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North  
America

Transportation's Top Stories

## Air Transport Updates

### CANADA

- ✈️ **Air Canada announces long-term plan at its 2024 Investor Day, setting 2028 targets of \$30 billion operating revenues, at least 17% adjusted EBITDA margin and approximately 5% free cash flow margin by 2028**



Source: Air Canada

Air Canada on December 17, 2024 reaffirmed its 2024 full year guidance: 1. Accelerated commercial growth strategy grounded on strong foundation built over the last decade and leveraging many opportunities ahead; 2. Focus on margin expansion, consistent cash generation to invest in the business and create long-term value for shareholders; 3. Capital allocation objectives with disciplined balance sheet management and responsible risk profile; 4 Air Canada reaffirms full year 2024 guidance and shares expectations for certain financial measures for the full year; and 5. 2025 full year guidance, financial targets for 2028, and long-term aspiration shared

*Air Canada announces long-term plan at its 2024 Investor Day, setting 2028 targets of \$30 billion operating revenues, at least 17% adjusted EBITDA margin and approximately 5% free cash flow margin by 2028, December 17, 2024, [www.aircanada.ca](http://www.aircanada.ca)*

- ✈️ **Minister Anand hosts roundtable with Canadian air industry stakeholders to discuss holiday and winter travel readiness**

The President of the Treasury Board and Minister of Transport, the Honourable Anita Anand, on December 13, 2024 issued the following statement: “With the holiday travel season about to begin, it was my pleasure to host the first quarterly roundtable with key air sector service providers. ... During the roundtable, we discussed how all entities in the air travel ecosystem are working together to prepare for the surge in air passengers during the busiest time of the year. We looked for opportunities to optimize information and communication among partners, to help manage pressures during peak periods. We talked about the importance of contingency planning and sufficient staffing to minimize the impact of unforeseen events on passengers, and agreed to stay in close contact throughout the season.”

*Minister Anand hosts roundtable with Canadian air industry stakeholders to discuss holiday and winter travel readiness, December 13, 2024, [www.tc.gc.ca](http://www.tc.gc.ca)*

- ✈️ **Travel With Ease This Holiday Season with Air Canada's**

## Top Tips for Travellers



Source: Air Canada

Air Canada on December 17, 2024 released its top travel tips to help customers travel with ease during the peak holiday period, which runs from mid-December until January 6, 2025. December 19 to 23, 2024 are expected to be the busiest travel days. 1. Download the Air Canada mobile app and check-in within 24 hours of departure; 2. Ensure travel documents are in order and your contact information is accurately updated; and 3. Air Canada supports Apple's Share Item Location feature for AirTag and other Find My network accessories to enhance baggage recovery

*Travel With Ease This Holiday Season with Air Canada's Top Tips for Travellers, December 17, 2024, [www.aircanada.ca](http://www.aircanada.ca)*

## ✈ Porter Airlines landing in Kelowna with new Toronto Pearson flights

Porter Airlines is expanding its presence in British Columbia with flights between Toronto Pearson International Airport and Kelowna International Airport. Service begins on May 14, 2025, with five weekly roundtrip flights, increasing to daily roundtrip flights on June 23.

*Porter Airlines landing in Kelowna with new Toronto Pearson flights, December 17, 2024, [www.flyporter.com](http://www.flyporter.com)*

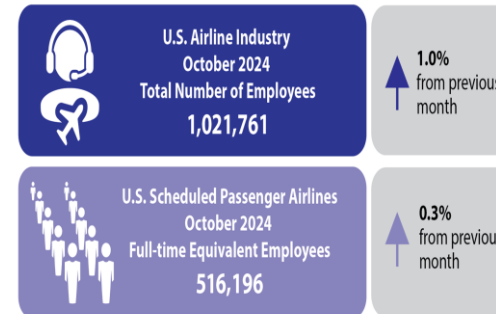
## US/WORLD

## ✈ INVESTING IN AMERICA: Biden-Harris Administration Announces More Than \$20 Million in Grants from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to Modernize Airports

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is awarding \$20.5 million for 25 grants across 14 states and Puerto Rico to modernize airports under President Biden's

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law [Airport Infrastructure Grants \(AIG\) program](#), part of the \$25 billion total included in the law over a period of five years for airport and air traffic control infrastructure improvements. *INVESTING IN AMERICA: Biden-Harris Administration Announces More Than \$20 Million in Grants from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to Modernize Airports, December 13, 2024, [www.dot.gov](http://www.dot.gov)*

## ✈ U.S. Cargo and Passenger Airlines Gained 9,949 Jobs in October 2024



Source: BTS

U.S. airline industry (passenger and cargo airlines combined) employment increased to 1,021,761 workers in October 2024, 9,949 (0.98%) more workers than in September 2024 (1,011,812). U.S. scheduled-service passenger airlines employed 544,705 workers in October 2024, or 54% of the industry-wide total. Passenger airlines gained 1,600 employees in October 2024. American Airlines Inc. led scheduled passenger carriers, adding 1,006 employees; United Air Lines Inc. added 291, and Southwest Airlines Co. added 164. U.S. cargo airlines employed 472,827 workers in October 2024, or 46% of the industry-wide total. Cargo carriers gained 8,382 employees in October. FedEx, the leading air cargo employer, increased employment by 8,307 jobs.

