For the week ending Jan. 13, 2024, U.S. Class I railroads hauled a total of 457,453 carloads and intermodal units, falling 4.1% from the prior-year period, according to the **AAR**. This comprises 213,277 carloads, down 10.2% from 2023, and 244,176 containers and trailers, up 1.9% compared with last year. Canadian railroads reported 86,253 carloads for the week ending Jan. 13, 2024, a 10.8% fall-off, and 64,295 intermodal units, an 8.3% decrease compared with the prior-year period.

*North American Rail Volume Down Through Week 2, AAR, January 17, 2024, [www.railwayage.com](http://www.railwayage.com)*

## CSX leads industry in intermodal customer satisfaction



Source: AJOT

CSX continues to lead the rail industry as the “top performer” in intermodal service, according to a recent survey by the Journal of Commerce (JOC). The survey, conducted between Sept. 1 and Oct. 31, involved shippers and intermodal marketing companies (IMCs). Among the four U.S. Class I railroads, CSX was voted the top performer by 38.8% of respondents, outpacing its closest competitor by more than 14 percentage points. This honor marks the second consecutive JOC survey in which CSX has been recognized for its exceptional performance in this sector, as the rail company also was named the top performer in a similar survey released in May 2023. CSX’s internal measurement for intermodal on-time performance was 99.8% in 2023. “CSX is grateful to all of our customers for their ongoing partnership in ensuring a seamless shipping experience,” said Joe Hinrichs, president and chief executive officer of CSX. “This recognition underscores our team’s commitment to effectively collaborating with customers to provide transparent communication, innovative solutions, and exceptional service.”

*CSX leads industry in intermodal customer satisfaction, January 18, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*



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## Marine Transport Updates

### CANADA

#### Sugar refinery to open at Hamilton port



Source: Inside Logistics

Sucro Can Sourcing LLC, a sugar refiner, plans to build Canada's largest sugar refinery at the Port of Hamilton, Ontario, on lands owned by HOPA Ports (Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority). The new refinery will be the largest in Canada, with an expected future annual refining capacity of one million metric tonnes, representing an estimated investment of \$135 million CAD. "The sugar markets in both Canada and the United States are experiencing steady, long term, sustainable growth, and Sucro is investing to supply these growing market demands," said Jonathan Taylor, founder and CEO of Sucro Sourcing. *Sugar refinery to open at Hamilton port, January 18, 2024, [www.insidelogistics.ca](http://www.insidelogistics.ca)*

#### HOPA and partners launching Hamilton-Montreal intermodal rail service

A direct intermodal rail service between Hamilton and Montreal is on its way, thanks to a partnership between Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority (HOPA), Hamilton Container Terminal and Canadian National Railway.

The new rail terminal and container service, which is expected to dramatically increase supply chain capacity in southern Ontario, will be officially launched Monday at a ceremony at 113 Industrial Drive, located at the northeast corner of Pier 18 at Hamilton's harbour front.

Executives from all three partners in the project, including HOPA CEO Ian Hamilton and Hamilton Container Terminal CEO Amandeep Kaloti, as well as local politicians and other dignitaries, will be on hand at the launch to provide details of the roles each partner will play in the venture.

The launch and press conference will happen from 10 a.m. and noon. Hamilton Container Terminal launched their short sea container service in 2021.

Meanwhile, share prices in Canadian National Railway stock have been soaring in the new year, hitting a 52-week high of \$169.69 a share on Tuesday in anticipation of the launch.

*HOPA and partners launching Hamilton-Montreal intermodal rail service, January 19, 2024, [www.inthehammer.com](http://www.inthehammer.com)*

#### The Government of Canada announces projects to remove abandoned boats from Canadian waters

On January 16, 2023, Patrick Weiler, Member of Parliament for West Vancouver—Sunshine Coast—Sea to Sky Country, on behalf of the Minister of Transport, Pablo Rodriguez announced up to \$1.6 million for eight projects which will assess, remove, and dispose of 34 abandoned and wrecked vessels in Canadian waters. The



organizations that will receive funding are: 1. Salish Sea Industrial Services; 2. Rugged Coast Research Society; 3. Gibsons Marine Transport Ltd.; 4. Freedom Diving Systems Ltd.; 5. Vancouver Fraser Port Authority; and 6. TS'IL SDANG. Abandoned boats in Canada (for example, recreational and small commercial fishing vessels) have economic and environmental impacts on local communities. They can pollute the marine ecosystem, damage infrastructure, interfere with navigation and pose a safety risk to Canadians.

