

### Transportation's Top Stories

### Air Transport Updates

#### **CANADA**

WestJet acquires Shell Aviation's first Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) available for purchase in Canada



Source: WestJet

WestJet on April 19, 2024 announced that it has purchased the first Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) supplied in Canada by Shell Aviation, marking another milestone in WestJet's mission to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, and signifying another step forward in making Canada's aviation industry more sustainable. "WestJet is committed to enhancing our position as a first mover in sustainability technologies. Just as we pioneered advancements in Winglets and drag reduction, WestJet proudly stands as the first airline to acquire SAF by Shell in Canada," said Angela Avery, WestJet Group Executive Vice President and Chief People, Corporate and Sustainability Officer. "Thanks to Shell's world-class fuel supply chain and WestJet's proven track record in sustainability, this first step sets the stage for future collaboration and innovation to encourage investments in this important lever for decarbonization."

WestJet acquires Shell Aviation's first Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) available for purchase in Canada, April 19, 2024, <a href="https://www.westjet.ca">www.westjet.ca</a>

### He Shoots, He Scores! Air Canada Introduces New Sports Channels to Live TV Service Just in Time for the Stanley

Air Canada on April 19, 2024 announced the addition of three new Live TV sports channels to its award-winning in-flight entertainment (IFE) system. Just in time for the start of the Stanley Cup Playoffs, Sportsnet ONE and Sportsnet East are available today, while TVA Sports will be available in May, so Air Canada customers can cheer their favourite hockey team onboard select flights. Just in time for the start of the Stanley Cup Playoffs, Sportsnet ONE and Sportsnet East are available today, while TVA Sports will be available in May.

He Shoots, He Scores! Air Canada Introduces New Sports Channels to Live TV Service Just in Time for the Stanley, April 19, 2024, <a href="https://www.aircanada.ca">www.aircanada.ca</a>

# How to Find the Cheapest Airfare Every Time (It's Genius)



Source: Financial Post

Everyone loves to travel, but most people don't think they can afford it. This clever tool is trying to change that. **Capital One Shopping** finds lower prices on flights, hotels and other travel essentials. From

coupons codes to rewards you can redeem for gift cards, this extension knows almost every frugal hack you can imagine. While you book accommodations on Travelocity, Expedia, OneTravel or pretty much anywhere else, **Capital One Shopping** goes to work in the background to find and try coupon codes. These plane tickets just got \$244 cheaper — and that's without giving up your carry-on or using some "budget" airline. Same airline tickets, just a lower price. Not only does this tool find money-saving coupon codes, but it also compares prices on Amazon. While you shop, it checks hundreds of other sellers to find a lower price. So whether shopping for luggage or the perfect beach vacation outfit, you can get it for less. Last year **Capital One Shopping** saved its customers over \$800 million, and you can install and set it up in seconds (and easily uninstall if you don't like it) so there's no reason not to give it a try right now. The best part? It's **100% free.** 

How to Find the Cheapest Airfare Every Time(It's Genius), April 23, 2024, <u>www.financialpost.ca</u>

WestJet CEO Alexis von Hoensbroech outlines longterm growth plan and vision for Alberta's capital city



Source: WestJet

WestJet on April 24, 2024 provided a comprehensive update on the progress it is making against its targeted growth strategy for Edmonton. Alexis von Hoensbroech, WestJet Group Chief Executive Officer, outlined the airline's strategy and commitments for 2024 and beyond in collaboration with key partners at his first annual address to business and community leaders at the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce. "As the capital city of our home province, we are unwaveringly committed to maintaining and growing our title as Edmonton's leading air carrier, as exhibited by our growing network and track record of fueling Edmonton's economic pipeline through inbound tourism and investment attraction," said von Hoensbroech to a sold-out business audience at the Glenora Club. "The Edmonton community is at the heart of our ambitious growth strategy as we strive to further cement the city's well-

deserved position on the global stage, making it one of the most connected cities of its size in North America." In his remarks, von Hoensbroech summarized WestJet's leading investments in Edmonton and provided an update on the airline's progress in bolstering Edmonton's transborder connectivity and expanding its domestic network. He spelt out WestJet's: 1. Economic growth through transborder connectivity; and 2. Investments for Edmonton at the forefront of WestJet's Western strategy.

WestJet CEO Alexis von Hoensbroech outlines long-term growth plan and vision for Alberta's capital city, April 24, 2024, <a href="www.westjet.ca">www.westjet.ca</a>

### Air Canada Cargo Adds Freighter Service to Chicago

Air Canada and Air Canada Cargo on April 23, 2024 announced the addition of Chicago to its freighter network, starting June 2, 2024. The service will operate three times per week with a Boeing 767 freighter, connecting Air Canada Cargo's global hub in Toronto with its self-handled warehouse operation in Chicago. "We are excited to add Chicago to Air Canada Cargo's robust network, achieved through the strategic use of our freighters and the global reach of Air Canada's extensive passenger network. In Chicago, we also leverage our extensive trucking network to extend our reach, adding to Air Canada Cargo's competitive edge. As a true global combination carrier, adding Chicago further expands on our commitment to provide consistent capacity to our valued customers and respond to the demands of the market," said Jon Turner, Vice President, Cargo at Air Canada.