*U.S. Cargo and Passenger Airlines Gained 9,949 Jobs in October 2024, December 10, 2024, [www.bts.gov](http://www.bts.gov)*

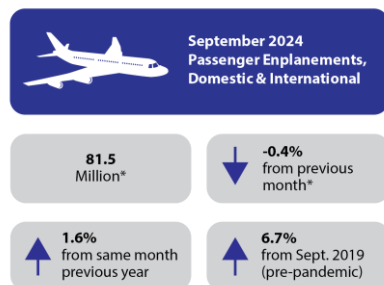
## ✈ Air Travel Consumer Report: September 2024 Numbers and 3rd Quarter Numbers

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) on December 11, 2024 released its Air Travel Consumer Report (ATCR) on airline operational data compiled for the month of September 2024 and third quarter of 2024 for on-time performance, mishandled baggage, and mishandled

wheelchairs and scooters. The ATRC is designed to assist consumers with information on the quality of services provided by airlines. For September 2024, 0.6% of flights were cancelled, lower than the 1.2% cancellation rate for September 2023. For the first nine months of 2024, 1.6% of flights have been cancelled, equal to the rate posted during same period in 2023 and lower than the 2.2% cancellation rate posted for the first nine months of pre-pandemic 2019. In September 2024, reporting marketing carriers cancelled 0.6% of their scheduled domestic flights, lower than the rate of 2.0% in August 2024 and lower than the rate of 1.2% in September 2023. The year-to-date cancellation rate for 2024 is 1.6%. In September 2024, reporting marketing carriers handled 37.5 million bags and posted a mishandled baggage rate of 0.42%, lower than both the rate of 0.64% in August 2024 and the rate of 0.53% in September 2023. Check the website for further information on mishandled wheelchairs, bumping, etc.

*Air Travel Consumer Report: September 2024 Numbers and 3rd Quarter Numbers, December 11, 2024, [www.bts.gov](http://www.bts.gov)*

## ✈️ September 2024 U.S. Airline Traffic Data Up 1.6% from the Same Month Last Year



Source: BTS

U.S. airlines carried 77.5 million systemwide (domestic and international) scheduled service passengers in September 2024, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). When adjusted for seasonality, September enplanements are down 0.4% from August and down 1.7% from the all-time high reached in June 2024. BTS reported 68 million domestic passengers and 9.5 million international passengers on U.S. airlines flights in September, not adjusting for seasonality. U.S. airline traffic reports are filed monthly with BTS. See the tables that accompany this release on the BTS website for summary data since 2016 and complete data since 2000.

*September 2024 U.S. Airline Traffic Data Up 1.6% from the Same Month Last Year, December 12, 2024, [www.bts.gov](http://www.bts.gov)*

## ✈️ Secretary Buttigieg Announces Sweeping Protections for Airline Passengers with Disabilities

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg on December 16, 2024 announced that the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has issued new protections for people with disabilities in commercial air travel that will ensure that they can fly safely and with dignity. The new final rule requires that airlines meet more rigorous standards for accommodating passengers with disabilities, especially for passengers who use wheelchairs. The rule sets new standards for assistance, mandates hands-on training for airline employees and contractors who physically assist passengers with disabilities and handle passengers' wheelchairs, and specifies actions that airlines must take to protect passengers when a wheelchair is damaged or delayed during transport. Earlier this year, DOT issued a record-breaking penalty against American Airlines for unsafe and undignified treatment of passengers with disabilities.

*Secretary Buttigieg Announces Sweeping Protections for Airline Passengers with Disabilities, December 16, 2024, [www.dot.gov](http://www.dot.gov)*

## ✈️ Slot Regulation Should Push Airports to Squeeze More Capacity from Existing Infrastructure



Source: IATA

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) warned that the airport capacity crunch is threatening the freedom for people to travel, and constraining economies. With little prospect for airport infrastructure to fully keep pace with growing demand, IATA released a White Paper including proposals for how slot regulations must incentivize airports to generate more capacity from existing infrastructure. The number of airports unable to fully meet the demand for air connectivity and requiring slot coordination using the IATA Worldwide Airport Slot

Guidelines has already grown to nearly 400 worldwide. If current trends prevail, this number could grow by 25% over the next decade.  
*Slot Regulation Should Push Airports to Squeeze More Capacity from Existing Infrastructure, December 18, 2024, [www.iata.org](http://www.iata.org)*

## **US Airlines gained \$2.1 billion in third quarter 2024, an increase over third quarter 2023**

2024 Net Profit: \$2.1 billion

↑ \$0.4B from 2023 Net Profit of \$1.6B



Scheduled Passenger Airlines

Source: BTS

U.S. scheduled passenger airlines reported a third-quarter 2024 after-tax net gain of \$2.1 billion and a pre-tax operating profit of \$3.1 billion. One year earlier, in the third quarter of 2023, the airlines reported an after-tax net gain of \$1.6 billion and a pre-tax operating gain of \$3.3 billion.

*US Airlines gained \$2.1 billion in third quarter 2024, an increase over third quarter 2023, December 18, 2024, [www.bts.gov](http://www.bts.gov)*

## **EU brings in Flight Emissions Label to inform passengers of flight emissions**

A new EU-approved Flight Emissions Label will be available to passengers from next summer, offering them a trustworthy methodology for calculating flight emissions. The label will protect passengers from misleading greenwashing claims made by airline operators.

*EU brings in Flight Emissions Label to inform passengers of flight emissions, December 18, 2024, [www.europa.eu](http://www.europa.eu)*



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## Rail Transport Updates

### CANADA

 **CPKC, Americold exploring co-development opportunities in Mexico**



Source: CPKC

Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) and Americold Realty Trust, Inc. (NYSE: COLD) on December 12, 2024 announced plans to formally explore co-development opportunities in Mexico as part of their continued strategic collaboration focused on optimizing temperature-sensitive commodity flows between the United States, Mexico and Canada.

