



CANADA

✈️ Screened passenger traffic at Canadian airports, January 2024



Source: Statcan

In January 2024, 4.3 million passengers passed through pre-board security screening at checkpoints operated at Canada's eight largest airports, an increase of 10.2% from January 2023. However, January 2024 traffic was 2.6% below the volume in January 2020, pre-COVID-19 pandemic. This was the second straight month in which traffic was below pre-pandemic levels, after having surpassed them for five consecutive months from July to November 2023. In January 2024, other international traffic (outside the United States) was up 17.0% year over year. The number of passengers screened for these international flights, at 1.4 million, was 4.7% higher than the level reported in January 2020, marking the fourth consecutive month in which international traffic exceeded pre-pandemic levels.

Screened passenger traffic at Canadian airports, January 2024, March 1, 2024, www.statcan.gc.ca

✈️ From the runway to the Strip with Porter's inaugural Las Vegas flight

Porter Airlines is celebrating the inauguration of daily roundtrip flights between Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ) and Las Vegas Harry Reid International Airport (LAS) March 5, 2024. Passengers begin their trip in style with Porter's elevated in-flight experience, which includes complimentary beer and wine served in real glassware, free premium snacks, and free WiFi, available to all travellers. Everyone can stream their favourite content or access Porter's inflight entertainment portal on their personal devices. Fresh, healthy meals, pre-mixed cocktails and additional snack options are also available on the new Las Vegas-Toronto Pearson route. Passengers can enjoy these additional features, either as part of PorterReserve all-inclusive fares or for purchase à la carte in PorterClassic. The route is operated by the Embraer E195-E2 aircraft, featuring a 132-seat, all-economy, two-by-two configuration. There are no middle seats on any Porter flight.

From the runway to the Strip with Porter's inaugural Las Vegas flight, March 5, 2024, www.flyporter.com

US/WORLD

✈️ Air Travel Consumer Report: December 2023, Full Year 2023 Numbers

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) on March 1, 2024 released its Air Travel Consumer Report (ATCR) on airline operational data compiled for the month of December 2023 and calendar year 2023 for on-time performance, mishandled baggage, mishandled wheelchairs and scooters, and oversales. In 2023, airline service quality generally improved. Notably, only 1.29% of flights were cancelled across the 10 largest U.S. airlines, far below the 2.71%

cancellation rate for 2022, 1.76% for 2021, 5.99% for 2020, and 1.90% for 2019. Across the National Airspace System, the 2023 cancellation rate was under 1.2% – the lowest in over a decade. Meanwhile, airlines reported better on-time performance. Further, the rate of wheelchair, scooter, and baggage mishandlings as well as denied boardings all decreased, as did the number of tarmac delays.

Air Travel Consumer Report: December 2023, Full Year 2023 Numbers, March 1, 2024, www.dot.gov

Kuehne+Nagel operating profit cut 50% in 2023



Source: Freightwaves

Global logistics powerhouse Kuehne+Nagel suffered substantial revenue and profit erosion in 2023, including the final quarter, as excess air and ocean capacity combined with a post-COVID slow down in trade lowered rate levels, hurting bottom lines across the freight transportation sector. Executives said they are seeing some stabilization in demand, but don't expect a huge improvement this year. In conjunction with Friday's (March 1, 2024) quarterly results, Kuehne+Nagel announced an agreement to acquire City Zone Express, a Malaysia-based trucking company that operates across borders throughout Southeast Asia. The motor carrier has 260 vehicles, 500 employees and 860,000 square feet of warehouse space. Completion of the deal is expected later this year.

Kuehne+Nagel operating profit cut 50% in 2023, March 1, 2024, www.freightwaves.com

Air Cargo Demand up 18.4% in January



Source: IATA

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for January 2024 global air cargo markets indicating a strong start to 2024. Total demand, measured in cargo tonne-kilometers (CTKs), increased by 18.4% compared to January 2023 levels (19.8% for international operations). This significant upturn marks the highest annual growth in cargo tonne-kilometers since the summer season of 2021. Capacity, measured in available cargo tonne-kilometres (ACTKs), was up 14.6% compared to January 2023 (18.2% for international operations). This was largely related to the growth in belly capacity. International belly capacity rose 25.8% year-on-year (YoY) on the strength of passenger markets. "Air cargo demand was up 18.4% year-on-year in January. This is a strong start to the year. In particular, the booming e-commerce sector is continuing to help air cargo demand to trend above growth in both trade and production since the last quarter of 2023. The counterweight to this good news is uncertainty over how China's economic slowdown will unfold. This will be on the minds of air cargo executives meeting in Hong Kong next week for the IATA World Cargo Symposium with an agenda focused on digitalization, efficiency and sustainability," said Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General.