Air Canada Cargo Adds Freighter Service to Chicago, April 23, 2024, www.aircanada.ca

# Aircraft movement and civil aviation statistics, February 2024



Source: Statcan

In February 2024, aircraft movements at Canada's major and select small airports totalled 389,143, up 15.6% from February 2023. Itinerant movements rose 12.3% year over year to 267,374, while local

movements climbed 23.7% to 121,769. At the same time, major Canadian airlines flew 6.7 million passengers on scheduled and charter services in February 2024, with the passenger load factor at 84.5%.

Aircraft movement and civil aviation statistics, February 2024, April 25, 2024, <a href="https://www.statcan.gc.ca">www.statcan.gc.ca</a>

# Cargo airline Amerijet warns of pilot furloughs amid downsizing



Source: Freightwaves

An Amerijet Boeing 757-200 converted freighter is seen flying over Maho Beach before landing at Princess Juliana International Airport on Saint Maarten, Dutch Caribbean, on Nov. 23, 2023. Amerijet stopped flying its six 757s earlier this year and returned them to leasing companies because there wasn't enough shipping business to keep them filled. Amerijet International plans to furlough a number of pilots in the near future to shore up cash flow after the loss of major contracts with the U.S. Postal Service and other accounts, according to internal company communications. The number of pilots to be suspended depends on how many pilots accept offers to work less. The Miami-based cargo airline says it needs to reduce the pilot roster in line with lower customer demand. "If we do not have enough volunteers or an increase in business, we will be announcing furloughs in late May for a June reduction," said Chief Operating Officer Craig Bentley in an April 23 memo addressed to pilots and obtained by FreightWaves.

Cargo airline Amerijet warns of pilot furloughs amid downsizing, April 25, 2024, <a href="https://www.freightwaves.com">www.freightwaves.com</a>

#### **US/WORLD**

# Biden-Harris Administration Announces Final Rule Requiring Automatic Refunds of Airline Tickets and Ancillary Service Fees

The Biden-Harris Administration on April 23, 2024, announced that the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has issued a final rule that

requires airlines to promptly provide passengers with automatic cash refunds when owed. The new rule makes it easy for passengers to obtain refunds when airlines cancel or significantly change their flights, significantly delay their checked bags, or fail to provide the extra services they purchased. "Passengers deserve to get their money back when an airline owes them - without headaches or haggling," said *U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg*. "Our new rule sets a new standard to require airlines to promptly provide cash refunds to their passengers."

Biden-Harris Administration Announces Final Rule Requiring Automatic Refunds of Airline Tickets and Ancillary Service Fees, April 23, 2024, www.dot.gov

# US Postal Service to migrate air cargo to UPS during summer

The U.S. Postal Service plans to shift daily air cargo volumes to UPS before the contract with FedEx expires in September 2024 to ensure no service interruption for customers heading into the busy holiday shipping season, the agency and company officials said April 23, 2024. UPS' ability to leverage its integrated air-and-ground network and bypass its main sort hub in Louisville, Kentucky, will enable the integrated express carrier to better profit from transporting domestic airmail for the U.S. Postal Service than its predecessor, executives said during an earnings briefing for analysts. Atlanta-based UPS wrested the Postal Service's primary air cargo business from FedEx earlier this month and is working to transition all the first-class mail, Priority Mail and Priority Express volume to its network before the FedEx contract ends Sept. 29, management said.

US Postal Service to migrate air cargo to UPS during summer, April 23, 2024, www.freightwaves.com

# Biden-Harris Administration Announces Final Rule to Protect Consumers from Surprise Airline Junk Fees

The Biden-Harris Administration on April 24, 2024 announced a final rule to protect airline passengers from surprise junk fees when purchasing a ticket. The rule requires airlines and ticket agents to tell consumers upfront what fees they charge for a first or second checked bag, a carry-on bag, and for cancelling or changing a reservation. This will help consumers avoid unneeded or unexpected fees that can increase quickly and add significant cost to what may, at first, look like a less expensive ticket. In total, thanks to this final rule, consumers are expected to save over \$500 million annually that they are currently overpaying in hidden airline fees. "Airlines should compete with one another to secure passengers' business—not to see who can charge

the most in surprise fees," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. "DOT's new rule will save passengers over half a billion dollars a year in unnecessary or unexpected fees by holding airlines accountable for being transparent with their customers."

Biden-Harris Administration Announces Final Rule to Protect Consumers from Surprise Airline Junk Fees, April 24, 2024, <a href="https://www.dot.gov">www.dot.gov</a>

# Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$76 Million in Grants from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to Modernize Airports, From Runway Improvements to Better Facilities

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is awarding another \$76.1 million from the previously allocated \$9 billion, for 45 airport-related infrastructure projects in 22 states. The projects are funded under President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Airport Infrastructure Grants (AIG) program, part of the \$25 billion total included in the law for airport improvements, including front-of-house projects such as terminal expansions and baggage system upgrades.

Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$76 Million in Grants from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to Modernize Airports, From Runway Improvement



### Transportation's Top Stories

### Rail Transport Updates

**CANADA** 

Railway carloadings, February 2024



Source: Stacan

In February 2024, Canadian railways transported 30.0 million tonnes of freight, up 4.0% from February 2023. Higher shipments of iron ores, other cereal grains as well as more containers helped bolster the year-over-year growth. Despite some bouts of cold weather in Western Canada during February 2024, restricting train length and speed, total cargo tonnage was well above the five-year average (27.3 million tonnes) for the month of February. To further explore the latest data and historical trends in an interactive format, please visit the "Monthly Railway Carloadings: Interactive Dashboard." The year-over-year tonnage growth in February reflects higher non-intermodal loadings (mainly commodities) as well as a sharp rise in intermodal loadings (mainly containers).

Railway carloadings, February 2024, April 23, 2024, www.statcan.gc.ca

# Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited declares

The Board of Directors of Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited on April 23, 2024 declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.19 per share on the outstanding Common Shares. The dividend is payable on July 29,

2024, to holders of record at the close of business on June 28, 2024 and is an "eligible" dividend for purposes of the Income Tax Act (Canada) and any similar provincial/territorial legislation.

Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited declares dividend, April 23, 2024, <u>www.cpkc.ca</u>

#### CN Announces First Quarter Results

CN on April 23, 2024 reported its financial and operating results for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024. Tracy Robinson, President and Chief Executive Officer, CN said "Our team of railroaders delivered to plan in the first quarter and our scheduled operating model continued to enhance our service to customers. Looking forward, we are confident for 2024. We are seeing the expected improvements in the economy, and our CN-specific growth opportunities are materializing. We remain committed to delivering on our growth agenda and powering the economy." For the first quarter of 2024, the highlights were as follows: 1. Revenue ton miles (RTMs) remained flat at 59,749 (millions). 2. Revenues were C\$4,249 million, a decrease of C\$64 million, or 1%. 3. Operating income was C\$1,546 million, a decrease of C\$116 million, or 7%. 4. Operating ratio, defined as operating expenses as a percentage of revenues, was 63.6% an increase of 2.1points. 5. Diluted earnings per share (EPS) was C\$1.72, a decrease of 5%. CN announced that its Board of Directors has approved a second-quarter 2024 dividend on the Company's common shares outstanding. A quarterly dividend of eighty-four and a half cents (C\$0.8450) per common share will be paid on June 28, 2024, to shareholders of record at the close of business on June 7, 2024.

CN Announces First Quarter Results and CN Declares Second-Quarter 2024 Dividend April 23, 2024, <a href="https://www.cn.ca">www.cn.ca</a>

# ☐ CPKC reports first-quarter results; celebrating one year as a combined company

Canadian Pacific Kansas City on April 24, 2024 announced its firstquarter results, including revenues of \$3.5 billion, diluted earnings per share (EPS) of \$0.83 and core adjusted combined diluted EPS of \$0.93. Keith Creel, CPKC President and Chief Executive Officer said "One year into our historic combination, I am proud of what our dedicated family of railroaders has accomplished as we deliver on the benefits of our unrivalled network - spurring competition, increasing safety and connecting more markets for our customers. Today's results show the success of our efforts to drive growth as the only railway connecting Canada, the United States and Mexico." First-guarter 2024 results were: 1. Reported operating ratio (OR) increased by 400 basis points to 67.4 percent from 63.4 percent in Q1 2023; 2. Core adjusted combined OR increased 50 basis points to 64.0 percent from 63.5 percent in Q1 2023; 3. Reported diluted EPS decreased to \$0.83 from \$0.86 in Q1 2023; 4. Core adjusted combined diluted EPS increased three percent to \$0.93 from \$0.90 in Q1 2023; 5. Volumes, as measured in Revenue Ton-Miles3 (RTMs), increased one percent on a combined basis; 6. Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)-reportable train accident frequency increased to 0.89 from 0.71 in Q1 2023 on a combined basis; and 7. FRA-reportable personal injury frequency increased to 1.15 from 1.12 in Q1 2023 on a combined basis.