*CPKC, Americold exploring co-development opportunities in Mexico, December 12, 2024, [www.cpkc.ca](http://www.cpkc.ca)*

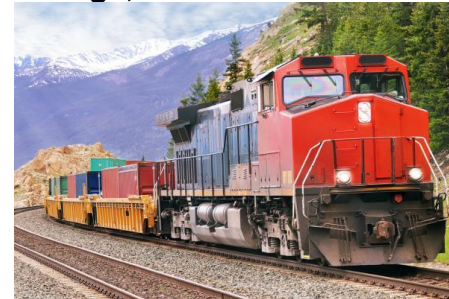
 **CN Recognizes Customers, Suppliers and Supply Chain Partners for their Leadership in Sustainability**

CN on December 12, 2024 announced the recognition of 73 of its customers, suppliers and supply chain partners, for their leadership and commitment to sustainability. Through CN's EcoConnexions Partnership Program, the Company is celebrating businesses dedicated

to building a more sustainable future by supporting climate action, reducing their environmental impact, promoting biodiversity and implementing more sustainable and ethical business practices.

*CN Recognizes Customers, Suppliers and Supply Chain Partners for their Leadership in Sustainability, December 12, 2024, [www.cn.ca](http://www.cn.ca)*

 **Railway carloadings, October 2024**



Source: Statcan

In October 2024, the volume of cargo carried by Canadian railways reached 33.1 million tonnes, up slightly (+0.4%) from October 2023. It was the highest level for the month of October in five years. Canadian grain shipments were the largest contributor to the year-over-year increase in October 2024. Carloading of iron ores and concentrates fell 2.7% and intermodal traffic rebounded 3.2% in October 2024.

*Railway carloadings, October 2024, December 16, 2024, [www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)*

## CPKC completes construction of second span of international rail bridge linking Laredo, Texas and Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas



Source: CPKC

Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) said on December 17, 2024 that it has completed construction of the new international railway bridge span over the Rio Grande from Laredo, Texas, to Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas. “Completion of this internationally important project more than doubles our capacity to move freight through the border at the largest international trade port of entry in North America,” said Keith Creel, CPKC President and Chief Executive Officer. “This is an important milestone that keeps Laredo-Nuevo Laredo at the center of North American trade, allowing the secure and efficient movement of more imports and exports across the U.S.-Mexico border.

*CPKC completes construction of second span of international rail bridge linking Laredo, Texas and Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, December 17, 2024, [www.cpkc.ca](http://www.cpkc.ca)*

## US/WORLD

## AAR reports rail traffic for the week ending December 14, 2024



Source: CPKC

The Association of American Railroads (AAR) on December 18, 2024 reported U.S. rail traffic for the week ending December 14, 2024. For

this week, total U.S. weekly rail traffic was 526,166 carloads and intermodal units, up 4.8 percent compared with the same week last year. Total carloads for the week ending December 14 were 228,400 carloads, down 2.4 percent compared with the same week in 2023, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 297,766 containers and trailers, up 11.1 percent compared to 2023. Six of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2023. They included farm products excl. grain, and food, up 599 carloads, to 17,143; nonmetallic minerals, up 596 carloads, to 29,740; and chemicals, up 374 carloads, to 32,862. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2023 included coal, down 3,899 carloads, to 61,291; metallic ores and metals, down 2,444 carloads, to 18,770; and motor vehicles and parts, down 785 carloads, to 16,009. Canadian railroads reported 91,690 carloads for the week, down 5.9 percent, and 67,922 intermodal units, down 6.7 percent compared with the same week in 2023. For the first 50 weeks of 2024, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 7,927,769 carloads, containers and trailers, down 1.0 percent.

*AAR reports rail traffic for the week ending December 14, 2024, December 18, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*

## FRA issues final rule to strengthen freight car safety standards to help protect America’s rail network and the public

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) on December 19, 2024 announced a final rule to further enhance the safety of the U.S. freight rail industry by introducing tougher standards for newly-built freight cars placed into service within the U.S. The new regulation establishes and ensures compliance with stringent limitations on the use of sensitive technology and components originating from countries of concern or state-owned enterprises, ensuring that America’s rail network remains protected from risks of exploitation or compromise. Under the new regulation, freight cars must meet strict manufacturing requirements. They must be manufactured, assembled, and substantially transformed in a qualified facility by a qualified manufacturer and components from countries of concerns and state-owned enterprises are restricted. Additionally, sensitive technology and any essential components of that technology may not originate from a country of concern or state-owned enterprise. Freight car manufacturers must certify that their cars comply with these standards before being placed into service on the U.S. general railroad system. Manufacturers must also maintain detailed records to support their certification, which will be available for FRA review upon request. Enforcement of the rule includes civil penalties for noncompliance. Violations can result in manufacturers being prohibited from supplying freight cars to the U.S. rail system.

*FRA issues final rule to strengthen freight car safety standards to help protect America's rail network and the public, December 19, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*



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# Marine Transport Updates

## CANADA

### Promoting boating safety within Canada's busiest port: overview of 2024 efforts

2024 was a busy year for recreational marine activities and boating safety awareness efforts within the shared waterways of the Port of Vancouver. Our harbour patrol team developed and delivered—in collaboration with partner agencies—an extensive safe boating awareness program. We organized, participated in, or rolled out dozens of boating safety events and communications, and engaged with boaters and paddlers onboard more than 1,100 vessels to educate, conduct safety checks, and provide safety directions or instructions.