Air Cargo Demand up 18.4% in January, March 5, 2024, www.iata.org

✈️ Passenger Demand Up 16.6% in January

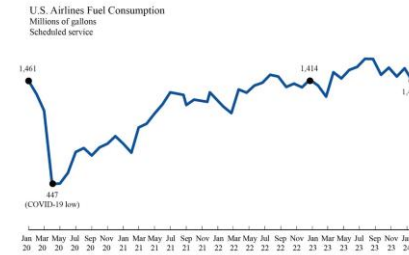


Source: IATA

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for January 2024 global passenger demand indicating a strong start for the year. *Total demand*, measured in revenue passenger kilometers (RPKs), was up 16.6%; total capacity, measured in available seat kilometers (ASK), was up 14.1%; and the load factor was 79.9% (+1.7pt). *International demand* rose 20.8%; capacity was up 20.9% and the load factor remained at 79.7% (+0.0pt). *Domestic demand* rose 10.4%; capacity was up 4.6% and the load factor was 80.2% (+4.2pt). “2024 is off to a strong start despite economic and geopolitical uncertainties. As governments look to build prosperity in their economies in the busiest election-year ever, it is critical that they see aviation as a catalyst for growth. Increased taxes and onerous regulation are a counterweight to prosperity. We will be looking to governments for policies that help aviation to reduce costs, improve efficiency and make progress towards net zero CO2 emissions by 2050,” said Willie Walsh, IATA’s Director General.

Passenger Demand Up 16.6% in January, March 6, 2024, www.iata.org

✈️ U.S. Airlines’ January 2024 Fuel Cost per Gallon Down 3.4% from December 2023; Aviation Fuel Consumption Up 2.3% from Pre-Pandemic January 2019



Source: BTS

The Department of Transportation’s Bureau of Transportation Statistics on March 24, 2024 released U.S. airlines’ January 2024 fuel cost and consumption numbers indicating U.S. scheduled service airlines used 1.456 billion gallons of fuel, 8.1% less fuel than in December 2023 (1.584 billion gallons) and 2.3% more than in pre-pandemic January 2019. The cost per gallon of fuel in January 2024 (\$2.70) was down 10 cents (3.4%) from December 2023 (\$2.80) and up \$0.79 (41.5%) from January 2019. Total January 2024 fuel expenditure (\$3.93B) was down 11.2% from December 2023 (\$4.43B) and up 44.7% from pre-pandemic January 2019. Year-over-year changes in fuel consumption and cost for January 2024 include 1.8% decrease in domestic fuel consumption, 19.5% decrease in domestic fuel cost, and 18.1% decrease in cost per gallon. Domestic fuel consumption decreased 9.7% from December 2023 to January 2024, while increasing 0.8% from January 2019. Increased fuel consumption reflects an increase in airline passenger travel over the same period.

U.S. Airlines’ January 2024 Fuel Cost per Gallon Down 3.4% from December 2023; Aviation Fuel Consumption Up 2.3% from Pre-Pandemic January 2019, March 8, 2024, www.bts.gov



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Rail Transport Updates

CANADA

Federal Minister of Labour Has Appointed Conciliators

As part of the collective bargaining process, the Federal Minister of Labour has appointed a conciliator to help CN and the TCRC reach a negotiated agreement. CN recognizes TCRC's efforts in negotiating the terms of the contract that expired on December 31, 2023. However, with recent regulatory changes challenging crew availability, along with an evolving workforce coming in, the terms of that contract are no longer meeting the needs of our customers, and many of our employees. The Company remains committed to achieving a settlement that is good for our employees and customers – one that enhances our team members' health and safety, work experience, work-life balance and addresses employee availability.

Federal Minister of Labour Has Appointed Conciliators, March 1, 2024, www.cn.ca

CN Reaches New Tentative Collective Agreement with United Steelworkers

CN announced March 1, 2024 that a new tentative three-year collective agreement has been reached with the United Steelworkers (USW) Local 2004. USW represents approximately 2,500 track and bridge employees at CN, primarily responsible for track maintenance across Canada. No details of the tentative agreement will be released publicly until the agreement is ratified. The current collective agreement expired on December 31st, 2023. For more information on United Steelworkers, visit their website at www.usw.ca.

CN Reaches New Tentative Collective Agreement with United Steelworkers, March 1, 2024, www.cn.ca

The Milton Logistics Hub is Critical to North American Supply Chains

A Federal Court decision has nixed Ottawa's approval of a massive rail-and-truck hub in the Greater Toronto Area. The Ruling states Ottawa failed to grapple whether the proposed facility will have harmful effect on human health. CN is reiterating its commitment to the Milton Logistics Hub, while still reviewing a Federal court's decision related to the Milton Logistics Hub. The Project is a critical piece of infrastructure in Canada's busiest and fastest growing region, where new capacity is needed to meet the growing demand for goods. The Milton Logistics Hub will not only benefit Ontario, but further strengthen the Canadian economy and its strategic advantages. Authorization to build the Project was subject to Canada's most extensive environmental review process resulting in an approval including 325 conditions designed to protect both the community and the environment.