*The Government of Canada announces projects to remove abandoned boats from Canadian waters, January 16, 2024, [www.tc.gc.ca](http://www.tc.gc.ca)*

## **Port of Prince Rupert handles 23.5 million tonnes of cargo in 2023, a 5 percent annual decline**

The Prince Rupert Port Authority (PRPA) announced on January 18, 2024 that 23.5 million tonnes of cargo moved through the Port of Prince Rupert in 2023, five percent less than volumes in 2022. This marks a third consecutive year of volume decline and reflects challenges of shifting global shipping routes, soft demand for imports, and competition with other North American trade gateways for discretionary cargo. However, despite the decline in volumes, significant milestones were reached in 2023 that support the evolution of the trade gateway to become more competitive, resilient, and sustainable in the near and long-term. “The Port of Prince Rupert is at a critical juncture, and we are focused on actively expanding the services, capacity, and capabilities required to strengthen our competitive advantage that trade partners and industry have come to rely on and grow our gateway,” said Shaun Stevenson, President and CEO, Prince Rupert Port Authority. “The 2023 results underscore the importance of the projects already underway to develop large-scale transloading infrastructure and build new energy export facilities. These developments will open a new chapter in intermodal trade at the Port and anchor Canada’s role in global energy security for decades to come.” DP World Prince Rupert’s Fairview Container Terminal saw a 32 percent decrease in volumes in 2023. This significant drop is due to a broader decline in North American intermodal imports and strong competition on Transpacific trade routes. Terminal performance was also impacted by labour action that halted operations for 13 days in Q3.

*Port of Prince Rupert handles 23.5 million tonnes of cargo in 2023, a 5 percent annual decline, January 18, 2024, [www.rupertport.ca](http://www.rupertport.ca)*

## **Cost to jump Panama Canal line just got a whole lot cheaper**



Source: AJOT

The cost for shippers to jump ahead of congestion at the Panama Canal has significantly dropped from multimillion-dollar record highs in recent months, as the backlog of vessels to cross has lessened as tankers avoid the canal altogether. The Panama Canal has reduced its operating daily slots to a third of its usual transit due to ongoing drought conditions exacerbated by El Niño. Losing the freshwater used to operate the canal threatens the country’s drinking-water supply and the dry conditions are expected to last until the start of the rainy season in May or June. As of Jan. 11, the average auction price for Neopanamax slots, which allow for the largest class of tankers permitted to transit the canal, was \$269,000, according to a Panama Canal Authority spokesperson. Vessels carrying liquefied natural gas are included in that class. Panama-based Francisco Torné of shipping agency Waypoint Port Services said the final auction prices are reduced due to the very low number of bidders for the Neopanamax slots. Canal slots had been auctioned as high as nearly \$4 million last November. The decreased demand for the slots is due to vessels diverting away from the Panama Canal using alternate routes. In another waterway critical to trade, escalation of security concerns around the Red Sea and Suez Canal has further disrupted global shipping.

*Cost to jump Panama Canal line just got a whole lot cheaper, January 14, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*

## **US/WORLD**

## Container lines ‘scramble’ to rent more ships amid Red Sea crisis



Source: Freightwaves

Red Sea diversions mean container lines need more ships to carry the same amount of cargo. The security situation — which is even more precarious in the near term due to coalition air strikes in Yemen — has already driven spot container freight rates much higher. Now it is starting to push up the price container lines pay to rent ships. “This week saw a scramble for prompt tonnage,” said MB Shipbrokers (formerly Maersk Broker) in a market report on January 12, 2024, referring to ships that can be chartered immediately. “Owners have certainly become more bullish and are pushing for higher-than-last-done levels in all segments and most regions.” Charter rates are headed higher, “specifically for short periods of three to six months’ duration,” said MB Shipbrokers. Shipbroker Braemar reported Sunday: “Chartering activity [has] further improved. Various prompt vessels across all sizes and regions [are] seeing increased interest. Charter rates as well as periods are witnessing a firming trend.” *Container lines ‘scramble’ to rent more ships amid Red Sea crisis, January 15, 2024, [www.freightwaves.com](http://www.freightwaves.com)*

## Remote and autonomous ship operations driving the future of marine data management



Source: AJOT

Remote, lean crewed, and autonomous ship operations are playing a more extensive role than ever before in the maritime industry. This paradigm shift is not only revolutionizing the way ships are operated but also driving and being driven by significant advancements in data management and data handling. We sat down with a group of industry professionals from Ocean Infinity, a leading maritime technology company, to explore the pivotal role of data in this transformation. From the challenges of data collection and bottlenecks to the power of picking the right data to process at the right time, our conversation provides a snapshot of the driving forces behind the maritime data revolution.