*Promoting boating safety within Canada's busiest port: overview of 2024 efforts, December 12, 2024, [www.portmetrovancover.com](http://www.portmetrovancover.com)*

## US/WORLD

### Houston's volumes surge to best month of year



### November container flows a torrent at Port of LA



Source: Freightwaves

Source: AJOT

Port Houston is on track to close 2024 as one of its most successful years to date, handling 3,799,573 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) through November—a 9% increase over the same period last year. November volumes alone reached 369,361 TEUs, a notable 24% increase year-over-year. This marks the biggest month of the year for Port Houston in terms of containerized cargo volume. Loaded imports rose by 19% in November, driven by consumer goods and machinery, and loaded exports were up 16% the same month, reinforced by robust resin shipments. Resins account for 45% of the Port's export volumes, underscoring Houston's role as the nation's top gateway for this essential commodity. At Port Houston's multi-purpose facilities, general cargo volumes dipped 3% year-to-date though steel imports increased 34% in November. Total tonnage across all of Port Houston's public facilities is up 5% so far this year, totaling 48,466,585 tons.

*Houston's volumes surge to best month of year, December 16, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*



In a year full of container volume records, the hits just keep on coming for the Port of Los Angeles. The busiest U.S. container hub saw total volume of 884,315 twenty-foot equivalent units in November 2024 — usually a lull period following the peak shipping season — an increase of 16% from November 2023. It was also 15% above the port's five-year running average for the month of November. Year to date, the port has processed 9,375,735 TEUs, ahead 19% from the previous year and 5% above the five-year average. "We are well on pace to exceed 10 million container units for only the second time in our 117-year history," said Port of Los Angeles Executive Director Gene Seroka, in a media briefing.

*November container flows a torrent at Port of LA, December 17, 2024, [www.freightwaves.com](http://www.freightwaves.com)*

### **2025 CMA CGM Transatlantic North Europe network**

CMA CGM is opening a new historic cooperation on Transatlantic along with its partners COSCO Shipping Lines, Oriental Overseas Container Line, Evergreen Line and Ocean Network Express. To provide our customers with the best products on the market, CMA CGM is reshuffling its Transatlantic setup as from February 1st, 2025. As a result, they expect clients to benefit.

*2025 CMA CGM Transatlantic North Europe network, December 17, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*

### **Port of Long Beach achieves busiest November**



Source: AJOT

Buoyed by six straight months of historic volumes, the Port of Long Beach is on course to reach 9.6 million cargo containers by the end of 2024 without congestion or other disruption and exceeding the previous record set during the pandemic in 2021. The Port of Long Beach also achieved its busiest November, when dockworkers and terminal

operators moved 884,154 twenty-foot equivalent units, up 20.9% from the same month last year and surpassing the previous record set in November 2020 by 12.8%. Imports grew 21.8% to 432,823 TEUs and exports rose 9.5% to 119,083 TEUs. Empty containers moved through the Port increased 24.5% to 332,250 TEUs. November also marked the Port's sixth consecutive monthly year-over-year cargo increase.

*Port of Long Beach achieves busiest November, December 18, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*

### **U.S. ports 2024: Behind the volume surge**

U.S. port operations have seen record-breaking volumes while demonstrating remarkable resilience — despite serious structural challenges that could reshape maritime trade patterns in 2025. The Port of Los Angeles is heading for its best December on record, potentially exceeding 900,000 TEUs, while Long Beach is on track for an all-time annual record of 9.6 million TEUs, according to Bloomberg. But this surge isn't driven by organic demand. As noted by the Journal of Commerce, we're seeing a "disconnect between torrid import growth and tepid domestic demand," as Larry Gross puts it. Instead, this volume spike stems from a perfect storm of three factors: anticipated tariffs under the incoming Trump administration, the looming ILA strike threat for January 15, 2025 and an early Lunar New Year.

*U.S. ports 2024: Behind the volume surge, December 19, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*



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## Road Transport Updates

### CANADA

#### Canada Post says workers to return Tuesday after labour board ruling



Source: CBC

Canada Post says operations will resume on Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2024 after the Canada Industrial Relations Board ordered a return to work. Canada Post says it has agreed with the Canadian Union of Postal Workers to implement a five per cent wage increase retroactive to the day after the collective agreements expired. Labour Minister Steven MacKinnon on December 13, 2024 directed the Canada Industrial Relations Board to order the 55,000 picketing employees back to work if a deal wasn't doable before the end of the year.

*Canada Post says workers to return Tuesday after labour board ruling, December 15, 2024, [www.cbcnews.ca](http://www.cbcnews.ca)*

#### Urban public transit, October 2024



Source: Statcan

In October 2024, the number of urban passenger trips in Canada reached a post-COVID-19 pandemic high at 147.2 million, the most trips since February 2020. Ridership in October 2024 was 87.0% of the pre-pandemic volume from the same month in 2019, similar to the 87.1% recovery rate recorded in May 2024. Transit agency operating revenue (excluding subsidies) was up 6.6% from the same month in 2023, reaching \$350.4 million in October 2024. While this was the highest level of total revenue recorded since the pandemic, it remained lower (-\$15.2 million) than the operating revenue earned in October 2019, prior to the pandemic.

*Urban public transit, October 2024, December 13, 2024, [www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)*

## OTA Outlines Plan for Province to Secure Trucking Supply Chain



Source: Ontruck

The Ontario Trucking Association (OTA) has put together a security action plan that will help address concerns raised by the incoming US administration around border security. OTA has come to the table with an action plan which would alleviate some concerns. “All sectors are going to have to contribute to this security policy effort to protect our access to the United States market,” said OTA Chair Mark Bylsma. “The trucking industry moves Ontario’s trade to the US and we need to work with Premier Ford to make the necessary changes that sends a proactive message to our American partners that we take border security seriously.” For details on the plan check the website.

*OTA Outlines Plan for Province to Secure Trucking Supply Chain, December 13, 2024, [www.ontruck.ca](http://www.ontruck.ca)*

## Ontario Advancing Work on Bradford Bypass

The Ontario government is advancing work on the Bradford Bypass through the award of a contract for tree clearing, which is now underway. Crews are clearing a path along the planned route for the highway’s west section, marking another milestone in the province’s plan to tackle gridlock and give drivers across York Region and Simcoe County more time to spend with their families each day.

