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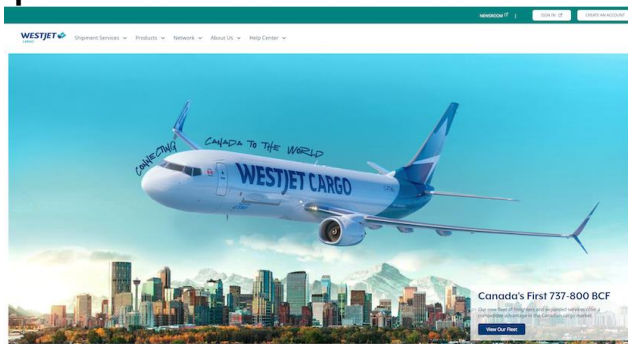
North
America

Transportation's Top Stories

Air Transport Updates

CANADA

WestJet Cargo unveils new website with enhanced user experience and features



Source: AJOT

WestJet Cargo is announcing the official launch of its newly revamped website, designed to provide an improved user experience, brand consistency, and a plethora of new features that cater to the needs of its diverse customer base. The redesigned website, now live, brings a host of improvements aimed at making it easier for customers to access key services and information. With a focus on user-friendly navigation, the website ensures that popular tasks are streamlined, requiring fewer clicks. For instance, the "Track a Shipment" feature is now accessible directly from the homepage with zero clicks.

WestJet Cargo unveils new website with enhanced user experience and features, June 17, 2024, www.aot.com

Air Canada Marks a Milestone With First Year of NDC Roadmap Achievements

Air Canada on June 17, 2024 marked the one-year anniversary of its New Distribution Capability (NDC) program, with the announcement of additional features and benefits, as well as plans for further expansion. Launched in June 2023, the NDC program has made significant progress with trade partners and corporate buyers, in modernizing the airline's product distribution, offering new benefits, more content and comprehensive partner support.

Air Canada Marks a Milestone With First Year of NDC Roadmap Achievements, June 17, 2024, www.aircanada.ca

The WestJet Group begins flight cancellations in anticipation of WestJet Aircraft Maintenance Engineers and other Tech Ops employees' strike



Source: WestJet

As the WestJet Group prepares for labour action by WestJet Aircraft Maintenance Engineers and other Tech Ops employees, the airline has started cancelling and consolidating flights, in order to park aircraft in a

safe and organized manner. This action enables proactive communication with guests and crew to minimize the potential for being stranded and ensures the airline can avoid abandoning aircraft in remote locations. The decision to cancel flights comes as the WestJet Group awaits a response on behalf of the Canadian Industrial Relations Board (CIRB) to intervene under the Canada Labour Code. If accepted, this action would refer both WestJet and AMFA to arbitration for a first collective agreement and prevent labour action by either party. The carrier said 6,500 customers will be impacted by 40 flight cancellations over June 18-19. On Tuesday, WestJet Airlines' mechanics gave the carrier a 72-hour strike notice. The strike, set to begin by 9 p.m. ET on Thursday, covers about 681 aircraft maintenance engineers and other skilled employees, the union had said.

The WestJet Group begins flight cancellations in anticipation of WestJet Aircraft Maintenance Engineers and other Tech Ops employees' strike, June 18, 2024, www.westjet.ca; and WestJet cancels flights on expectations of maintenance workers' strike, June 19, 2024, www.globeandmail.ca

WestJet and AMFA mutually agree to return to the bargaining table, preventing further network cancellations



Source: WestJet

WestJet on June 19, 2024, appeared before the Canadian Industrial Relations Board (CIRB) to discuss the airline's request for arbitration, in the negotiations process between the airline and the Aircraft Maintenance Engineers and Tech Ops employees, and to determine next steps. With respect to WestJet's request for arbitration, the CIRB has advised it will require additional time and submissions from both parties before making a decision on whether or not collective bargaining for our first agreement should be resolved by way of arbitration. In the meantime, the Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association (AMFA) has

rescinded its strike notice, with both parties jointly agreeing to return to the bargaining table to continue work towards finding a resolution.