CPKC reports first-quarter results; celebrating one year as a combined company, April 24, 2024, <a href="https://www.cpkc.ca">www.cpkc.ca</a>

#### US/WORLD

# AAR: Total Carload, Intermodal Volume Flat for Week 16



Source: Railway Age

U.S. rail traffic for the week ending April 20, 2024 (Week 16), came in at 474,544 carloads and intermodal units, up 0.8%—virtually flat—compared with the same week last year, based on 216,945 carloads—down 6.7% from 2023—and intermodal volume of 257,599 containers and trailers—up 8.2%, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported April 24. Seven of the ten commodity groups posted an increase. North American rail volume for the week ending April 20,

2024, on 10 reporting U.S., Canadian and Mexican railroads totaled 330,830 carloads, down 4.1 percent compared with the same week last year, and 346,266 intermodal units, up 7.1 percent compared with last year. Total combined weekly rail traffic in North America was 677,096 carloads and intermodal units, up 1.3 percent. North American rail volume for the first 16 weeks of 2024 was 10,466,666 carloads and intermodal units, up 2.1 percent compared with 2023. Canadian railroads reported 96,737 carloads for the week, up 3.8 percent, and 75,954 intermodal units, up 6.0 percent compared with the same week in 2023. For the first 16 weeks of 2024, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 2,556,647 carloads, containers and trailers, up 0.3 percent.

<u>AAR: Total Carload, Intermodal Volume Flat for Week 16, April 23, 2024, www.railwayage.com</u>

# No surprises in Norfolk Southern earnings as COO Orr

The elephant in the room on the Norfolk Southern earnings call made only a brief appearance. But it will be returning in about two weeks. There were no surprises in the first-quarter earnings report, as the Class 1 railroad had issued a preliminary report earlier in the month. The final numbers, showing a significant drop in earnings related to the East Palestine, Ohio, derailment in February 2023, were in line with those preliminary figures. The East Palestine derailment saw 38 cars leave the tracks, some of them containing toxic chemicals. The subsequent fire led to an evacuation affecting thousands. Bottom-line operations were heavily impacted by a \$600 million agreement to end the class-action lawsuit stemming from the Norfolk Southern derailment in East Palestine. That brought income from railway operations down to \$213 million from \$904 million in the first quarter of 2023, resulted in diluted earnings per share of 23 cents versus \$2.49 a year ago, and sent the company's operating ratio up to 92.9% from 69.9% in Q1 2023. Norfolk Southern's OR in the fourth guarter of 2023 was 73.7%. In the third quarter of 2023, it was 63.5%.

No surprises in Norfolk Southern earnings as COO Orr makes debut, April 24, 2024, www.freightwaves.com

# <u>UP 1Q24: 'Strong' Financial Results Despite</u> 'Challenging' Freight Market)



Source: Railway Age

For the first quarter of 2024, Union Pacific Railway's financial results were: 1. earnings per diluted share of \$2.69, up 1%; 2. operating income up 3%; 3. net income up 1%; and 4. net income of \$1.6 billion, or \$2.69 per diluted share. This compares to 2023 first quarter net income of \$1.6 billion, or \$2.67 per diluted share. Operating ratio was 60.7%, an improvement of 140 basis points. Lower fuel prices during the quarter negatively impacted the operating ratio 60 basis points. "Our team delivered strong financial results in the first quarter as we navigated a challenging freight market and normal winter conditions," Union Pacific (UP) CEO Jim Vena said during the Class I's financial report on April 25. "These results build on the momentum we established as we exited 2023 and provide further proof of what's possible as we strive to be the best in safety, service and operational excellence. This is a great start to the year, but we understand there's work to be done to achieve our goals and meet our stakeholders' expectations."

UP 1Q24: 'Strong' Financial Results Despite 'Challenging' Freight Market), April 25, 2024, www.railwayage.co; and Union Pacific Reports First Quarter 2024 Results, April 25, 2024, www.up.com



Transportation's Top Stories

### Marine Transport Updates

#### **CANADA**

### Port of Halifax Accumulated container traffic: 2023

The Port of Halifax reported its container traffic for 2023 and for the final quarter of 2023. Total container traffic for 2023 was 546,163 TEUs down 9.2% from 601,700 TEU in 2022. Total imports in 2023 were 280,332 TEU down 11.1% from 315,167 TEU in 2022. Total exports in 2023 were 265,831 TEU down 7.2% from 286,533 TEU in 2022. For the fourth quarter of 2023, total container traffic was 134,511 TEUs down 12.2% from 153,130 TEU in the fourth quarter of 2022. Total imports for the fourth quarter in 2023 were 66,711 TEUs down 14.2% compared to 77,723TEUs for the same period in 2022. Total exports for the fourth quarter in 2023 were 67,800 TEUs down 10.1% compared to 75,407 TEUs for the same period in 2022.

Port of Halifax Accumulated container traffic: 2023, April 23, 2024, <a href="https://www.portofhalifax.ca">www.portofhalifax.ca</a>

# Port of Prince Rupert: Accumulated container traffic for March 2024 and first quarter of 2024

For the month of March 2024, total traffic in terms of TEUs changed 17% i.e. 74,496 from 63,401. Total import traffic for the month in terms of TEUs changed 35% i.e. 41,133 from 30,556. Total export traffic for the month changed 2% i.e. to 33,363 from 32,846. For the 2024 first quarter, total traffic in terms of TEUs changed 2% i.e. to 191,448 from 187,544. Total import traffic for the first quarter of 2024 changed 16% i.e. to 107,279 from 92,811. Total export traffic for the first quarter of 2024 changed -11% i.e. to 84,168 from 94, 732.