The Milton Logistics Hub is Critical to North American Supply Chains, March 4, 2024, www.cn.ca; and Federal Court scraps Ottawa's approval for CN Rail hub in Ontario, March 4, 2024, www.financialpost.ca

Transport Canada to Invest More Than C\$13.5MM Through Rail Safety Improvement Program



Source: Railway Age

"The projects we're funding in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Areas and across Ontario will keep our communities safe and our railway systems efficient," said Minister of Transport Pablo Rodriguez. Transport Canada on March 7 announced an investment of more than C\$13.5 million to support 112 projects in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Areas and other regions in Ontario, through the Rail Safety Improvement Program. Minister of Transport Pablo Rodriguez and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship and Member of Parliament for Markham—Unionville, Paul Chiang, attended the announcement on March 7, 2024 at the historic former Unionville train station in Markham. The Rail Safety Improvement Program, which was created in 2016, "provides funds for projects that aim to improve rail safety at grade crossings and along rail lines." It also provides "investments in rail infrastructure, helps address climate change resiliency, supports innovative solutions through research studies and new technology pilot projects, and helps educate Canadians on railway safety through outreach and awareness initiatives," according to [Transport Canada](#).

Transport Canada to Invest More Than C\$13.5MM Through Rail Safety Improvement Program, March 7, 2024, www.railwayage.com

US/WORLD

Norfolk Southern, Florida East Coast Railway further expand intermodal service for customers



Source: AJOT

Norfolk Southern Corporation and Florida East Coast Railway (FEC) announced on March 5, 2024 an expansion of their international and domestic interline services. The Florida Express service, which is already being leveraged by anchor customer, Crowley, creates a two-way transportation solution for customers moving goods between South Florida and Charlotte, North Carolina. "We are focused on providing reliable service and generating smart, sustainable growth opportunities for our customers," said Norfolk Southern Chief Marketing Officer Ed Elkins. "This new, two-way transportation solution between Western North Carolina and South Florida accomplishes both

goals, and we look forward to helping our domestic and international customers unlock the value of this service."

Norfolk Southern, Florida East Coast Railway further expand intermodal service for customers, March 5, 2024, www.ajot.com

AAR reports weekly rail traffic for February & the week ending March 2, 2024



Source: Railway Age

U.S. railroads originated 885,548 carloads in February 2024, down 1.3 percent, or 11,410 carloads, from February 2023. U.S. railroads also originated 1,040,312 containers and trailers in February 2024, up 10.9 percent, or 102,140 units, from the same month last year. Combined U.S. carload and intermodal originations in February 2024 were 1,925,860, up 4.9 percent, or 90,730 carloads and intermodal units from February 2023. In February 2024, 13 of the 20 carload commodity categories tracked by the AAR each month saw carload gains compared with February 2023. These included: motor vehicles & parts, up 6,777 carloads or 12.3 percent; chemicals, up 6,522 carloads or 5.1 percent; and grain, up 4,971 carloads or 6.3 percent. Commodities that saw declines in February 2024 from February 2023 included: coal, down 31,912 carloads or 11.7 percent; crushed stone, sand & gravel, down 8,037 carloads or 10.1 percent; and nonmetallic minerals, down 1,467 carloads or 12.7 percent. Canadian railroads reported 89,148 carloads for the week, down 3.6 percent, and 71,183 intermodal units, up 9.2 percent compared with the same week in 2023. For the first nine weeks of 2024, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 1,393,380 carloads, containers and trailers, down 2.3 percent.

AAR reports weekly rail traffic for February & the week ending March 2, 2024, March 6, 2024, www.ajot.com; and [AAR: February Data Shows Elements That 'Inspire Optimism, Call for Caution'](#), March 6, 2024, www.railwayage.com

North American Rail Solutions Acquires West Rail Construction



Source: Railway Age

North American Rail Solutions, a provider of industrial rail inspection, construction, maintenance and terminal services, through its subsidiary, American Track, announced March 4, 2024 that it has acquired West Rail Construction, LLC, in Vancouver, Wash. Led by President Mike Sands, West Rail Construction has been a “key provider of rail maintenance and construction services in the Northwest U.S. for more than 25 years,” and provides services to customers in a wide range of industries, including ports, forestry, chemicals, energy and waste. This acquisition, *North American Rail Solutions* says, provides the company and its subsidiary “the opportunity to expand local presence and service offerings to customers in the Northwest region as well as other areas along the West Coast.”