WestJet and AMFA mutually agree to return to the bargaining table, preventing further network cancellations, June 19, 2024, www.westjet.ca

US/WORLD

JetBlue announces new daily flights between Boston and Presque Isle

JetBlue announced it will launch new daily jet service between Boston Logan International Airport (BOS) and Presque Isle International Airport (PQI), starting September 5, 2024, with tickets now available for sale. This new route not only offers residents of northern Maine and New Brunswick convenient access to the city of Boston and dozens of other JetBlue and partner airline destinations around the globe, but it also opens up the beauty of the Crown of Maine and the region to travelers from around the world. "We are excited for the opportunity to bring Boston flights back to The County while also offering the community access to their top destinations around the U.S., Caribbean, and beyond through our large focus city at Logan International Airport," said Dave Jehn, vice president, network planning and airline partnerships, JetBlue. "We thank the U.S. Department of Transportation for selecting JetBlue for this new Essential Air Service route. We take our responsibility of offering northern Maine reliable, high-quality service seriously, and look forward to introducing the region to our award-winning JetBlue experience."

JetBlue announces new daily flights between Boston and Presque Isle, June 14, 2024, www.ajot.com

FAA moves to toughen safety rules on public charter airlines

The Federal Aviation Administration plans to impose tougher safety requirements on public charter airlines such as Dallas-based JSX, a move toward closing what critics have called a loophole in US aviation rules. The new regulations aim to ensure that public charters that effectively operate like a typical commercial airline abide by the same safety rules, the FAA said in a statement on June 17, 2024. JSX markets itself as "the ultimate travel hack" because passengers can bypass airport crowds and security lines. "If a company is effectively operating as a scheduled airline, the FAA needs to determine whether those operations should follow the same stringent rules as scheduled airlines," FAA Administrator Mike Whitaker said in the statement. The

rise in popularity of operations like JSX and whether they pose any safety or security risks has split the industry. Critics have said JSX and others like it exploit a loophole in current rules, allowing them to operate scheduled flights like large airlines under less-stringent standards intended to govern private charter operations.

FAA moves to toughen safety rules on public charter airlines, June 17, 2024, www.ajot.com



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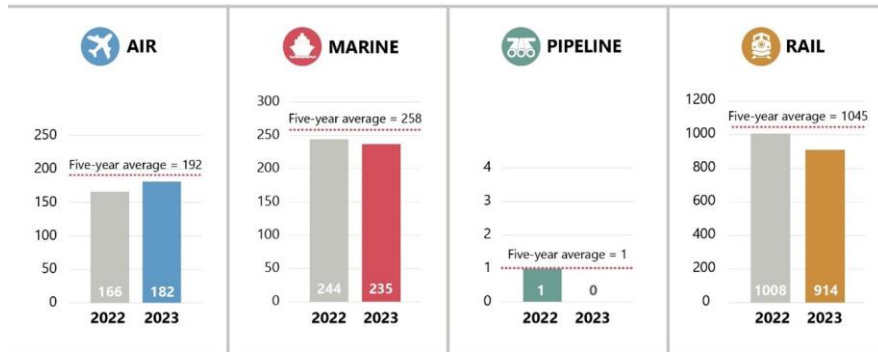
North
America

Transportation's Top Stories

Rail Transport Updates

CANADA

TSB Releases Final Transportation Occurrence Stats for 2023



Source: TSB

The Transportation Safety Board of Canada (TSB) has published its final annual statistical summaries from 2023 on transportation occurrences (accidents and incidents) in the rail, air, marine, and pipeline sectors, showing accidents were down from the previous year for all sectors but air. In 2023, in air, marine, pipeline and rail there were: 182, 235, 0 and 914 accidents, respectively. The five year average for each of these sectors were: 192, 258, 1 and 1045. [TSB Releases Final Transportation Occurrence Stats for 2023, June 14, 2024, www.railwayage.com](https://www.railwayage.com); and www.tsb.gc.ca