*Ontario Advancing Work on Bradford Bypass, December 17, 2024, [www.mto.gov.on.ca](http://www.mto.gov.on.ca)*

## FES Appears to tackle Wage Theft, Tax Cheating, While Expanding Investment Incentive



Source: Ontruck

Amid political fireworks and uncertainty, the Federal Government did release its 2024 Fall Economic Statement (FES). It’s unclear what, if any, proposals in the FES will get implemented, especially considering the political uncertainty in Ottawa, but it did contain a few notable items for the trucking industry. Firstly, FES 2024 proposes to fully extend the Accelerate Investment Incentive (AII) to 2029, with a four-year phase out after 2029. Extending this incentive was one of CTA’s main financial requests as the AII was set to be phased out. The FES makes worker protection against wage theft a priority. Relatedly, under the FES, Canada Revenue Agency would receive more funds (\$451.5M over five years, starting in 2025–26), for audits to combat the underground economy, namely, to “conclude audits of emergency business subsidy amounts” and “close major tax compliance gaps.”

*FES Appears to tackle Wage Theft, Tax Cheating, While Expanding Investment Incentive, December 17, 2024, [www.ontruck.ca](http://www.ontruck.ca)*

## DAT Freight & Analytics acquires Trucker Tools’ operations

Truckload freight marketplace and freight data analytics service provider DAT Freight & Analytics has acquired the operations of Trucker Tools, a carrier-forward capacity sourcing and load-tracking solution. The acquisition will expand DAT’s ability to provide real-time GPS tracking and load optimization on the DAT One platform, according to a news release. DAT One is a marketplace for spot truckload freight, with more than 668,000 loads posted daily and market rates based on \$1 trillion in freight transactions. “Real-time load tracking and digital freight matching are among the most dynamic technologies in our industry today and part of an important evolution in how truckload freight transactions are conducted,” said Jeff Clementz, chief executive officer (CEO) at DAT.

*DAT Freight & Analytics acquires Trucker Tools’ operations, December 17, 2024, [www.todaystrucking.com](http://www.todaystrucking.com)*

## **Feds Announces Plan to Strengthen Border Security and Canada's Immigration System**



Source: Ontruck

The Government of Canada announced a \$1.3 Billion plan to enhance our nation's security and the immigration system. Details released last night outline a multipronged approach to disrupt the movement of illicit drugs and provide new tools for law enforcement officials. It also contains proposed measures to protect the integrity of Canada's visa system, among other significant items. The intent to release the plan was highlighted in the [Fall Economic Statement](#), which also looks to address wage theft, and tax cheating.

*Feds Announces Plan to Strengthen Border Security and Canada's Immigration System, December 18, 2024, [www.ontruck.ca](http://www.ontruck.ca)*

## **Ontario Taking Over Maintenance of Thousand Islands Parkway**

The Ontario government is taking over direct responsibility for annual maintenance and rehabilitation of the Thousand Islands Parkway to protect local communities from the rising costs of upkeep and ensure the 40-kilometre scenic parkway remains in good repair. The transfer of additional maintenance responsibilities and costs from the St. Lawrence Parks Commission (SLPC) to the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) will free up critical resources and funds that allow the SLPC to focus on providing a high-quality experience for the millions of commuters, residents and tourists who use it for boating, camping and other activities every year.

*Ontario Taking Over Maintenance of Thousand Islands Parkway, December 18, 2024, [www.mto.gov.on.ca](http://www.mto.gov.on.ca)*

## **Limit exposure to vicarious liability, carriers warned**



Source: Today's Trucking

Canadian carriers hauling freight in the United States should be aware that if their vehicle is involved in a crash, and during litigation a jury finds the trucking company 1% liable, the company is on the hook for the entire judgment. As nuclear verdicts – where jury awards in civil lawsuits have exceeded US\$10 million – become more common, carriers must be vigilant and limit their exposure to vicarious liability, a lawyer and insurance specialist said during a discussion at the Fleet Safety Council's central and southwestern Ontario chapters event in Cambridge, Ont. Vicarious liability involves placing the liability for one's actions upon another person or entity. While fleet insurance covers liability for actions while operating your commercial vehicle, Roy DeSousa, cargo claims specialist at Old Republic Canada offered a tip for extra protection. "You can take a comprehensive general liability policy to cover negligence caused by an employee."

*Limit exposure to vicarious liability, carriers warned, December 18, 2024, [www.todaystrucking.ca](http://www.todaystrucking.ca)*

## **Canada Cartage agrees on new contract with union**



Source: Inside Logistics

Canada Cartage employees represented by Unifor Local 222 in Oshawa have ratified a new collective agreement that includes wage increases

of approximately 15 per cent over four years. “Congratulations to the bargaining committee for their outstanding work,” said Unifor national president Lana Payne. “This agreement continues the pattern of winning solid gains for our members throughout 2024.” Canada Cartage is the exclusive transportation provider for the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) in most of the Greater Toronto Area, as well as northern, central and eastern Ontario. The company delivers goods from LCBO’s Whitby distribution centre to retail stores, grocery stores and convenience outlets. The new agreement covers about 115 workers employed in roles such as AZ and DZ drivers, shunt drivers, dock workers and maintenance staff.

*Canada Cartage agrees on new contract with union, December 20, 2024, [www.insidelogistics.ca](http://www.insidelogistics.ca)*

FedEx on December 19, 2024 said it will spin off its less-than-truckload (LTL) division as an independent company, setting the stage for increased competition in the US LTL sector. The separation of FedEx’s parcel and LTL freight divisions, to be completed over the next 18 months, will create a new publicly traded company that will already be the largest LTL provider in North America ranked by revenue. “This is the right time to pursue a separation as we respond to the unique dynamics of the LTL market,” Raj Subramaniam, FedEx president and CEO, said in a statement. FedEx Freight had \$9.4 billion in revenue in its fiscal year that ended May 31, and its top line could become even bigger as an independent trucking company.