*Remote and autonomous ship operations driving the future of marine data management, January 15, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*

## Port of Los Angeles finishes 2023 with five months of year-over-year growth



Source: AJOT

The Port of Los Angeles closed out 2023 on a strong note, processing 747,335 Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units, 2.5% more than last year. It was the fifth consecutive month of year-over-year gains. The Port finished 2023 handling 8,634,497 TEUs, about 13% less than the prior year. Trade declined in most categories at ports worldwide yet the Port of Los Angeles retained its position as the nation’s busiest container port for the 24th consecutive year. “In 2024, our sights are set on community investment, sustainability progress and capturing additional market share,” said Port of Los Angeles Executive Director Gene Seroka. “To drive cargo, we’re investing in a 10-year, \$2 billion capital improvement program. We’ll also focus on secure technology enhancements to improve efficiency and reduce our carbon footprint. All that leads to additional jobs and the Port’s ability to re-invest more dollars back into our communities.” Last week, Seroka outlined the Port’s priorities for this year. December 2023 loaded imports landed at 369,477 TEUs, an increase of 5% compared to the previous year.

Loaded exports came in at 121,575 TEUs, an increase of 26% compared to 2022. Empty containers totalled 256,283 TEUs, an 8.5% decrease compared to last year.

*Port of Los Angeles finishes 2023 with five months of year-over-year growth, January 16, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*

## Exports increased at the Port of New York and New Jersey in November



Source: AJOT

In November 2023, the Port of New York and New Jersey moved 644,439 TEUs (355,788 containers). This number represents a 10.9 percent decrease over last year's November figure of 723,069 TEUs (400,202 containers) and brings the port's year-through November total to 7,176,126 TEUs (3,976,774 containers). Imports also fell slightly (7.2 percent) in November compared to the previous year, totalling 324,559 TEUs (179,757 containers) versus 349,658 TEUs (194,678 containers). From January through November, imports at the Port of New York and New Jersey reached 3,663,904 TEUs (2,032,469 containers) versus 4,500,840 TEUs (2,493,621 containers) in the same period of 2022, an 18.6 percent decrease. Exports increased by 1.5 percent in November compared to November 2022, totalling 111,743 TEUs (59,906 containers) and 110,111 TEUs (59,530 containers). A total of 1,180,698 TEUs (637,768 containers) were exported through the Port of New York and New Jersey from January through November, a 1.3 percent decrease when compared to the 1,196,204 TEUs (647,928 containers) that moved through the Port in 2022.

*Exports increased at the Port of New York and New Jersey in November, January 16, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*

## Carrix integrates Ceres Terminals into SSA Marine



Source: AJOT

Carrix, a leading marine terminal operator in the U.S. and the Americas, today announced the rebranding of Ceres Terminals (Ceres) as SSA Marine, following Carrix's acquisition of the company. The acquisition, originally announced in September 2023, expands SSA Marine's global footprint as well as its ability to provide unparalleled marine terminal operations and stevedoring services for container, breakbulk, cruise line, and auto customers throughout North America, particularly in the Gulf and Atlantic regions of the U.S. "Adding Ceres' extensive operations and tremendous employees to the SSA Marine family brings new efficiencies to bear for our marine terminal operations in North America," said Uffe Ostergaard, CEO of Carrix. "Operating as one, unified brand will allow us to take advantage of the extensive combined industry experience and shared best practices of both companies in service to our customers." As a result of this integration, the Ceres brand will sunset, and all Ceres operations will take place under the SSA Marine brand.