Port of Prince Rupert: Accumulated container traffic for March 2024 and first quarter of 2024, April 23, 2024, <a href="https://www.rupetport.com">www.rupetport.com</a>

#### **US/WORLD**

## Port of Corpus Christi announces first quarter 2024 volumes



Source: AJOT

The Port of Corpus Christi and its customers moved 48.9 million tons through the Corpus Christi Ship Channel in the first quarter of 2024, a slight decrease from the first quarter of 2023 of just over one percent. The Port's customers saw a slight increase in crude oil shipments during this period to 30.2 million tons, and a significant increase in agricultural shipments, but that was outweighed by decreases in refined products and shipments of LNG. "The Port of Corpus Christi and its customers continue to show strong performance, particularly in the energy and agricultural sectors," said Kent Britton, Chief Executive Officer for the Port of Corpus Christi. "With several infrastructure improvements either underway or in the works, we remain committed to helping our customer base bring continued prosperity to the Coastal Bend region."

Port of Corpus Christi announces first quarter 2024 volumes, April 19, 2024, <a href="https://www.ajot.com">www.ajot.com</a>

### Port Houston surpasses 1M TEU's in first quarter



Source: AJOT

Container volumes at Port Houston have skyrocketed in the first quarter of 2024. From January to March, Port Houston handled 1,069,917 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) year-to-date, an increase of 15% compared to the same period last year. In March alone, container volumes at Port Houston totaled 360,991 TEUs, an increase of 20% compared to March 2023. In fact, it was Port Houston's biggest March ever. Consumer spending on items like furniture and appliances contributed to loaded import volumes that were up 23% this March compared to the same month last year and 14% year-to-date. Loaded export volumes, which are primarily resins, have also increased by 12% in March and 15% for the year, totaling 404,124 TEUs year-to-date.

<u>Port Houston surpasses 1M TEU's in first quarter</u>, April 19, 2024, <u>www.ajot.com</u>

# Readout of USDOT's Multimodal Freight Office Meeting with East Coast Port Leaders

On Friday, April 19, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) convened a meeting with the National Economic Council and leaders from ports up and down the East Coast to continue efforts to mitigate supply chain disruptions and coordinate on the response to the suspension of vessel traffic at the Port of Baltimore after the tragic collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge. This convening was one in a series of meetings between DOT and East Coast port leaders to keep lines of communication open and share the impacts that the traffic suspension in Baltimore has had on other ports in the region.

Readout of USDOT's Multimodal Freight Office Meeting with East Coast Port Leaders, April 22, 2024, www.dot.gov

# Wallenius Wilhelmsen signs long-term agreement with Georgia Ports



Source: Inside Logistics

The Brunswick expansion will add to an established network of terminals, on-port and in-plant processing centres that handle vehicles, construction, mining, and agricultural equipment across the region. The deal includes an options for an additional 30-year extension on the lease. "We're excited to welcome the additional business to Colonel's Island Terminal from Wallenius Wilhelmsen, where we are developing the nation's premier gateway for all carriers handling autos and heavy machinery," said GPA President and CEO Griff Lynch.

Wallenius Wilhelmsen signs long-term agreement with Georgia Ports, April 24, 2024, <a href="https://www.insidelogistics.ca">www.insidelogistics.ca</a>

### Port of Oakland March container volume grows



Source: AJOT

Full exports grew for the fourth month in a row, boasting a 14.8% increase compared to March 2023, transiting 75,352 TEUs in March 2024, versus 65,635 TEUs in March 2023. This is the highest monthly total for full outbound cargo at Oakland since April 2021. "I am encouraged that the positive cargo trends we are seeing in 2024 continue," said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. "A

strong economy and the need for retailers to replenish stock in their warehouses are driving import cargo activity today." Empty imports rose 11.9%, registering 20,254 TEUs in March 2024, compared to 18,097 TEUs in March 2023. Empty exports also declined 9.5%, transiting 23,728 TEUs in February 2024, versus 26,225 TEUs in March 2023. The Port of Oakland (Port) March container volume continues to signal the Port's cargo growth. In March, 202,816 TEUs (twenty-foot containers) passed through Port facilities, marking a 19.1% increase over March 2023 volume. Full imports at the Oakland Seaport continued to rise for the fifth month in a row, registering a 38.4% increase compared to March 2023. Port operators processed 83,483 full inbound TEUs in March 2024, in contrast to 60,311 full import TEUs in March 2023, reaching their highest volume since August 2022. Rising incomes and rising net worth among consumers in major Northern California markets are credited with supporting import growth.

Port of Oakland March container volume grows, April 24, 2024, www.aot.com

# Commission to investigate longshore disputes at West Coast ports



Source: Inside Logistics

Federal labour minister Seamus O'Regan Jr. announced the appointment of an Industrial Inquiry Commission on the underlying issues in longshoring labour disputes at Canada's West Coast ports. The Commission will present its findings and recommendations in a report to the minister in Spring 2025. After a tumultuous summer of strikes at British Columbia's ports that were resolved after almost a month of picketing and port slowdowns. There were strong calls from industry to prevent a similar situation. In August 2023, the minister of labour committed to initiating a process under section 106 of the Canada Labour Code to examine the structural issues underlying the

longshoring labour dispute at West Coast ports, as well as similar disputes that have occurred in ports across Canada.