*FedEx to spin off industry-leading FedEx Freight LTL division, December 19, 2024, [www.joc.com](http://www.joc.com)*

## US/WORLD

### Fleets rapidly improved fuel efficiency since 2022: NACFE

The North American Council for Freight Efficiency’s (NACFE) *Fleet Fuel Study* reveals that fleet-wide fuel efficiency has significantly improved over the last two years, with average miles per gallon (MPG) rising to 7.62 in 2022 and 7.77 in 2023. These results mark year-over-year gains of 4.2% and 2.0%, following a period of little improvement from 2018 to 2021. During a webinar discussing the study, Yunsu Park, NACFE’s director of engineering and the lead author, emphasized the role of technological and operational advancements. “The adoption rate for the Fleet Fuel Study fleets of all technologies is at an all-time high, and so are MPGs,” he explained, noting that broader market trends also contributed to the gains.

*Fleets rapidly improved fuel efficiency since 2022: NACFE, December 16, 2024, [www.todaystrucking.com](http://www.todaystrucking.com)*

### FedEx to spin off industry-leading FedEx Freight LTL division



Source: JOC



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Transportation's Top Stories

## Other Transport Updates

### CANADA

#### CTA Lauds Alberta Plan to Tackle Cross-Border Security



Source: Cantruck

Alberta Premier Danielle Smith introduced plans to bolster security at the province's border points with the U.S., including \$29 million to create an Interdiction Patrol Team (IPT), which will be made up of 51 uniformed officers, 10 support staff including dispatchers and analysts, four drug patrol dogs, and 10 surveillance drones, [news media](#) reports.

CTA Lauds Alberta Plan to Tackle Cross-Border Security, December 12, 2024, [www.cantruck.ca](http://www.cantruck.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, December 16, 2024, [www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

#### Canada to impose more tariffs on Chinese imports in

## new year



Source: AJOT

Canada plans to impose tariffs on a slew of Chinese products from as early as next year, the government's fiscal update showed, as part of its wider investigation into imports from the country. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government has already slapped a 100% tariff on all Chinese electric vehicles and a 25% tariff on imports of Chinese steel and aluminum products, with the finance ministry previously saying it was also exploring options to widen the duties. The mid-year fiscal update presented on December 16, 2024 showed that Ottawa has decided to apply tariffs to imports of certain solar products and critical minerals from China early in the new year, with levies on semiconductors, permanent magnets, and natural graphite following in 2026.

*Canada to impose more tariffs on Chinese imports in new year, December 17, 2024, [www.ajot.com](http://www.ajot.com)*

## Dollarama plans to development new logistics hub in Western Canada

Dollarama has entered into an agreement to acquire land in the Calgary region for \$46.7 million, subject to customary closing purchase price adjustments, for the development of a new logistics hub. The company plans to build a warehouse and second distribution centre to service stores in Western Canada after the closing of the transaction, which is anticipated in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2025 and subject to the satisfaction of customary closing conditions. The new facility is expected to be operational by the end of calendar 2027. Dollarama said having a two-node logistics model will enable the company to optimize its warehousing and distribution operations and support its growth plans while generating cost savings.

*Dollarama plans to development new logistics hub in Western Canada, December 19, 2024, [www.insidelogistics.ca](http://www.insidelogistics.ca)*

## US/WORLD



## October 2024 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI) Up 0.2% from the Previous Month and Up 0.7% from the Same Month Last Year



Source: BTS

The Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI), which is based on the amount of freight carried by the for-hire transportation industry, rose 0.2% in October 2024 from September 2024, rising after a one-month decline, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). From October 2023 to October 2024 the index rose 0.7%.

*October 2024 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI) Up 0.2% from the Previous Month and Up 0.7% from the Same Month Last Year, December 11, 2024, [www.bts.gov](http://www.bts.gov)*



## INVESTING IN AMERICA: Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$130 million in Funding to Scale Technology Solutions that Address Pressing Transportation Challenges in 23 States

On December 16, 2024, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced over \$130 million in grant awards for 42 technology demonstration projects through the **Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grants Program**. The competitive grant program, established by President Biden's historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, provides \$500 million over five years for State, local, and Tribal governments to leverage technology to create safer, more efficient, and more innovative transportation systems. With these latest two rounds of funding, the SMART Grants Program has awarded nearly \$280 million across 45 states, Puerto Rico, and Washington D.C.

*INVESTING IN AMERICA: Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$130 million in Funding to Scale Technology Solutions that Address*

## DOT Issues Final Rule Establishing Accessibility Standards for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way

On December 18, 2024, as part of continuous efforts to support transportation accessibility, the United States Department of Transportation (DOT) published a final rule that will increase accessibility for transit users by providing local governments and other owner-operators of the public right-of-way clear, uniform, and technically defined standards of accessibility to guide their design decisions for new construction and alterations of transit stops in the public right-of-way.

*DOT Issues Final Rule Establishing Accessibility Standards for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way, December 18, 2024, [www.dot.gov](http://www.dot.gov)*

## Strike against Amazon reveals complicated interrelationship among warring parties



Source: Freightwaves

The Teamsters union has launched a multilocation strike against Amazon, but as with so many things involving the giant e-commerce retailer and logistics company, describing the labor action is no simple task. The union said overnight in a prepared statement that workers would be setting up picket lines at seven Amazon locations, which are identified by a four-letter and numerical code: DBK4 in New York, DGT8 in Atlanta, DFX4, DAX5 and DAX8 in Southern California, CDK6 in San Francisco, and DIL7 in Skokie, Illinois, in suburban Chicago. But while those are Amazon distribution facilities, the workers who drive the vehicles that service the last-mile business of Amazon are not Amazon employees.