North American Rail Solutions Acquires West Rail Construction, March 6, 2024, www.railwayage.com



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CANADA

Red Sea and Panama Canal disruptions: 2024 implications for shippers



Source: AJOT

When disruption in the Red Sea co-occurred with ongoing water level challenges in the Panama Canal, shippers were eager to understand immediate supply chain impacts. That uncertainty led many to build contingency plans to address short-term implications. However, due to lower overall demand, those short-term issues have not been as disruptive as many anticipated. Despite this, global and domestic shippers cannot ignore the longer-term cascading impacts that may follow in the coming months. Mike Short, President of Global Forwarding at C.H. Robinson indicates what shippers need to know now about rates, capacity, and the ports as they plan for Q2 through Q4 this year: 1. Capacity Changes May Impact Ocean Rates; 2. Potential Delays In and Out of Ports and Rail Terminals could occur; 3. Selecting the Right Port Will Streamline U.S. Surface Transportation; and 4. Prioritize Disruption Planning in 2024.

Red Sea and Panama Canal disruptions: 2024 implications for shippers, March 4, 2024, www.ajot.com

MC acquires American Pacific Transportation



Source: AJOT

IMC Logistics, the largest marine drayage provider in the nation, has acquired American Pacific Transportation, a leading California-based drayage company. IMC locations are shown in the diagram above. This acquisition further bolsters IMC's position as the industry leader in the U.S. while also significantly increasing the company's position and truck capacity in California and across the West Coast. "As a result of this acquisition, we will have more than 500 trucks in California, signifying our commitment to our customers in this region," says Joel Henry, Chief Executive Officer for IMC. This growth will also result in two new locations for IMC in Lompoc and Calexico, California. "The transition should be seamless," says Henry. "We already have so much in common including 42+ years of dedicated expertise, similar values, a commitment to customer service as our top priority, and an eagerness to provide superior care and capacity for our growing client base."

IMC acquires American Pacific Transportation, March, 2024, www.ajot.com

Jensen sees shift of cargoes back to U.S. West Coast ports



Source: AJOT

Lars Jensen, principal at Vespucci Maritime based in Copenhagen, Denmark, says there is a shift of some East and Gulf Coast cargoes going back to the U.S. West Coast. Jensen spoke to AJOT at the TPM conference taking place at Long Beach, California produced by S&P Global. Jensen said that cargoes were moving back to the West Coast because of uncertainties over ILA labor contracts with East and Gulf Coast ports plus some cargoes that had shifted away from the West Coast due to labor uncertainties are now shifting back after ratification of the contract with West Coast longshore workers. The added factor has been delays at the Panama Canal due to low water related to prolonged drought and attacks against shipping accessing the Suez Canal. Jensen noted that the Red Sea crisis is causing carriers to avoid the Suez Canal and sail around the African continent which has boosted ocean carrier revenues and prevented the idling of vessels. Once the Suez Canal reopens, there will be a decline in carrier revenues. Some of the factors examined were: 1. Shifting Box Volumes Back To West Coast; 2. Panama Canal Prospect; 3. Red Sea Conflict Benefits Ocean Carriers; 4. Suez Canal Impact On Africa; and 5. Trade Shifting Away From China.

Jensen sees shift of cargoes back to U.S. West Coast ports, March 6, 2024, www.ajot.com

SSA Marine and Port of San Diego introduce zero emissions cargo handling equipment

SSA Marine announced on March 6, 2024 that it has put into service the first of six pieces of zero-emissions cargo handling equipment that the company will introduce at the Port of San Diego's Tenth Avenue Marine Terminal over the next 12 to 18 months, while the Port of San Diego has completed the initial installation of the electrical infrastructure needed to support the operation of this equipment. The

first piece of zero-emissions equipment that SSA Marine is putting into operation at the terminal is a 55,000-pound capacity Wiggins Yard eBull battery electric forklift. This large-capacity vehicle is one of the largest zero-emissions heavy-duty forklifts in operation in the United States and can lift up to 25 metric tons. Named "The Carrillo," the electric forklift recognizes the accomplishments of SSA Marine Regional Vice President and San Diego County native Joe Carrillo who facilitated the arrival of the first large-capacity electric forklift fleet in the country, including 26 Wiggins Yard eBull electric forklifts at SSA Marine terminals at the Port of West Sacramento and the Port of Stockton. SSA Marine, one of the world's largest independent marine terminal operators, is a leader in the testing and deployment of low and zero-emissions technologies at marine terminals, and the Wiggins Yard eBull is the industry's first commercialized large capacity, zero-emissions forklift manufactured in the United States.

SSA Marine and Port of San Diego introduce zero emissions cargo handling equipment, March 6, 2024, www.ajot.com

Deadly ship attack means Red Sea voyages need rethink, union says



Source: AJOT

A major transport union urged a full halt of merchant ships sailing through the Red Sea, adding to calls for vessels to reconsider the voyages after a Houthi militant attack killed three sailors. "We call on the industry to divert ships around the Cape of Good Hope until safe transit through the Red Sea can be guaranteed," the International Transport Workers' Federation said in a statement. "No delivery window is worth the loss of seafarers' lives." The ITF lobbies for seafarer rights by acting alongside more than 700 affiliate trade unions. It followed a similar appeal by Nautilus International, one of the world's largest crewing unions earlier on March 7, 2024. Two crew members from the Philippines and another from Vietnam died on March 6, 2024

when the Yemen-based Houthis attacked the bulk commodities vessel True Confidence in the Gulf of Aden. At least two other sailors were injured. The incident marks the first deaths of crew members in the militants' campaign against commercial shipping in one of the world's busiest waterways, and follows the recent sinking of another vessel. It also raises questions about how much risk shipowners are willing to accept while trying to keep their crews and cargoes safe. Most merchant vessels are already avoiding the region by sailing around Africa's Cape of Good Hope.