Commission to investigate longshore disputes at West Coast ports, April 25, 2024, <a href="https://www.insidelogistics.ca">www.insidelogistics.ca</a>

# Port of New Orleans announces \$7.1 million in federal funding for sustainability infrastructure



Source: AJOT

The Port of New Orleans announced on April 25, 2024 that it has been awarded \$7,117,567 from the Federal Highway Administration's Reducing Truck Emissions at Port Facilities (RTEPF) Grant program that is funded by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. "Continually upgrading our ports is essential to attract new businesses and keep and create jobs," said Senator Bill Cassidy, M.D. (R-LA). "This money improves infrastructure and workforce development. This is how to make the Port of New Orleans even more competitive." Port NOLA along with its valued partners will use the federal funding for sustainable transportation and infrastructure to reduce truck congestion and emissions at Port terminals, Ports America Louisiana, and New Orleans Terminal, LLC. Additionally, the funding will provide \$200,000 in sub-awards for Port NOLA's partners at Nunez Community College and the Urban League of Louisiana for workforce development and educational opportunities for future technicians to work on the upcoming technologies.

Port of New Orleans announces \$7.1 million in federal funding for sustainability infrastructure, April 25, 2024, <a href="https://www.ajot.com">www.ajot.com</a>



### Transportation's Top Stories

### Road Transport Updates

#### **CANADA**



#### Urban public transit, February 2024



Source: Statcan

Canada's urban transit agencies provided an estimated 129.6 million passenger trips in February 2024, an increase of 18.9% (+20.6 million) from February 2023, representing almost three years of consecutive monthly year-over-year increases since April 2021. Rising employment in February 2024, along with continued rapid population growth, may have helped nudge transit passenger recovery to a new high—84.3% of its pre-pandemic ridership from February 2019. Despite this, there were still 24.2 million fewer rides in February 2024 compared with the same month in 2019. February 2024 saw a 2.0% increase in ridership from January, driven by large monthly increases in the west (Calgary Transit, Alberta +11.2% and TransLink, British Columbia +7.8%). In February 2024, transit agency operating revenue (excluding subsidies) totalled \$306.2 million—an increase of 16.7%, or \$43.9 million, from February 2023. However, it was still \$28.5 million below the pre-pandemic level in February 2019.

Urban public transit, February 2024, April 19, 2024, www.statcan.gc.ca



#### Lion electric staff cuts hits office workers



Source: Inside Logistic

Lion Electric is cutting 120 positions from its workforce in Canada. The move, combined with other cost-cutting measures, is aimed at reducing operating expenses and aligning its cost structure to market dynamics, the company said in a statement. The workforce reduction affects approximately 120 employees, mostly Canada-based employees in overhead and product development functions. The measure should not negatively impact the company's production capacity, it said. Following this workforce reduction, Lion will have approximately 1,150 employees, including more than 600 manufacturing positions, in Canada and the United States.

<u>Lion Electric staff cuts hit office workers, April 19, 2024,</u> www.insidelogistics.ca



### 2023-24 Gas Tax Funding by Municipality

The Ontario government is investing almost \$380 million to help 102 municipalities improve local transit through the 2023-24 Gas Tax program. The funding can be used to expand service hours, increase routes, purchase new vehicles and improve accessibility to increase transit ridership.

2023-24 Gas Tax Funding by Municipality, April 19, 2024, www.mto.gov.on.ca



### Nikola sees great potential for hydrogen fuel-cellelectric trucks in Canada



Source: Todays Trucking

Canada has emerged as one of the most promising markets for hydrogen-fueled Class 8 trucks, representatives from Nikola said during the VIP breakfast at Truck World. "I've been pushing Canada at Nikola for quite some time now," said Jorg Wimbert, head of Canada for the zero emissions truck maker. "To all of us, Canada is a nobrainer. The citizens, the government, the markets – everybody wants to move to greener technology." Nikola has also found a strong partner in the Alberta Motor Transport Association (AMTA), which has purchased two hydrogen-fueled trucks to help its member fleets gain exposure to the technology. The first Hyla-branded hydrogen fueling station was recently opened near Edmonton. The company will soon be opening another fueling station in Ontario with ITD, its exclusive Canadian distributor. The modular stations can fuel between 20 and 40 trucks.