Railway carloadings, April 2024



Source: Statcan

In April 2024, the volume of cargo carried by Canadian railways totalled 32.5 million tonnes, up 2.2% from April 2023. Higher volumes of intermodal shipments (containers) as well as higher carloadings of grains led the overall increase. In April 2024, cargo tonnage was well above the five-year average for the month and second only to the record high of 33.3 million tonnes set in April 2019. The increase in rail traffic volumes in April 2024 was the result of higher volumes across all types of rail operations: intermodal, non-intermodal, and traffic received from US connections. In April 2024, intermodal shipments—mainly containers—originating from Canada led the overall increase in freight transported, up 14.8% year over year to 3.2 million tonnes. Container volume reached its third-highest level on record in April, reflecting growth in [Canada's imports of consumer goods during the same month](#). Loadings of non-intermodal freight—mainly commodities—were up 0.9% year over year to 25.5 million tonnes in April 2024, led by large increases in some agricultural and food products, most notably grains.

[Railway carloadings, April 2024, June 20, 2024, www.statcan.gc.ca](https://www.statcan.gc.ca)

US/WORLD

The Port of New Orleans announced double digit growth for intermodal rail volumes

The Port of New Orleans (Port NOLA) and the New Orleans Public Belt Railroad (NOPB) announced intermodal rail volumes are up more than 15% YTD, when comparing January through May 2024. Through its growing intermodal service and efficient global and inland connections, Port NOLA ensures that goods arrive at homes across the nation, that businesses can efficiently move their products, and that economic prosperity and job creation for the state and region continues. Rail represents approximately 33% of Port NOLA and NOPB's consolidated annual revenue. "Port NOLA is building momentum as the Gulf's Gateway to middle America," said Port NOLA Acting President & CEO and Acting NOPB CEO, Ronald Wendel, Jr. "Our ability to provide innovative supply chain solutions for shippers looking to diversify their trade lanes is undeniable. We are on track to grow this service even more while simultaneously continuing to provide efficient and reliable options for moving freight by river, rail, and road." Port NOLA's Mississippi River Intermodal Terminal located within the Napoleon Avenue Container Terminal complex offers on-dock access to the Port's six Class I rail partners via the NOPB, a class-III Short-line Railroad. Port NOLA's strategic alignment with the NOPB in 2018 created fluidity and mitigated congestion across the entire gateway, keeping dwell times well below industry benchmarks.

The Port of New Orleans announced double digit growth for intermodal rail volumes, June 14, 2024, www.ajot.com

BNSF must pay tribe \$394M for oil train operation that violated agreement



Source: Freightwaves

BNSF Railway owes Washington state's Swinomish Indian Tribal Community \$394.5 million for violating an agreement governing railroad operation across tribal land, a federal judge has ruled. Judge Robert Lasnik of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington reached that figure after a four-day bench trial, The

Seattle Times reports. He had previously ruled the railroad had violated a 1991 agreement by sending crude-oil trains across a less-than-1-mile segment of the Swinomish Reservation between September 2012 and May 2021. Lasnik ruled last year that the railroad had "willingly, consciously, and knowingly" violated the agreement that allowed only one train of no more than 25 cars per train in each direction each day. The railroad and Swinomish agreed that more than 266,000 cars had violated that agreement and generated about \$900 million in revenue but disagreed about the penalty that should result. Lasnik's ruling details the profits per car, deducts the amount that could have been earned through legal movements, and determined the railroad had made about \$362.2 million in profits, plus \$32.2 million in post-tax profits such as investment income, as a result of the trespassing. BNSF's violation of an agreement with the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community is considered trespassing.