Deadly ship attack means Red Sea voyages need re-think, union says, March 7, 2024, www.ajot.com



Intermodal Briefs: Port NOLA, Port of Oakland



Source: Railway Age

The Port of New Orleans' (Port NOLA) container-on-barge service sets a new record. Also, Port of Oakland's January container volume continues to rise. Port NOLA marked 20,500 container moves by barge during calendar year, the highest since starting the service in 2016 with the *Port of Greater Baton Rouge* and *Ingram Marine Group*, the Port recently reported. The partnership, Port NOLA says, "represents the largest container-on-barge network in the U.S. with connectivity to the nation's heartland." Container-on-barge moves containers by water rather than by truck on roads to reduce air emissions, moving an average of 30,000 Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) per year between New Orleans, the Port of Greater Baton Rouge, Memphis and St. Louis. "We are poised to expand this service even further in the coming years," said Port NOLA President & CEO, Brandy D. Christian. "This is one more example of Port NOLA working alongside our partners to provide innovative solutions for global supply chain disruptions while simultaneously honoring a commitment to sustainability."

Intermodal Briefs: Port NOLA, Port of Oakland, March 7, 2024, www.railwayage.com



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CANADA

CTA Pre-Budget Spotlight: Ensuring Tax and Labour Compliance



Help Stop Tax
and Labour
Abuse

Source: Ontruck

For over five years, the CTA has been calling on the federal government to combat gross noncompliance, labour abuse, and, in some cases, forced labour in the trucking sector. However, those pleas went unanswered and the abuse has continued to grow exponentially. At the urging of industry, ESDC agreed in 2022 to launch an enforcement pilot project to explore Driver Inc. misclassification in Ontario, which, as expected, found widespread gross noncompliance and contravention of the misclassification rules by more than 60% of employers.

CTA Pre-Budget Spotlight: Ensuring Tax and Labour Compliance, March 1, 2024, www.ontruck.ca

CTA Pre-Budget Spotlight: Reducing Interprovincial Trade Barriers Mean Flexibility, Supply Chain Efficiency



Source: Ontruck

CTA has highlighted multiple interprovincial trade barriers in the trucking sector which create supply chain inefficiencies across the country that the federal government could assist within Budget 2024. These were first noted in its in its recent report to the Privy Council of Canada (PCO) in October 2023, with the Government of Canada also initiating a series of discussions groups to identify trade and mobility issues beginning in March. “Financial supports from Budget 2024, whether directly for new infrastructure projects, or enhancements to existing provincial/territorial programs, or increased financial support for existing mechanisms at all levels of government to address trade barriers will undoubtedly strengthen and bring resiliency to the Canadian supply chain” said, Lak Shoan, Director, Policy & Industry Awareness Programs. The recommendations CTA highlighted in its 2024 pre-budget submission are: 1. Aligning and Improving Winter Road Maintenance Standards; 2. Increased Access to Rest Areas for Truck Drivers; 3. The Twinning of Highway 185 in Quebec; 4. LCV Harmonization in the Western Provinces; 5. Oversize/Overweight Sector Issues; 6. Availability of Motor Carrier Information; 7. Developing a System of Oversight/Accountability for

Truck Safety; 8. Spring Weight Restrictions and Road Bans; and 9. Expanding Access to Cell Service.

CTA Pre-Budget Spotlight: Reducing Interprovincial Trade Barriers Mean Flexibility, Supply Chain Efficiency, March 4, 2024, www.ontrruck.ca

B.C. container truckers will see rate increase in July



Source: Today's Trucking

The Office of the British Columbia Container Trucking Commissioner (OBCCTC) has increased the minimum rates for drivers that move drayage containers to and from the Vancouver ports and within the Lower Mainland. As of July 1, 2024, independent owner-operators will see a 3.9% increase in wages, while company drivers will receive a minimum of \$33.66 per hour. The change applies to the drivers with 2,340 hours of experience, while truckers with less than the required hours of experience will receive a \$32.26 per hour rate until they reach 2,340 hours. The increase is based on the average annual increase in the 2023 B.C. Consumer Price Index – which was 3.9% – addressing the continuation of the wage gap correction rate for company drivers, the OBCCTC said in a release. “Regular increases tied to the annual inflation rate would provide certainty and stability for drivers and licensees. This is the second year of the minimum rate adjustment.”