Nikola sees great potential for hydrogen fuel-cell-electric trucks in Canada, April 19, 2024, <a href="https://www.todaystrucking.ca">www.todaystrucking.ca</a>

# BCTA program helps slash 301.8 million kg of CO2 emissions from continent



Source: Todays Trucking

The B.C. Trucking Association's (BCTA) CleanBC Heavy-duty Vehicle Efficiency (HDVE) program has since 2019 helped eliminate 301.8 million kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions in North America, including 210 million kilograms in British Columbia alone. HDVE has reduced the commercial transportation sector's fuel burn by approximately 111.4 million liters of diesel across North America, 77.5 million liters of which were reduced in B.C., according to a news release. This equates to the program removing the equivalent of approximately 64,216.5 passenger vehicles off North American roads, or 44,732.3 vehicles in B.C. This was accomplished by training over 420 companies, which collectively operate more than 35,000 heavy-duty vehicles, on how to implement fuel-efficient practices. Incentives are also provided to promote the adoption of emission-reducing technology.

BCTA program helps slash 301.8 million kg of CO2 emissions from continent, April 22, 2024, www.todaystrucking.com



### **Ontario Raising Highway Speed Limits**



Source: Ontruck

Ontario government is raising the speed limit permanently from 100 km/h to 110 km/h on 10 additional sections of provincial highways in northern and southern Ontario. The change builds on the safe and successful increase to six sections of provincial highways in 2022 and aligns with posted speed limits in other jurisdictions across Canada. "Most of Ontario's highways were originally designed to safely accommodate speed limits of 110 km/h and the data from our changes in 2022 shows they do just that," said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. "These evidence-based increases are a commonsense change to make life more convenient for Ontario drivers while bringing our highway speed limits in line with other Canadian provinces." These increased speed limits apply to heavy commercial vehicles with a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating over 11,794 kg operating on these highways. Heavy commercial vehicles are mandated to have installed speed limiters set at 105 km/h.

Ontario Raising Highway Speed Limits, April 24, 2024, www.mto.gov.on.ca; and Ontario Highway Speed Increase Has No Application to Heavy Truck Speeds, April 24, 2024, www.ontruck.ca

# Honda Canada to build electric vehicle manufacturing facility in Ontario



Source: Inside Logistics

Honda Canada is investing approximately \$15 billion to create Canada's first comprehensive electric vehicle supply chain. Located in Ontario, this large-scale project will see four new manufacturing plants, including an electric vehicle assembly plant – the first of its kind for Honda Motor Co., Ltd. – as well as a new stand-alone battery manufacturing plant at Honda's facilities in Alliston, Ont. To complete the supply chain, Honda will build a cathode active material and precursor (CAM/pCAM) processing plant through a joint venture partnership with POSCO Future M Co., Ltd. and a separator plant through a joint venture partnership with Asahi Kasei Corporation.

Honda Canada to build electric vehicle manufacturing facility in Ontario, April 25, 2024, <a href="https://www.insidelogistics.ca">www.insidelogistics.ca</a>

### ...

### Mullen Group's Q1 earnings hit by slowing economy



Source: Todays Trucking

Mullen Group's Q1 earnings reflected a slowing economy and reduced freight demand. "Using our first quarter results as a barometer for the state of the general economy, one could conclude that the economy is definitely slowing," said Murray Mullen, chairman and senior executive officer. "Across each of our operating segments we witnessed a softening in demand, accompanied by competitive market conditions. Consumer demand continued to decline, capital investment in Canada was noticeably weaker, and major project construction activity virtually ground to a halt. It's no wonder our results were down year over year." However, acquisitions added about \$20.5 million in new revenue over the guarter. Mullen said the company will continue to pursue acquisitions and says it has already begun preparing for the next business cycle. As for its earnings, revenue slid 7.1% to \$462.6 million in the first quarter. Profit fell 30% to \$22.2 million. Mullen attributed the decline in revenue to reduced economic activity levels and reduced capital investment in the private sector. Lower fuel surcharges were also a factor.

Mullen Group's Q1 earnings hit by slowing economy, April 25, 2024, www.todaystrucking.com

#### **US/WORLD**



# Biden-Harris Administration Announces Nearly \$150 Million in Grants to Help Reduce Truck Air Pollution Near America's Ports

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration is announcing \$148 million in grants to 11 states and Puerto Rico under the first round of a new \$400 million program to improve air quality and reduce pollution for truck drivers, port workers and families that live in communities surrounding ports. The Reduction of Truck Emissions at Port Facilities Grant Program, which was created by the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), invests

in port electrification and efficiency improvements. This program aims to reduce pollution from idling trucks at our nation's ports while modernizing infrastructure and strengthening supply chains. Biden-Harris Administration Announces Nearly \$150 Million in Grants to Help Reduce Truck Air Pollution Near America's Ports, April 24, 2024, www.dot.gov



### Transportation's Top Stories

### Other Transport Updates

#### **CANADA**



### Travel between Canada and other countries, February 2024



Source: Statcan

In February 2024, the number of non-resident visitors to Canada accounted for 91.5% of the number observed in February 2020, before the COVID-19 pandemic, with US residents taking 1.1 million trips to Canada in February 2024 and residents of overseas countries embarking on 332,100 trips. During the same period, the number of returning Canadian residents reached 91.0% of the level recorded in February 2020, as Canadian residents returned from 3.9 million trips abroad in February 2024. On a seasonally adjusted basis, compared with January 2024, the number of non-resident arrivals in Canada in February increased 10.3%, and the number of returning Canadian-resident arrivals increased by 2.8%.