BNSF must pay tribe \$394M for oil train operation that violated agreement, June 18, 2024, www.freightwaves.com

AAR reports rail traffic for the week ending June15, 2024



Source: Railwayage

The Association of American Railroads (AAR) on June 15, 2024 reported U.S. rail traffic for the week ending June 15, 2024. For this week, total U.S. weekly rail traffic was 493,138 carloads and intermodal units, up 3.4 percent compared with the same week last year. Total carloads for the week ending June 15 were 222,759 carloads, down 2.5 percent compared with the same week in 2023, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 270,379 containers and trailers, up 8.9 percent compared to 2023. Five of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2023. They included chemicals, up 3,351 carloads, to 33,137; grain, up 3,319 carloads, to 19,150; and petroleum and petroleum products, up 951 carloads, to 11,046. Canadian railroads reported 90,460

carloads for the week, up 4.0 percent, and 74,665 intermodal units, up 2.6 percent compared with the same week in 2023. For the first 24 weeks of 2024, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 3,870,602 carloads, containers and trailers, up 0.8 percent. *AAR reports rail traffic for the week ending June 15, 2024, June 19, 2024, www.ajot.com; and AAR: North American Rail Volume Up Through Week 24, June 20, 2024, www.railwayage.com*



BNSF to Develop New Logistics Hub in Phoenix



Source: Railwayage

BNSF Railway recently announced continued plans to develop a new regional rail-served facility on approximately 4,321 acres in northwest Maricopa County near Phoenix, Ariz.

[BNSF to Develop New Logistics Hub in Phoenix, June 20, 2024, www.railwayage.com](http://www.railwayage.com)



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Transportation's Top Stories

Marine Transport Updates

CANADA

Canada Place cruise terminal implements cutting-edge facial biometric technology for passenger processing

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority has partnered with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to introduce facial biometric technology for passengers embarking on a cruise at the Canada Place terminal. The Port of Vancouver is Canada's first seaport to introduce facial scanning for Canadian and U.S. passengers boarding cruise ships, with the technology expected to enhance passenger experience, terminal efficiency and border security. "We're excited to partner with U.S. authorities to implement this state-of-the-art passenger processing technology—which will help us provide a fast, secure and convenient experience for passengers embarking on a cruise," said Peter Xotta, president and CEO of the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, the federal Canadian agency mandated with enabling trade including cruise through the Port of Vancouver. "Our ongoing partnerships with government and industry are crucial to enhancing the award-winning Canada Place cruise terminal and ensuring it can continue to meet growing demand while enhancing the experience of passengers. We want to thank the CBP for working with us to implement facial biometric processing—a Canadian-first innovation for a cruise terminal that will support a more efficient and secure border verification process."

Canada Place cruise terminal implements cutting-edge facial biometric technology for passenger processing, June 18, 2024, www.metrovancouver.com

BCMEA offer rejected by union representing B.C. dock workers

The International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) Local 514 has rejected a new offer from the B.C. Maritime Employers Association (BCMEA) on a revised compensation package. The BCMEA was advised June 15, 2024 that 99 per cent of ILWU local 514 members had voted to reject the industry's revised comprehensive offer. The BCMEA said in a statement that in an effort to conclude a negotiated agreement, the proposed four-year agreement would have provided all workers with significant gains in wages and benefits, without any employer concessions. Neither party has issued 72-hour notice of a strike or lockout, nor have there been any labour disruptions. Regular cargo and passenger operations at British Columbia's ports continue uninterrupted.

BCMEA offer rejected by union representing B.C. dock workers, June 20, 2024, www.insidelogistics.ca