B.C. container truckers will see rate increase in July, March 4, 2024, www.todaysrucking.ca

Morgan Truck Body acquires Laval's Fourgons Transit

Morgan Truck Body has acquired Fourgons Transit, a van manufacturer based in Laval, Que., establishing its 14th production site in North America. We are delighted to welcome Transit's team members and customers to Morgan Truck Body. Transit's expertise and leadership in van manufacturing and customer service in Canada confirms our commitment to providing van innovations to our customers in North America today and for the future, said Corby Stover, president of Morgan Truck Body. Transit has been manufacturing a range of multi-use products for over 45 years,

including multi-use, refrigerated and custom vans. Louis Leclair is president.

Morgan Truck Body acquires Laval's Fourgons Transit, March 8, 2024, www.todaystrucking.ca

Gincor Werx buys Wiltsie Truck Bodies



Source: Today's Trucking

Gincor Werx, based in Newmarket, Ont., has announced it acquired Wiltsie Truck Bodies on Feb. 29, 2024. Wiltsie, located in Aylmer, Ont., offers a line of products including dump trucks, truck bodies, pony trailers and flat decks. Wiltsie also offers parts and service support including truck body repairs, sandblasting and painting, custom fabrication, wheelbase changes, and lift-axle calibrations. “Gincor is proud to carry on the Canadian-owned tradition that Russ Wiltsie and his family have been running for over 60 years,” the company said in a statement.

Gincor Werx buys Wiltsie Truck Bodies, March 5, 2024, www.todaystrucking.ca

Industry could see 40,400 vacancies by 2030, THRC warns



Source: Today's Trucking

Trucking HR Canada projects that 40,400 available jobs could be vacant in 2030 unless the ongoing efforts and support continue. Of

those vacancies, nearly 10,800 are expected to be truck-driving jobs. While current workforce investments and the HR best practices are working, driving the industry's recruitment performance to new heights with significantly more women, youth and immigrants joining the sector, workforce demand continues to outpace supply, said Angela Splinter, CEO of Trucking HR Canada (THRC). Even if all active job seekers in the sector were readily employable in 2030, employers would still have to recruit and train at least 10,300 new workers to meet their labor requirements, says THRC's 2024-2030 labor market outlook report. It was compiled based on the 2023 surveys of 376 employers in Canada, that represent 48,385 drivers.
Industry could see 40,400 vacancies by 2030, THRC warns, March 5, 2024, www.todaystrucking.ca

Government takes Driver Inc. issue “super seriously”: Minister Anand



Source: Today's Trucking

The Driver Inc. issue remains on the federal government's radar and is “on the desks” of the ministers of transportation and labor, said Anita Anand, president of the Treasury Board, speaking to Angela Splinter, CEO of Trucking HR Canada, at the 10th annual Women with Drive leadership summit. “At this point, I can say I'll take that feedback to them, including people clapping when you raised the point with me. I'm certainly in close touch with [Labour] Minister [Seamus] O'Reagan. I know he's taking it super seriously.” Anand noted the Treasury Board needs to hear industry's feedback on all the processes and procedures in place to create more fluid and resilient supply chains through programs like Let's Talk Federal Regulations.
Government takes Driver Inc. issue “super seriously”: Minister Anand, March 7, 2024, www.todaystrucking.ca



Rockwell Automation buys Otto Motors

Rockwell Automation, Inc. has expanded into autonomous production logistics (APL), through its latest acquisition, OTTO Motors. Otto Motors is a Waterloo, Ontario-based manufacturer and innovator of automated material handling equipment. With over five million hours of production experience, OTTO autonomous mobile robots (AMRs) are used in operations by some of the world's most recognized brands. General Electric, Toyota, and Hirotec America, are among its name brand clients. The company has also earned numerous awards for its innovations.

Rockwell Automation buys Otto Motors, March 7, 2024, www.insidelogistics.ca

US/WORLD



Economic Trucking Trends: ‘This downcycle has been the worst one’



Source: Today's Trucking

There's no short-term fix coming to the freight markets, with van and reefer spot market rates continuing to fall while flatbed demand improves. ACT Research brought together industry leaders for a recent seminar, with one saying “This downcycle has been the worst one,” he's ever seen. But ACT also sees some signs for optimism as imports and intermodal trends are pointing to increased trucking demand later this year. Shippers aren't feeling it though. Conditions for them were flat in December 2023 and a recent survey indicated their expectations going forward are muted. ACT Research reported in its latest *Freight Forecast, U.S. Rate and Volume Outlook* report that rising imports and intermodal trends are pointing to a trucking recovery later this year.