*Carrix integrates Ceres Terminals into SSA Marine, January 16, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*

## Maersk and Hapag-Lloyd form new partnership



Source: Inside Logistics



Hapag-Lloyd and Maersk have signed an agreement for a new long-term operational collaboration called “Gemini Cooperation”, which will start in February 2025. The new cooperation between Hapag-Lloyd and Maersk will comprise a fleet pool of around 290 vessels with a combined capacity of 3.4 million containers (TEU); Maersk will deploy 60 percent and Hapag-Lloyd 40 percent. It will cover seven trades: Asia/US West Coast, Asia/US East Coast, Asia/Middle East, Asia/Mediterranean, Asia/North Europe, Middle East–India/Europe and Transatlantic. The cooperation will include 26 mainline services. The network will be centered around 12 key hub ports (10 owned and/or controlled terminals and two highly efficient operations in Singapore and Cartagena). An additional 32 dedicated regional shuttle services will connect these key hubs. That includes 14 shuttle services in Europe, four in the Middle East, 13 in Asia and one in the Gulf of Mexico. Hapag-Lloyd will leave THE Alliance end of January 2025. In January 2023, Maersk and MSC announced that the 2M alliance will end in January 2025.

*Maersk and Hapag-Lloyd form new partnership, January 17, 2024, [www.insidelogistics.ca](http://www.insidelogistics.ca)*

to the US, too. Among east-west trade lanes, the biggest weekly increase in percentage terms was Shanghai to Los Angeles, which surged 38% to \$3,860.

*Container rates soar as Red Sea chaos worsens capacity crunch, January 18, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*



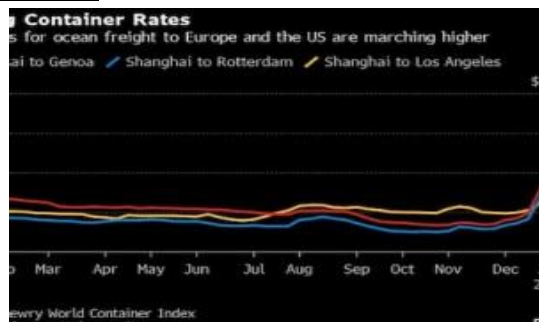
**Port of Corpus Christi customers moved record tonnage through Waterway in 2023, surpassing 200M tons for first time Jan 18, 2024**



Source: AJOT



**Container rates soar as Red Sea chaos worsens capacity crunch**



Source: AJOT

Container shipping rates from Asia to Europe rose for a seventh straight week, reflecting tighter capacity as more vessels avoid the threat of attacks in the Red Sea and take the long way around southern Africa. The spot rate for a 40-foot container going from Shanghai to Genoa, Italy, in the Mediterranean jumped by more than \$1,000 to \$6,282, according to the Drewry World Container Index released January 18, 2024. Seven weeks of gains is the longest advance since the pandemic in 2021. The latest charge for Shanghai to Rotterdam rose 12% to \$4,951, the highest since September 2022. The shipping diversions are affecting the transportation of Asian goods

Port of Corpus Christi customers set a new high mark in annual tonnage during 2023, moving more than 200 million tons of goods through the Corpus Christi Ship Channel for the first time in its history. Port of Corpus Christi customers set a new high mark in annual tonnage during 2023, moving more than 200 million tons of goods through the Corpus Christi Ship Channel for the first time in its history. The 203 million tons moved in 2023 was an 8.1 percent increase from the prior year. The new high mark primarily can be attributed to a jump in crude oil exports to 126.1 million tons in 2023, a 12.5 percent increase compared to 2022. The Port of Corpus Christi also saw a nearly 13.5 percent increase in agricultural commodities to a little over 2.2 million tons, as well as a slight increase in refined products to 42.5 million tons. A record volume of liquefied natural gas (LNG) – 16.3 million tons – moved through the Corpus Christi Ship Channel in 2023, as well. Port of Corpus Christi customers moved 51.8 million tons through the gateway during the fourth quarter of 2023, a 4.4 percent increase from the same period in 2022. The leading commodities during this period were crude oil, refined products and LNG. A record volume of crude oil – 12.2 million tons – moved through the waterway in December 2023, 10.1 percent higher than the prior record set in September 2023. “The reaching of this newest milestone in the Port of Corpus Christi’s lengthy history is a testament to the strength and commitment of our customers, who supply much-needed goods to our trading partners around the world,” said Kent Britton, Chief Executive



Officer for the Port of Corpus Christi. “Closing out 2023 on such a strong note sets the right tone as we go into 2024, which we expect to be another solid year for our customers.”