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In case you missed the KPMG Seminar "Trump Tariffs - beneath the headlines - potential impacts in the US , Canada, Mexico and beyond" on 18 December, you can register to view the recording here: <https://kpmg.com/xx/en/our-insights/operations/future-of-tax-and-legal-webcast-series.html>

Open, scroll down to "Previous Webcasts" and you will see that there are options for "Already Registered" or "Not Registered". Follow the prompts for the selection that applies to you.

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## Job Postings

**\* Senior Consultant / TMS Super User (Oracle Transportation Management) – Contract, Canadian Tire Corporation, Mississauga, ON**

### What You'll Do

The Senior Consultant, TMS (Oracle Transportation Management) role serves as a technical expert in Oracle Transportation Management (OTM), driving enhancements, support, and delivery of new features for

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the Operations Planning & Transportation Execution Teams. This position demands a strong background and knowledge in the configuration and impacts of changing, adding, or removing configurations in OTM. The Senior Consultant, TMS (OTM) Super User will coordinate and interact with the TMS Project Team, IT development and shared services teams, vendors and architecture teams to ensure requirements are understood and capable of being implemented. This is a technical role requiring strong analytical skills and a willingness to partner across several teams to implement project deliverables.

This role has project and sustaining accountabilities. It's required to support and tune our OTM West sustaining operations with the rest of our TMS Super User team, as well as participate in our contributions to the project team to build the net new functionality required for OTM East/Central.

### For Sustaining

Support, develop, and maintain our OTM platform to ensure capabilities are delivered through optimal system configurations, settings, and controls. It will include participation in rotation for 24/7 support with the rest of the TMS Super Users.

Partner with Product Owner on product vision, requirements definition (functional and non-functional), and capability analysis to ensure the product features support the needed business requirements.

Participate in ongoing interaction with Oracle Support and related teams regarding Quarterly Releases, Patches, Oracle SRs, etc. to ensure timely testing and validation, as well as continued effective and efficient operation of the system and product flow.

Provide subject matter expertise while developing and maintaining functional system configurations, documentation, and processes. Provide data content, modeling, and mapping expertise for OTM. Complete both hands-on configuration of the platform as well as

management of internal and potentially outsourced configuration resources.

Assist business stakeholders with testing of system changes and analyze data flows for process improvement opportunities.

For TMS OTM Project

Support testing efforts using business requirements and user acceptance criteria to validate that system configuration is working as expected. This includes Regression Testing to ensure new functionality doesn't harm current functionality in Production from previous phases. Partner with Solution Integrator consultants, to obtain deeper knowledge of Oracle Transportation Management (OTM) functionality and acquire the ability to support configuration efforts.

Manage activities in alignment with Agile approach (sprint planning, story-execution, defect resolution, sprint demos, retrospectives, etc.) Work collaboratively with IT and Solution Integrator to support defect resolution and execute respective assignments captured in project plan. From an Organizational Change Management (OCM) perspective, act as conduit between business and project team (includes facilitating project updates, responding to inquiries, supporting training efforts). Oversee assigned activities in accordance with project timelines and agreed-upon detailed design.

Partner with project team and stakeholder groups (Transportation, Operations Planning, Distribution, and IT) to support a smooth implementation.

This position will be required to work Monday to Friday as a standard week, with a minimum of 2 days in the office (Mississauga campus). Additional days as required to support pre and post implementation activities. Participation in rotation for On Call 24/7 is also required to support our stakeholders' 7-day per week operations all year round.

### What You Bring

Experience supporting, configuring, and implementing Oracle Transportation Management (OTM) modules.

Advanced OTM Workflow Agent design and configuration

Excellent interpersonal, verbal and written communication skills and the ability to interact with a diverse group of team members, including executives, managers, end users across a variety of business units, Technology professionals, and subject matter experts.

Skilled in data gathering and analysis with the objective of providing solution recommendations and validation from a data and information flow perspective.

Strong ability to work effectively within time constraints, changing priorities, and independently.

Ability to provide reliable solutions to a variety of problems using sound problem solving techniques including the ability to find root cause and corrective action for given problems.

Strong analytical and problem-solving skills.

Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite: Including Intermediate in Excel, Word, and PowerPoint.

Three or more years' experience as an OTM systems or functional analyst.

Bachelor's degree or equivalent technical and business experience. Intermediate to strong skillset with PL/SQL (Programming Language/Structured Query Language) or other programming languages

Hybrid

We value flexibility. We have adopted a hybrid work model whereby employees use a combination of working in office and virtually in service of outcomes. Each leader is empowered to decide what work is best achieved in person based on the unique needs of their team.

To apply for this job, please visit:  
<https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/4071990283>

### \* Supply Chain - Recent Grad/Full Time, Honeywell, United States

#### About the Role

As a Supply Chain Analyst here at Honeywell, you will play a crucial role in optimizing our supply chain operations and ensuring the efficient flow of goods and materials. You will work closely with cross-functional teams to analyze data, identify areas for improvement, and implement strategies to enhance supply chain efficiency. Your work will directly impact our ability to meet customer demands, reduce costs, and maintain a competitive edge in the market.

#### In This Role, You Will

Analyze supply chain data and identify trends, patterns, and opportunities for improvement

Collaborate with cross-functional teams to develop and implement supply chain strategies

Monitor inventory levels and ensure timely replenishment to meet production demands

Coordinate with suppliers and logistics partners to optimize transportation and delivery processes

Identify and implement cost-saving initiatives to improve supply chain efficiency

Utilize supply chain management software and tools to track and manage inventory

Location: This position is available in multiple locations across the United States.