Economic Trucking Trends: ‘This downcycle has been the worst one’, March 1, 2024, www.todaystrucking.ca



Biden-Harris Administration Opens Applications for Over \$180 Million in Safety Grants for Commercial Motor Vehicles

On, March 4, 2024, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) announced the availability of more than \$180 million in grants to promote roadway safety. These grants, part of the funding included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, are open to state, territorial, and tribal organizations, local jurisdictions, academic institutions, and other training programs and entities to promote commercial motor vehicle (CMV) safety-related activities. "When we improve technology, training, and tools to make our roadways safer for truck and bus drivers, everyone benefits," said U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg. "The Biden-Harris Administration is proud to announce more than \$180 million to make commercial vehicle driving safer and more efficient, while creating onramps for veterans and military families entering these great careers."

Biden-Harris Administration Opens Applications for Over \$180 Million in Safety Grants for Commercial Motor Vehicles, March 4, 2024, www.dot.gov



Border Crossing Data Annual Release 2023

The Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) Border Crossing Data provide summary statistics for inbound crossings at the U.S.-Canada and the U.S.-Mexico border at the port level. Data are available for trucks, trains, containers, buses, personal vehicles, passengers, and pedestrians. Border crossing data are collected at ports of entry by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). The data reflect the number of vehicles, containers, passengers, or pedestrians entering the United States. CBP does not collect comparable data on outbound crossings. Users seeking data on outbound counts may therefore want to review data from individual bridge operators, border state governments, or the Mexican and Canadian governments. The source for data in this release is the Border Crossing data website: <https://data.bts.gov/stories/s/jswi-2e7b>. In 2023, the total number of trucks entering the U.S. from Canada increased 0.6 from 2022. The port of Detroit, Michigan had 1,562,531 incoming trucks, and handled 28.3% of the total volume along the Northern border.

Border Crossing Data Annual Release 2023, March 4, 2024, www.dot.gov



Parts and labor costs fell slightly in the fourth quarter of 2023

The American Trucking Associations' Technology & Maintenance Council and Decisiv Inc. said combined parts and labor expenses fell 1.4% during the fourth quarter of 2023. In the latest Decisiv/TMC North American Service Event Benchmark Report, TMC and Decisiv found that 25 key VMRS systems dipped in the final quarter of 2023, reversing a 2.1% increase the previous quarter. "We are still facing an industry-wide challenge to find technicians, which is increasing labor costs for fleets and service providers. However, quarterly and annual parts cost decreases, driven by a reduction in pricing pressures and the influx of more new trucks, is bringing some welcome relief," said Decisiv President and CEO Dick Hyatt. "With the Decisiv TMC Benchmark Report, TMC members have the parts and labor data they need to better analyze costs and continue implementing practices that will help them gain efficiency and become even more productive." The decrease was driven largely by parts costs, which dropped 2.2% in the fourth quarter of 2023 while labor costs fell 0.2%. While quarter-over-quarter parts and labor costs both declined in the last three months of the year, the parts-to-labor ratio held steady at about 1.5 for the past year. On a year-over-year basis, combined parts and labor costs in final quarter of 2023 were 0.2% higher than the same quarter in 2022. However, in the annual comparison, a 2.2% drop in parts prices was offset by a 4.0% rise in labor costs.

Parts and labor costs fell slightly in the fourth quarter of 2023, March 5, 2024, www.ajot.com



The Chartered
Institute of Logistics
and Transport

North
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Transportation's Top Stories

Other Transport Updates

CANADA

Govt Mandate Rippling Through Supply Chain, Adding Cost and Cuts Productivity: FETCO Study



Source: Ontruck

Absence from work, planned or unplanned, has negative consequences for labour productivity, organizational performance, collective bargaining dynamics and the broader national economy, according to a new study by FETCO, which is comprised of 38 federally regulated organizations, including the Canadian Trucking Alliance. The study points out the statutory requirement for 10 paid sick days has a significant impact on the productivity of the beleaguered supply chain as it faces massive pressure due to labour shortages, supply disruptions and other economic headwinds. The requirement, implemented by federal government in 2022, mandates that all federally regulated employers – including trucking and other critical service sectors such as air, rail, marine, banking, telecommunications, postal service, atomic energy – to provide 10 paid sick days. These days are in addition to mandated three paid and two unpaid days that were introduced in 2019. Overall, 15 leave days and 13 paid leave days were provided to all workers in these and other sectors in just a few short years.

Govt Mandate Rippling Through Supply Chain, Adding Cost and Cuts Productivity: FETCO Study, March 6, 2024, www.ontruck.ca

Canadian international merchandise trade, January 2024



Source: Statcan

In January 2024, Canada's merchandise imports decreased 3.8%, while exports fell 1.7%. As a result, Canada's merchandise trade balance changed position for a second consecutive month, moving from a deficit of \$863 million in December 2023 to a surplus of \$496 million in January 2024. The January 2024 surplus is close to the typical bounds for monthly revisions to imports and exports. Total imports decreased 3.8% in January to \$61.8 billion, the lowest level since February 2022. Overall, 7 of the 11 product sections were down. On a year-over-year basis, imports were down 6.0% in January 2024. In real (or volume) terms, total imports fell 4.1% in January compared with the previous month.