Travel between Canada and other countries, February 2024, April 23, 2024, www.statcan.gc.ca



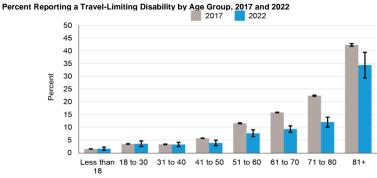
## Unifor files applications for two Amazon facilities in BC

The campaign for workers at Amazon facilities in Metro Vancouver to form a union has reached a pivotal stage after Unifor filed two applications to the B.C. Labour Relations Board (BCLRB). After the BCLRB processes the application, it will determine if a vote must be held. If the cards submitted by Unifor represent at least 45 percent of the eligible workforce at a facility, a vote may be called within five business days. If the cards represent more than 55 percent, union certification is granted and work begins on a first collective agreement. "We call on Amazon to respect the wishes of workers and avoid using the legal tricks and games it has played in the past to block unionization," said Unifor Western regional director Gavin McGarrigle. Unifor files applications for two Amazon facilities in BC, April 23, 2024, www.insidelogistics.ca

#### **US/WORLD**



# BTS releases Travel Patterns of Americans with Disabilities



Source: BTS

An estimated 18.6 million people reported travel-limiting disabilities in 2022; down by a statistically significant amount from 25.5 million in 2017. In 2022, 40.2 percent of persons age 18 to 64 with travel-limiting disabilities and 57.1 of persons age 65 and over with travel-limiting disabilities stayed at home on the travel day surveyed compared to 34.1 and 44.7 percent, respectively, in 2017. A new report, "Travel Patterns of American Adults with Disabilities, 2022" uses data from the 2022 National Household Travel Survey to examine the daily travel of adults with self-reported travel-limiting disabilities and compares the findings to data from earlier years.

BTS releases Travel Patterns of Americans with Disabilities, April 19, 2024, www.bts.gov



## Borderlands Mexico: Experts push infrastructure to boost cross-border trade

With nearshoring accelerating trade growth between the U.S. and Mexico, experts said both countries need to focus on infrastructure, technology, policies and cargo security to keep goods flowing seamlessly. "The reality is there's never been a time when U.S.-Mexico trade was more important than it is right now," Mark Yeager, CEO of Chicago-based Redwood Logistics, said during the company's inaugural Cross-Border Logistics Council. The two-day event brought together more than 75 shippers, technology companies and trade professionals in Monterrey to discuss cross-border supply chains, nearshoring trends and other topics. "This is our Olympics, our World Series. It can be challenging, complex and can require patience and perseverance, but we also all know that that kind of complexity comes with opportunity — opportunity for all of us," Yeager said.U.S. trade with the world totaled \$5.1 trillion in 2023, according to data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Mexico did almost \$800 billion in trade with the United States last year, once again becoming the nation's top trade partner.

Borderlands Mexico: Experts push infrastructure to boost cross-border trade, April 21, 2024, <a href="https://www.freightwaves.com">www.freightwaves.com</a>





#### **REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!**

Join us on Thursday, 9 May from 4- 5:30 PM for a harbour tour hosted by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority. \*Boarding time 3:45 PM and location TBA.

Join us again on Friday, 10 May at the Terminal City Club, 837 W Hastings St., Vancouver for the 2024 CILTNA Annual Spring Outlook Conference: "Adapting to a Changing World: Challenges in Transportation, Energy, Environment and Geopolitics".

Come network, make new acquaintances, and hear and interact on some thought-provoking presentations on very real and challenging subjects.

For more details on the agenda and registration, please visit: https://ciltna.com/events/2024-ciltna-spring-outlook-conference/

### Transportation's Top Stories

### Other CILT News



The Ottawa Chapter of the Chartered Institute of Logistics Transport (North America) hosted their Ottawa CILTNA Luncheon on 24 April 2024 from 12:00 to 1:30 PM at 50 O'Connor Street, 6th Floor Conference Room. Participants heard from guest speaker, Paul Sandhar-Cruz, Director General of Strategic Policy at Transport Canada. Paul highlighted a number of the department's current major initiatives and provided an overview of things to watch for from a policy and regulatory perspective in the months to come.

Slides from the presentation can be found <u>HERE</u>.



### SHIPPING FEDERATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE – "Supply Chain Sea Change" - Montreal, May 7, 2024

A great opportunity to hear from top industry leaders and network with supply chain professionals!

Program and registration details at ShipFed's website here: <a href="https://shipfed.ca/register-now-for-our-annual-conference/">https://shipfed.ca/register-now-for-our-annual-conference/</a>



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: <a href="https://forms.gle/E7R6k9QVhhyaHBCd9">https://forms.gle/E7R6k9QVhhyaHBCd9</a>

### **Job Postings**

#### \* 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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