### **Pay Range**

The annual salary range for this position is \$68,000/yr-\$87,500/yr. Please note that this salary information serves as a general guideline. Honeywell considers various factors when extending an offer, including but not limited to the scope and responsibilities of the position, the candidate's work experience, education and training, key skills, as well as market and business considerations.

### **Minimum Qualifications**

Must be currently pursuing a bachelor's degree (or higher) from an accredited college or university in Supply Chain, Manufacturing Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Operations, Procurement, or similar field

Must have graduate from an accredited college or university between December 2024 and May 2025 and be available to begin full-time work between January 2025 - July 2025

Must have obtained degree within 12 months of the date of hire

To apply, please visit: <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/4010951285>

## **\* Ocean Import Specialist, DHL Freight, Saint-Laurent, Quebec, Canada**

### **Job Description**

Coordinate and oversee the end-to-end ocean import process for FCL shipments, ensuring timely and accurate execution of all import activities.

Collaborate with customers to obtain shipping instructions, documentation, and necessary information for customs clearance and import compliance.

Liaise with carriers, freight forwarders, and other service providers to secure bookings, monitor shipment status, and resolve any transportation-related issues.

Prepare and submit import documentation, including bill of lading, commercial invoices, packing lists, and customs declarations, ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements.

Coordinate with customs brokers and agents to facilitate smooth customs clearance and ensure adherence to import regulations and requirements.

Track and monitor shipment milestones, providing timely updates to customers and internal stakeholders.

Proactively address and resolve any operational issues or exceptions that may arise during the import process.

Ensure accurate and timely data entry in relevant systems and maintain proper documentation for record-keeping purposes. Collaborate with cross-functional teams, including sales, customer service, and operations, to ensure seamless communication and customer satisfaction.

Stay updated on industry regulations, market trends, and best practices in ocean freight forwarding and customs compliance

### **You have the following qualities and qualifications:**

High school diploma or equivalent; additional education or certification in supply chain, logistics, or international trade is a plus.

Proven experience (2-3 years) in ocean freight forwarding, specifically in FCL import operations.

In-depth knowledge of import regulations, customs compliance, and documentation requirements.

Strong understanding of ocean carriers, freight forwarding, and international trade practices.

Proficient in using MS Office applications. CW1 experience is an advantage.

Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written, with the ability to interact effectively with customers, vendors, and internal teams. Strong attention to detail and organizational skills, with the ability to prioritize tasks and meet deadlines.

Problem-solving and critical-thinking abilities to address operational challenges and provide efficient solutions.

Ability to work in a fast-paced environment, handle multiple tasks simultaneously, and adapt to changing priorities.

To apply for this job, please visit:  
<https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/4069169539>

## **\* Logistics Order Fulfillment Specialist, Bosch USA, Fairport, NY**

### **Job Description**

Responsible for communicating and coordinating customer requirements regarding product and service delivery. Develop and maintain relationships within procurement (CLP), distribution (CDC), sales and order desk teams. Ensure consistent and proactive communications to internal and external customers. The Logistics Order Fulfillment Specialist is to use his/her analytical abilities to resolve problems and make recommendations to the customer service associates. Coordinate customer delivery dates with procurement (CLP) to meet customer's expectations.

### **Principal Responsibilities**

Advocate for customer concerns related to product availability, shipment, and delivery, contributing to timely resolution.

Oversee comprehensive order management processes, including delivery block management, outbound delivery creation, and order confirmation handling.

Monitor One Lot Shipment activities to ensure smooth execution. Respond to and process spot pricing requests as required. Create and manage virtual license files to facilitate order processing.

Coordinate kitting requirements and scheduling to meet production and delivery timelines.

Serve as the primary point of contact for first-level escalation in resolving order and customer-related issues.

Manage and resolve EDI data and SAP IDOC discrepancies and ensure smooth data flow.

Lead the prioritization of orders, adjusting based on business needs. Act as the central point for communicating inventory levels. Collaborate closely with procurement (CLP) to address supply chain and allocation challenges.

Provide input to business unit forecasting, drawing on communication with the RSO/field teams.

Serve as the primary liaison for the Sales Organization, facilitating communication on order exceptions, large orders, and project-related concerns.

Manage customer reserve stock levels, ensuring availability as required. Provide key data and insights on delivery performance metrics. Act as an SAP Key User and contribute as an active member of the GPS team to drive operational improvements within the Logistics Operations. Develop and lead continuous improvement processes through the application of quality tools.

Ensure that best practice standards are reviewed and implemented to promote ongoing process enhancements.

Support the Manager and Logistics teams in identifying training and documentation needs to better serve customer requirements.  
Qualifications

Associates degree in Business or related discipline. Preferred APICS Certification.

Minimum: 3 – 5 years' experience in a customer service, call center or logistics environment.

Excellent computer skills and working familiarity with multiple software packages, preferably MS Excel and SAP ERP software packages.

Individual must have strong verbal and written communication skills, professional telephone etiquette, and the ability to handle stressful situations in an efficient, professional manner.

Must have a sense of “team” response to satisfy sales goals and assure 100% customer satisfaction.

Must be willing to travel approximately 15% of the time.

Additional Information

### **Compensation Information:**

This position is an salaried exempt position and the U.S. annual base salary range for this full-time position is \$64,500 to \$87,300 . Within this range, individual pay is determined based on several factors, including, but not limited to work experience, applicable education, job knowledge, role complexity, job geographic location, etc. This position is not bonus eligible.

To apply for this job, please visit:  
<https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/4073645389>



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