Canadian international merchandise trade, January 2024, March 7, 2024, www.statcan.gc.ca

US/WORLD

Partnerships key to tackling sustainability hurdles, DTNA's Aufdemberg says



Source: Today's Trucking

Battery electric, hydrogen and diesel are all part of the equation for a cleaner world. Partnerships are the way forward, said Mary Aufdemberg, general manager of product strategy and market development, Daimler Truck North America, during the keynote address that kicked off Green Truck Summit in Indianapolis, Ind. She noted that 30 years ago one truck produced more emissions than 60 trucks produced today. "In the past 15 years the emissions from semitrucks have been reduced by more than 20%, but we want to do more," she said. "With the complexity of vehicle types, customer needs, and ecosystem challenges there's no easy button, but there's a will." Aufdemberg said there are hurdles along the way, the biggest being lack of infrastructure and high cost. She said transformation has an equation, where viable product solutions are multiplied by total cost of ownership parity multiplied by dependable charging infrastructure.

Partnerships key to tackling sustainability hurdles, DTNA's Aufdemberg says, March 6, 2024, www.todaystrucking.ca

Biden-Harris Administration Takes Major Step to Boost Domestic Manufacturing in Transportation, Create Good-Paying American Jobs

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) announced a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on January 7, 2024 to discontinue its general waiver of Buy America requirements for manufactured products used in federal-aid highway projects. In the rulemaking, the agency proposes discontinuing the waiver and creating standards that would apply to manufactured products if the waiver is discontinued. This rulemaking will change outdated policy and bolster American manufacturing while creating good-paying jobs. This proposed rule is a result of the FHWA's review of the general waiver for manufactured products under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's Build America, Buy America (BABA)

Act, which will boost domestic manufacturing, bolster critical supply chains, and support the creation of good-paying union jobs.

Biden-Harris Administration Takes Major Step to Boost Domestic Manufacturing in Transportation, Create Good-Paying American Jobs, January 7, 2024, www.dot.gov



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Transportation's Top Stories Other CILT News

CILT was featured in Metro Magazine this week!

Introducing a Global Organization for Public Transit Professionals by Andrew Young FCILT

To read the full article, please go to: <https://www.metro-magazine.com/10216564/introducing-a-global-organization-for-public-transit-professionals>



The Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority (WDBA) would like your feedback on the issues that affect you and how they can make cross-border travel easier and more efficient. Please take a few minutes to fill out the feedback survey and have your say.

Survey link: <https://forms.gle/E7R6k9QVhhyhHBCd9>

Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) presents the
2024 New York Rail Summit
March 5th – 2:30 pm to 6:30 pm
Location: 666 3rd Avenue, Oculus Room (6th Floor), New York 10017 (5-minute walk from Grand Central Station)
CILT Members: No charge | Non-Members: \$25.00
**** Refreshments provided ****
Capacity is limited – register now to avoid disappointment at <https://ciltna.com/events/2024-new-york-rail-summit/>

Moderated by: Andrew Young FCILT
Director, Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport North America

Chad Scholes, Executive Director
Continuous Improvement, Metro North Rail Road
The Laser Train and other efficiency initiatives at Metro North

James P. Bonner, President New York & Atlantic Railway Company
On Shared Rails: The Complexities of Freight Operations Amidst Passenger Priorities

Graham Beal, Director Project and Program Management, Network Rail Consulting
Rail Decarbonization

Michael J. Shiffer, Ph.D.
Senior VP, Regional Planning, NY Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Planning for a Dynamic Future

Event Sponsors: CILT, Network Rail, TRACSIS, WIRONIX

Join us for informative and interactive presentations on a range of topics concerning rail in New York. A unique opportunity to hear from four leaders at the heart of the city's rail industry. Opportunity to network with fellow rail professionals in the city.

For sponsorship opportunities contact admin@ciltna.com referencing "NY Rail Summit"

Thank you to all who attended and presented at the 2024 New York Rail Summit on March 5. The event was well attended with a wonderful group discussing a wide range of topics relevant to passenger and freight rail/transit in New York and the wider North East US. This was a very successful event!

Job Postings

* Economist Policy Analysis

If you hold postgraduate studies in economics, business or a related discipline and have at least 5 years of experience in developing/assessing economic policy and regulation in either a government or commercial environment you may want to consider this position at IATA's Sustainability & Economics division. The objective is to provide our airline members with the sustainability and economic analyses, tools, and support to allow them to meet present and measure themselves against the overall industry's performance.

We work with airlines, regulators, and civil society to develop and implement policies, standards, and solutions that support the sustainable development of air transport and mitigate its impact on the environment.

Learn more about the responsibilities, necessary skills and location of this [role](#).

* **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).

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.



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Go to: https://twitter.com/cilt_na and Follow Us.



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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1gRkCocJ5vohMSRFBjIEFA>

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