*Port of Corpus Christi customers moved record tonnage through Waterway in 2023, surpassing 200M tons for first time Jan 18, 2024, January 18, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*



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Transportation's Top Stories

## Road Transport Updates

### CANADA

#### PTTAC aims to standardize truck driver training across Canada



Source: Today's Trucking

Commercial truck driver training businesses have launched the Professional Truck Training Alliance of Canada (PTTAC) with a mandate to standardize and support driver training programs offered in all provinces and territories. PTTAC was founded by chairman Jim Campbell, president and general manager of First-Class Training Centre in Winnipeg, and like-minded stakeholders. The alliance's objectives are to: make commercial truck driving a recognized Red Seal trade in Canada; create nationally approved truck training instructor programs; remove barriers and bring accessibility to funding and tuition for truck driver training programs; and ensure truck training schools are standardized and compliant, provincially and nationally.

PTTAC aims to standardize truck driver training across Canada, *January 15, 2024, [www.todaystrucking.ca](http://www.todaystrucking.ca)*

#### BCTA launches Clean Carrier Program



Source: Today's Trucking

The B.C. Trucking Association (BCTA) launched its eco-certification initiative, the Clean Carrier Program. The program's mission is to acknowledge and certify motor carriers that have committed to environmentally responsible practices, fostering a cleaner and greener future for the trucking industry. The program is a roadmap for carriers dedicated to sustainable operations, BCTA said in a news release. By participating, carriers stand to gain benefits, including enhanced cost efficiency, increased market competitiveness, and strengthened relationships with stakeholders. It offers a platform for carriers to showcase their dedication to environmental responsibility and provides resources to support their journey. In a move toward fostering sustainable supply chains, the program also extends an opportunity to shippers. Through an independent process, shippers can include sustainable hiring practices when contracting a B.C.-based transportation company for goods movement. This program provides shippers with a tool to align their logistics operations with sustainability goals.

*BCTA launches Clean Carrier Program, January 16, 2024, [www.todaystrucking.ca](http://www.todaystrucking.ca)*

### **Revolution Staffing acquires Driver Force**

Revolution Staffing has acquired Driver Force based in Birmingham, Ala. Revolution Staffing supplies professional commercial drivers to private fleets and trucking companies. It collaborates with sister companies Essential Staffing, specializing in direct hire/permanent placement and office staff on a temporary basis, and Help Unlimited, focusing on skilled trades and labor roles in the light industrial market. The consolidated efforts of these three companies will serve clients across North America through dedicated local recruitment teams in Toronto, Montreal, Orlando, and now Birmingham, Revolution announced.

*Revolution Staffing acquires Driver Force, January 17, 2024, [www.insidelogistics.ca](http://www.insidelogistics.ca)*

### **Fleets are committed to EVs, but cost and charging remain challenges**

Major fleets have committed to making at least 30 percent of their new heavy-duty truck purchases zero-emission vehicles, including electric models, by 2030. However, many companies are daunted by the extra upfront cost of electric trucks, as well as challenges like the limited availability of chargers. The benefits of electric trucks, increased availability of more makes and models, investments in charging infrastructure, the rapid improvement of the upfront and long-term economics, and policy incentives all point to a near-term boom in their adoption.

*Fleets are committed to EVs, but cost and charging remain challenges, January 16, 2024, [www.insidelogistics.ca](http://www.insidelogistics.ca)*

## **US/WORLD**

### **Biden-Harris Administration Announces Grants to Upgrade Almost 4,500 Public Electric Vehicle Chargers**

On January 18, 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration today announced it is awarding nearly \$150 million to 24 grant recipients in 20 states to make existing electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure more reliable. The grants will be used to repair or replace nearly 4,500 existing EV charging ports and in some cases, bring them up to code. These targeted investments complement the tens of billions in Federal

and private sector funding that is building out a national EV charging network, and support good paying jobs across the country installing, maintaining, and repairing EV infrastructure. Today's announcement is the latest milestone towards the President's goal of bringing at least 500,000 public EV chargers online by the end of the decade.