US/WORLD

Panama canal averts shipping crisis with its water plan — and some luck

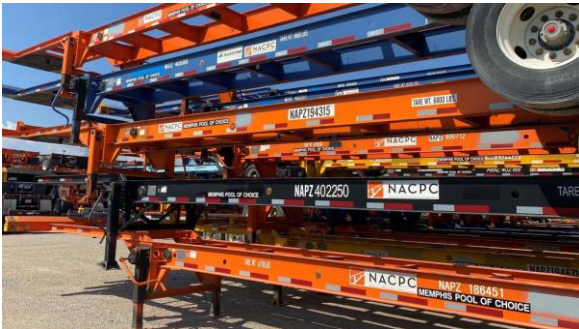


Source: AJOT

The Panama Canal has managed to ward off a shipping crisis that threatened to upend \$270 billion a year in global trade. It did so with careful water management — and a little bit of luck. As parched conditions gripped the Central American country last year, the Panama Canal Authority slashed the number of vessels allowed to cross each day to 22, about 60% of normal. Shippers paid millions of dollars to jump the growing queue and avoid wait times that stretched more than two weeks. But recently, with water levels rising, the authority has started to raise the limit. It said on June 11, 2024 that 34 vessels will be permitted daily beginning in late July 2024, close to the pre-drought cap of 38. Shippers now wait less than two days to transit the canal. If rain patterns hold, the waterway could return to full capacity next year, the canal authority said in a written response to questions. “Current forecasts indicate that the constant rains will continue for the next few months,” the canal authority said. “If this continues to be the case, the canal plans to gradually lift restrictions, allowing conditions to completely normalize in 2025.” The canal’s turnaround is due, in part, to successful water-management measures. But it’s also the result of a wetter-than-expected dry season — which extends from December to April in Panama — and the end of El Niño, the weather phenomenon that left Panama with one of its least rainy years on record.

Panama canal averts shipping crisis with its water plan — and some luck, June 14, 2024, www.ajot.com

FMC says investigating potential violations of recent ruling on chassis control



Source: JOC

The US Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) said on June 18, 2024 that it is investigating allegations that chassis providers may not be complying with a February ruling by the agency that ocean carriers and their contractors cannot mandate which chassis a cargo owner uses on so-called merchant haulage business. Until a February ruling from the

FMC, ocean carriers could mandate which chassis to use even if the importer or exporter was responsible for inland transportation. The decision in a case between the American Trucking Associations (ATA) and the Ocean Carriers Equipment Management Association (OCEMA) immediately changed how chassis were regulated in five locations: Chicago, Los Angeles, Long Beach, Memphis and Savannah. Merchant haulage business refers to an agreement in which the ocean carrier is responsible for transit between ports.

FMC says investigating potential violations of recent ruling on chassis control, June 18, 2024, www.joc.com

Port of Oakland May 2024 container volume shows solid growth



Source: AJOT

The Port of Oakland’s container volume continues its upward trend. Total cargo volume increased 5.3% in May 2024 compared to May 2023, with 188,040 TEUs (twenty-foot containers). Full import cargo volume in the first five months of this year increased significantly compared to the same period in 2023, rising 18.9%. Full imports reached 80,039 TEUs, which is 12.9% higher than May 2023, when 70,887 TEUs passed through Port terminals. Full export volumes dipped slightly. Full exports decreased by 2.4%, processing 61,931 TEUs this May, compared to 63,475 TEUs in May 2023. Despite the dip, the outlook remains positive. Perishable goods shippers are returning to the Port of Oakland because vessel schedule reliability has increased in recent months. “Overall positive trends point to the long-term resiliency of Oakland’s maritime business,” said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. “We just celebrated a direct service rail route established between Oakland and Nevada that will further enhance cargo movement between our seaport and the U.S. interior.”

Port of Oakland May 2024 container volume shows solid growth, June 18, 2024, www.ajot.com

BTS releases results from the biennial National Census of Ferry Operators

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) on June 14, 2024 released the latest results from the biennial National Census of Ferry Operators (NCFO) for 2022. Key findings indicate that 139 ferry operators responded across the Nation providing service through 468 terminals in 33 states and two U.S. territories, while/and using a fleet of 550 active vessels. These operators reported moving a total of 112.1 million passengers and 26.3 million vehicles. Comprehensive results from the 2022 census, as well as data from prior year censuses, can be found <https://www.bts.gov/NCFO>.

BTS releases results from the biennial National Census of Ferry Operators, June 14, 2024, www.bts.gov



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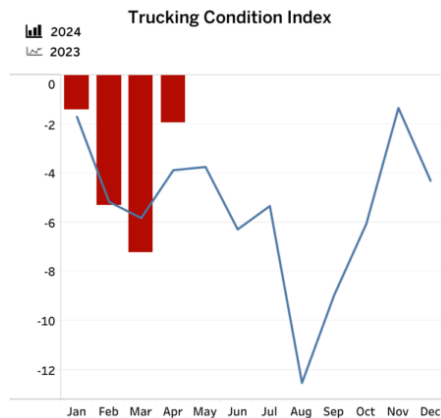
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Transportation's Top Stories

Road Transport Updates

CANADA

ECONOMIC TRUCKING TRENDS: Trucking conditions continue to improve; spot market steady



Source: Today's Trucking

“Better days are in sight for trucking companies, but the market still needs to work through the tough combination of too much capacity and sluggish freight demand,” reasoned FTR vice-president of trucking, Avery Vise. Still – it was a better month than March, which came in at -7.25. Improving freight rates and financing costs helped improve the outlook for fleets, while freight volumes also improved. But the index hasn’t seen positive territory since early 2022 and FTR expects it to remain mostly negative through the rest of this year. “The May payroll jobs figures for trucking offered some encouragement that this transition is underway, but a healthier situation for carriers will require continued rightsizing of capacity and stronger volume. We still do not expect consistently favorable market conditions for carriers until early next year.”

ECONOMIC TRUCKING TRENDS: Trucking conditions continue to improve; spot market steady, May 14, 2024, www.todasystruckingsinc.ca

B.C. opens truck inspection station near Terrace



Source: Today's Trucking

A new commercial vehicle inspection station has opened ahead of schedule, just east of Terrace, along Highway 16 in northwestern British Columbia. The facility incorporates advanced transportation technology to expedite the inspection process for commercial vehicles. It also provides a rest area for drivers, especially those operating longhaul trucks, according to a Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure news release. “This new inspection station means commercial transport operators now have a clean and safe place to rest, and people in the northern region can get the goods and supplies they need,” said Rob Fleming, B.C. minister of transportation and infrastructure. “It means safer roads for everyone.” For commercial drivers, the new station includes advanced technology like overheight detectors, etc.

B.C. opens truck inspection station near Terrace, June 14, 2024, www.todaystrucking.ca

Traffic Flow Dashboard



Source: Statcan

Statistics Canada has launched the Traffic Flow Dashboard as a source of experimental statistics to provide information on the traffic flow on selected road segments in the cities of Calgary and Toronto. This dashboard shows traffic count data that are obtained from traffic camera imagery using a computer vision-based system developed at Statistics Canada's Data Exploration and Integration Lab.

Traffic Flow Dashboard, June 17, 2024, www.statcan.gc.ca

Ratification vote for new CBSA agreement begin June 20



Source: Inside Logisitcs

Ratification votes for the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) and the Customs and Immigration Union (CIU) members working at the Canada Border Services Agency will begin June 20 and end July 4, 2024. In order for FB (Border Services) members to receive their new rates of pay, retroactive pay and lump sum payment, the new agreement must first be ratified. To ensure this ratification process is done as quickly as possible, PSAC will be conducting an online ratification process.

Ratification vote for new CBSA agreement begin June 20, June 17, 2024, www.insidelogistics.ca

Urban public transit, April 2024



Source: Statcan

In April 2024, Canada's urban transit ridership reached 131.6 million trips—recovering 83.7% of its April 2019 level, pre-COVID-19 pandemic—the highest recovery rate to date. Total passenger trips were 131.6 down from 134.3 for March 2024 and total passenger revenue was 316.6 down from 317.4 for March 2024,

Urban public transit, April 2024, June 18, 2024, www.statcan.gc.ca

Volvo already sees signs of pre-buy activity as truck market poised to strengthen