*Biden-Harris Administration Announces Grants to Upgrade Almost 4,500 Public Electric Vehicle Chargers, January 18, 2024, [www.dot.gov](http://www.dot.gov)*



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## Other Transport Updates

### CANADA

#### Toronto roads ranked third slowest in the world



Source: Today's Trucking

Toronto was ranked the third slowest city in the world, according to the 2023 TomTom Traffic Index released on January 10, 2024. The survey included 387 cities in 55 countries, which were ranked based on the average time it takes to drive 10 km in the city. While Vancouver ranked 32<sup>nd</sup> on the list, and Winnipeg 93<sup>rd</sup>, Toronto made the Top 3 most congested cities list. According to the report, drivers spend around 29 minutes for a 10-kilometer drive.

*Toronto roads ranked third slowest in the world, January 12, 2024, [www.todaystrucking.ca](http://www.todaystrucking.ca)*





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## Transportation's Top Stories Other CILT News

### CILTNA Ottawa Chapter Pub Social

The CILTNA Ottawa Chapter hopes you can join us as we kick off the New Year with an informal social at the pub. This will be a great opportunity to reconnect with colleagues and friends, and to hear about upcoming Ottawa Chapter events that we have in store for the coming year. Snacks will be provided as well as one drink per guest. We look forward to seeing you there!

Tuesday, 27 February 2024

5 PM – 7 PM

D'Arcy McGee's, 44 Sparks St., Ottawa, ON K1P 5A8

**Cost:** CILTNA Members - No charge  
Non-Members - \$15.00

To register, please visit:

<https://ciltna.com/events/ottawa-chapter-pub-social/>



The CILTNA Ottawa Chapter hopes you can join us on Tuesday, February 27 from 5-7 PM, as we kick off the New Year with an informal social at D'Arcy McGee's at 44 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON. This will be a great opportunity to reconnect with colleagues and friends, and to hear about upcoming Ottawa Chapter events that we have in store for the coming year. Snacks will be provided as well as one drink per guest.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Registration:

CILTNA Members – No charge  
Non-Members – \$15.00

For registration, please visit: <https://ciltna.com/events/ottawa-chapter-pub-social/>

### Job Postings

#### \* **The University of Tennessee in partnership with UT-ORII, have two research faculty positions available: 1) ITS and 2) Traffic Safety**

The University of Tennessee and Oak Ridge National Laboratory founded UT-ORII in 2019 to help the US maintain prominence as a global leader in innovation and discovery, and to create a robust talent pipeline in areas of growing national need and demand. UT-ORII is funded by the Department of Energy and the State of Tennessee.

Details of the job descriptions are provided below.

Research Assistant Professor – Intelligent Transportation System  
<http://apply.interfolio.com/136411>

Research Assistant Professor – Traffic Safety  
<http://apply.interfolio.com/136412>

#### \* **Principal Planner: Freight Planning, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority**

Under the direction of the Director of Freight Planning, the Principal Planner: Freight Planning will be responsible for performing a full range of technical planning, research, analysis, written reports, and outreach activities in the specialized field of freight and goods movement planning. The job requires knowledge of goods movement, the application of tools of analysis, the ability to research freight and related topics and produce reports, as well as the ability of effectively

engage and interact with stakeholders in the public and private sector. To apply, please click here: <https://njit.csod.com/ux/ats/careersite/1/home/requisition/4582?c=njit>

### \* **GLG, looking for consulting experts in various transportation and logistics fields**

We have been approached by GLG, a bona fide professional services organization which provides hourly consulting services, looking for experts in various transportation and logistics fields. These are done over the phone or in a web meeting (not in person). If you would like to be considered as a candidate (GLG typically pay up to \$200/hr. for these 30 minute or 60 minute consultations) for any of these please let Andrew Young know and he will put you in contact with them ([uschapter@ciltna.com](mailto:uschapter@ciltna.com)).

#### **Diesel-to-Electric Battery Repowering | Trains, Trucks, or Boats**

One of our clients, a railcar manufacturer, would like to speak with an expert who is knowledgeable about repowering heavy machinery, such as trains, boats, and trucks. More specifically, they're looking to better understand what it takes to go from diesel to electric battery powered, as well as who the leading suppliers of key components are (e.g., power control systems, inverters, batteries, motors, etc.).

##### Project Questions

- Do you have experience repowering heavy machinery, such as trains, boats, or trucks? If so, please elaborate on your relevant experience below.
- Are you able to discuss the repowering design, specifically what it takes to transition from conventional diesel to electric battery powered?
- Are you knowledgeable about suppliers of key repowering components (e.g., power control systems, inverters, batteries, motors, etc.)? If so, please note which component suppliers you could elaborate on during a call below.

#### **Fleet Management | Market Overview**

One of our clients, a project team at a professional services firm, would like to speak with individuals that have in depth knowledge on the truck fleet management space. Topics of interest include:

- Products offered by truck fleet management companies
- Value chain

- Products
  - Market size, areas for growth, and top players in the space
- Please Note: Our client is working on behalf of a corporation or investment firm. GLG Network Members are not permitted to consult about their current employer(s) or provide any information that may be considered confidential or proprietary to their current or former employers or other third parties.

##### Project Questions

- Can you list what are the main products that a truck fleet management company offers?
- On a scale from 1-5 (1=not able to speak, 5=extremely knowledgeable), how knowledgeable are you on the following topics related to fleet management:
  - Who do you believe are the 3-5 main truck fleet management companies and who has been gaining market share in the last 5 years?
  - Can you speak to what is the average gross margin that fleet management companies generally have combining all products and services? (in %)

#### **Fleet Operations | Fleet Manager Perspective**

One of our clients, a project team at a professional services firm, would like to speak with professionals with fleet management experience across truck, rail, maritime, or aviation fleets.

Please Note: Our client is working on behalf of an Oil & Gas Provider. GLG Network Members are not permitted to consult about their current employer(s) or provide any information that may be considered confidential or proprietary to their current or former employers or other third parties.

##### Project Questions

- Roughly how many vehicles are/were included in your fleet?
- Are you involved in the evaluation and decision-making process for fuel choices and alternative products used in your fleet? Please select which best represent your relevant experience.
  - Are you familiar with fuel alternative products ("green fuel", biofuels, etc.)? Please briefly elaborate on your experience in 1-2 sentences.
  - Can you speak to your preference of fuel vs. fuel alternative products and your rationale? Please briefly elaborate in 1-2 sentences.
  - Could you provide examples of and speak to companies that are selling fuel alternative products in the market today? What are your perceptions of these companies?
  - Can you speak to the fuel alternative products in the market today? What are your perceptions of these products? What has

influenced your perception? Please briefly elaborate on your ability to discuss in 1-2 sentences.

- Could you provide examples of when you have utilized fuel alternatives within your business/at your place of work? What were the advantages? The disadvantages? Please briefly elaborate on your ability to discuss in 1-2 sentences.
- Could you speak to making purchase decisions regarding fuel alternatives? What were your considerations? What ultimately influenced your decision? Please briefly elaborate on your ability to discuss in 1-2 sentences.
- Could you speak to the sources/influences that you consulted during this buying process? Please briefly elaborate on your ability to discuss in 1-2 sentences.
- Does your CURRENT company compete with Oil & Gas Manufacturers.
- Do you have current/recent experience (within 0-2 years) in fleet management across any of the following segments?

### **Freight Brokerage Services | Overview**

One of our clients, an analyst at an investment management firm, would like to speak with a Network Member who can speak on the freight brokerage services space. Topics of discussion include:

The unique dynamics of fresh produce / temperature-controlled shipping

- Defensive actions to take during a brokerage downturn
  - Main drivers of freight brokerage financials
  - Up and coming tech platforms for freight brokerages
- GLG Network Members are not permitted to consult about their current employer(s) or provide any information that may be considered confidential or proprietary to their current or former employers or other third parties.

### **Project Questions**

- Can you speak to the unique dynamics of fresh produce/temperature-controlled shipping? If so, please elaborate on your ability to do so below.
- Have you navigated a downturn at your brokerage? If so, can you speak on the defensive actions that were taken?
- Can you speak on the main drivers of freight brokerage financials? If so, please elaborate in 1-2 sentences on your ability to do so below.
- Can you speak on any emerging tech platforms for freight brokerages? If so, please elaborate on them below.
- Do you have any off-limit topics and/or anything you might be contractually obligated not to discuss regarding this consultation or

space? If so, please briefly elaborate on the topics you are not allowed to discuss.



### **★ Did you know CILTNA now has an X (formerly Twitter) Account?**

Go to: [https://twitter.com/cilt\\_na](https://twitter.com/cilt_na) and Follow Us.



### **★ Did you know CILTNA has a YouTube Channel?**

To view all of our past webinar recordings, please subscribe to our YouTube channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1gRKcOcJ5vohMSRFBjIEFA>

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