Source: Inside Logisitcs

Volvo Trucks North America (VTNA) is already seeing signs of a pre-buy, particularly among private fleets, as costly EPA27 emissions standards that will add about US\$20,000 to the cost of a Class 8 truck loom. But the truck market this year is slightly lagging expectations, said Magnus Koeck, vice-president of strategy, marketing and brand management with VTNA during a market update at the company's Customer Center June 20. Volvo had anticipated overall Canada/U.S. Class 8 orders of 270,000 units, but it's tracking slightly below expectations and will likely total somewhere in the 260s. "Then, up from there," predicted Koeck, adding the U.S. election results may impact order activity later in the year. "The market will come back,

make no mistake about that.” Volvo’s share of the market this year is 13.7% in Canada, above its 10.8% Canada/U.S. combined market share. That represents growth in both Canada and North America, and the company has yet to begin delivering the all-new VNL it introduced earlier this year. Deliveries of those trucks will begin in the fourth quarter and Volvo is currently hosting some 1,800 dealers, sales reps and customers at its Customer Center to showcase the new truck.

Volvo already sees signs of pre-buy activity as truck market poised to strengthen, June 20, 2024, www.insidelogitcs.ca

US/WORLD

Carriers with women-specific recruiting initiatives have more female drivers, ATRI says

Carriers that implement women-specific recruiting and retention initiatives have a higher percentage of women drivers (8.1%) than those without (5%), according to the latest American Transportation Research Institute (ATRI) research. Industry image and perception, training school completion, truck parking shortages, restroom access, and gender harassment and discrimination were among the challenges identified. ATRI released [new research](#) identifying approaches to increase the number of women truck drivers entering and staying in the industry. It lays out an action plan for the industry – with discrete steps for motor carriers, truck driver training schools and truck drivers – all designed to make trucking careers more attractive to women.

Carriers with women-specific recruiting initiatives have more female drivers, ATRI says, June 18, 2024, www.todyastrucking.ca

Biden-Harris Administration Announces Over \$108 Million in Transportation Investments to Improve Infrastructure and Road Safety on Federal and Tribal Lands

The U.S. Department of Transportation’s (USDOT) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on June 18, 2024 announced over \$108 million in grant awards for 85 projects that will improve transportation and reduce roadway fatalities and serious injuries on Federal and Tribal lands. The grants, from FHWA’s Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects and Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund programs, are the latest in a series of efforts by the Biden-Harris Administration to invest in transportation improvements and improve safety, mobility, economic development, and equity on Federal and Tribal lands.

Biden-Harris Administration Announces Over \$108 Million in Transportation Investments to Improve Infrastructure and Road Safety on Federal and Tribal Lands, June 18, 2024, www.dot.gov

USDOT Awards Nearly \$60 Million in Advanced Vehicle Technology Grants to Arizona, Texas and Utah to Serve as National Models and Help Save Lives on Our Nation’s Roadways

The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on June 20, 2024 announced that it is awarding \$60 million in grants under the Saving Lives with Connectivity: Accelerating V2X Deployment program to advance connected and interoperable vehicle technologies. The grants to recipients in Arizona, Texas and Utah will serve as national models to accelerate and spur new deployments of vehicle-to-everything (V2X) technologies.

USDOT Awards Nearly \$60 Million in Advanced Vehicle Technology Grants to Arizona, Texas and Utah to Serve as National Models and Help Save Lives on Our Nation’s Roadways, June 20, 2024, www.dot.gov



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Other Transport Updates

CANADA

2024–25 Indigenous Transportation Initiatives Fund

The Ontario government is investing almost \$675,000 through the Indigenous Transportation Initiatives Fund (ITIF) to help support economic growth, mobility and transportation safety in Indigenous communities across the province. The Ontario government also provided a list of communities to receive funding and the amounts to be received.

2024–25 Indigenous Transportation Initiatives Fund, June 14, 2024, www.mto.gov.ont.gc.ca

US/WORLD

Readout of Biden-Harris Administration's Convening with Baltimore Businesses and Supply Chain Stakeholders

On June 13, 2024, following the official reopening of the Port of Baltimore, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg and National Economic Advisor Lael Brainard convened a meeting of businesses and supply chain industry partners to discuss progress restoring business to the port. On March 26, vessel traffic was suspended due to the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge. Secretary Buttigieg thanked participants for stepping up in the wake of the tragedy to work together to keep local workers employed and mitigate negative economic fallout to the Baltimore community and the country. He shared how the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) was able to use infrastructure funding to expand capacity for additional cargo at Tradepoint Atlantic and used DOT's [Freight Logistics](#)

[Optimization Works](#) (FLOW) initiative to improve visibility into the cargo being re-routed to other East Coast ports.

Readout of Biden-Harris Administration's Convening with Baltimore Businesses and Supply Chain Stakeholders, June 14, 2024, www.dot.gov

New EU law will protect environment and biodiversity



Source: Europa

The EU has approved a law on nature restoration that will help put measures in place to restore at least 20% of the EU's land and sea areas by 2030, and all ecosystems in need of restoration by 2050. The new law will reduce the impact of climate change and the effects of natural disasters. It sets specific, legally binding targets and obligations for nature restoration in each of the listed ecosystems – from terrestrial to marine, freshwater and urban ecosystems. The regulation aims to mitigate climate change and the effects of natural disasters. It will help the EU to fulfil its international environmental commitments, and to restore European nature.

[New EU law will protect environment and biodiversity, June 17, 2024, \[www.europa.eu\]\(http://www.europa.eu\)](#)

EU budget: funding Europe's 2025 priorities



Source: Europa

The Commission has proposed an annual EU budget of almost €200 billion for 2025, reinforced by €72 billion raised under the post-COVID recovery plan, NextGenerationEU. It is meant to finance EU priorities and help tackle current and future challenges. The Commission's proposal will be discussed and adopted by the European Parliament and the Council of the EU.

EU budget: funding Europe's 2025 priorities, June 19, 2024, www.europa.eu

Biden-Harris Administration Announces Availability of Nearly \$200 Million in Grants to Fix Aging Natural Gas Pipes, Reduce Energy Costs

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is soliciting grant applications for nearly \$200 million as part of a first-of-its-kind program established by President Biden's historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law in November 2021. The Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization (NGDISM) grant program, is aimed at mitigating safety risks and methane emissions from high-risk and leak-prone legacy natural gas distribution pipes. To date, the grant program has provided nearly \$600 million in funding to create hundreds of good-paying pipeline jobs, help lower energy costs for consumers, and modernize infrastructure that has been around for decades with some from as far back as the Civil War Era.

Biden-Harris Administration Announces Availability of Nearly \$200 Million in Grants to Fix Aging Natural Gas Pipes, Reduce Energy Costs, June 18, 2024, www.dot.gov



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**North
America**

US Chapter Forum – Thursday, June 27, 2024 at 5 pm ET/ 4 pm CT

The US Chapter would like to invite you to their next Forum meeting to be held next Thursday, June 27th at 5pm (ET) / 4pm (CT). They hope you will be able to join them via Zoom for this 60-minute meeting.

In addition to the regular updates on CILT internationally and in North America, the US Chapter is delighted to confirm that Bob Hitt CMILT, North American Lead on the Transportation & Logistics Industry at Salesforce, will be the guest speaker for the session.

Bob will address the topic of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Transportation & Logistics. This talk will include a brief overview of types of AI, past and future plus various AI platforms. Moving onto to concerns with generative AI and the potential for the industry from adopting predictive and generative AI and what other AI applications are out there.

Do come with questions for Bob as there will be time for Q&A and we will try to keep this session as interactive as possible. If you have any questions, or specific topic areas you'd like to send in advance, please email to Bob bhitt@salesforce.com before next week's session.

ZOOM joining Instructions:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85860407894?pwd=znfHbtVI6Sy1omql7vIFrP6T5ErKgy.1> Meeting ID: 858 6040 7894 / Passcode: 766051

Job Postings

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

Transportation's Top Stories **Other CILT News**

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:
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