

### Transportation's Top Stories

### Air Transport Updates

### **CANADA**

Aeroplan partners with Chexy to Turn Essential Expenses into Exciting Rewards for Members



NEW! Earn points on rent, bills and taxes
Visit chexy.co/aeroplan to find out how you can earn
up to 10,000 points!

AEROPLAN @ chexy.

Source: Air Canada

Aeroplan, Canada's leading travel loyalty program, has partnered with Chexy, an innovative Canadian-founded, female-led fintech platform, to help members turn payments for essential services like rent, bills and taxes into rewards. Chexy enables members to use their credit card for large, routine payments typically made via e-transfer or pre-authorized debit or bill payment — helping them earn points, build credit and get more out of expenses that usually go unrewarded. Chexy joins Aeroplan's growing list of world-class retail partners, including Starbucks, Uber, LCBO, and 1,200+ participating Parkland fuel and convenience stores Canada-wide and more.

Aeroplan partners with Chexy to Turn Essential Expenses into Exciting Rewards for Members, April 15, 2025, <a href="https://www.aircanada.ca">www.aircanada.ca</a>

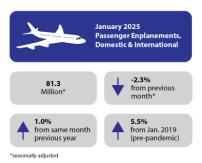
# Important information for travellers who experience a schedule change, or a flight cancellation, ahead of their travel

The Canadian Transportation Agency states "The airline must always" ensure that you complete your itinerary as soon as possible. In All Situations: the airline must rebook you on another flight if your original flight is delayed for 3 hours or more, or is cancelled. Regarding Rebooking: 1. Large airlines must rebook you on the next available flight operated by them, or an airline they have a commercial agreement with, on any reasonable route from the same airport. a. If that flight would depart more than 9 hours after your original departure time, the airline must rebook you on a flight of any airline on any reasonable route from the same airport. b. If the airline cannot rebook you on a flight from the same airport within 48 hours of the original departure time, they will have to book you on a flight operated by any airline leaving another airport, if there is one nearby, and transport you to that airport. 2. Small airlines must rebook you on the next available flight operated by them, or an airline with which they have a commercial agreement, on a reasonable route from the same airport. Regarding Refunds if the rebooking option does not accommodate your travel needs, the airline must offer you a refund. For delays fully within the airline's control you may also be entitled to compensation for inconvenience." For more information, please visit the Canadian Transportation Agency website.

Important information for travellers who experience a schedule change, or a flight cancellation, ahead of their travel, April 15, 2025, <a href="https://www.cta-otc.gc.ca">www.cta-otc.gc.ca</a>

#### **US/WORLD**

### January 2025 U.S. Airline Traffic Data Up 1.0% from the Same Month Last Year



Source: BTS

U.S. airlines carried 70.7 million systemwide (domestic and international) scheduled service passengers in January 2025, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). When adjusted for seasonality, January enplanements are down 2.3% from December and down 2.3% from the all-time high reached in December 2024. BTS reported 60.4 million domestic passengers and 10.4 million international passengers on U.S. airlines flights in January 2025, not adjusting for seasonality.

January 2025 U.S. Airline Traffic Data Up 1.0% from the Same Month Last Year, April 11, 2025, www.bts.gov

### Transforming Air Cargo: CEIV's 10-Year Journey



Source: IATA

As it celebrates its 10th anniversary, IATA's Center of Excellence for Independent Validators (CEIV) continues to play a pivotal role in elevating cargo handling standards, enhancing quality, and driving continuous improvements. Since the launch of CEIV Pharma in 2014, the initiative has expanded to include animal welfare (CEIV Live Animals, 2018), perishables (CEIV Fresh, 2019), and dangerous goods (CEIV Lithium Batteries, 2021). But CEIV actually has its origins in security. The European Union required an air cargo or mail carrier operating into the EU from a third country airport (ACC3) to

meet certain security requirements. A subsequent initiative trained 150 independent validators to conduct assessments, ensuring cargo carriers could operate flights into and from the EU. "CEIV has set a new standard in air cargo, ensuring that specialized shipments are handled with the utmost care and efficiency," says Yaniv Sorany, Principal IATA Certification. "Our efforts to improve and expand the program have had a significant impact on global cargo operations, and collaboration across the industry."

Transforming Air Cargo: CEIV's 10-Year Journey, April 10, 2025, <a href="https://www.iata.org">www.iata.org</a>

### Air Cargo Key to Supply Chain Resilience



Source: IATA

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) emphasized the vital role of air cargo in maintaining global supply chain resilience and called on governments and industry to remain focused on delivering the fundamental expectations of customers—safety and security. digitalization and sustainability. "Whether supporting global trade, enabling e-commerce, or delivering vital humanitarian aid, the value of air cargo has never been clearer. To meet customer expectations and navigate an increasingly complex environment, the air cargo industry must continuously strengthen safety and security, fast-track digitalization, and deliver on its sustainability commitments," said Brendan Sullivan, IATA's Global Head of Cargo at the opening of the 18th World Cargo The discussion centered on the following issues: 1. Safety: Zero Tolerance for Rogue Shippers; 2. Security: The Need for Coordinated, Risk-Based Measures; 3. Digitalization: Accelerating Industry-Wide Adoption of ONE Record: 4. Sustainability: Commitment Strong, SAF Support Needed; and 5. Trade Tensions

Air Cargo Key to Supply Chain Resilience, April 15, 2025, www.iata.org

### WorldACD Weekly Air Cargo Trends (week 14) - 2025



Source: AJOT

The slowdown in global tonnage that began in the latter half of March 2025 accelerated in week 14 (March 31 - April 6, 2025), according to the latest weekly figures from WorldACD Market Data. Following a -1% decline the previous week, worldwide air cargo tonnages fell by -7%, week on week (WoW). About half of this was due to a seasonal drop in bookings during the Eid holidays at the end of Ramadan, while the other half reflects worldwide uncertainty over a trade war triggered by the latest wave of US tariffs and the removal of US de minimis exemptions for shipments from China and Hong Kong. Despite the weakening in demand, volumes are still at a +6% higher level than the same week last year.

WorldACD Weekly Air Cargo Trends (week 14) – 2025, April 14, 2025, www.ajot.com

▼IATA Launches Information Portal for Live Animal Regulations



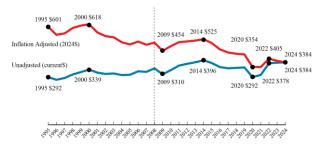
Source: IATA

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has launched <u>LAR Verify</u>, a digital portal to improve the welfare and safe transport of live animals by air. Using LAR Verify, airlines, shippers and freight forwarders can access accurate operator and destination-specific requirements as defined by the IATA <u>Live Animals Regulations</u> (LAR). The regulations have formed the basis for the worldwide transport of live animals by air for more than 50 years. The new portal offers an automated compliance solution for live animal shipments, streamlining planning, booking, acceptance and handling. IATA data shows that there were close to 200,000 live animal shipments globally in 2024—up 11% since 2019.

IATA Launches Information Portal for Live Animal Regulations, April 16, 2025, www.iata.org

### 2024 Annual Average Domestic Air Fare Decreases from 2023

Figure 1. U.S. Average Domestic Fares, Annual 1995-2024



Source: BTS

The 2024 annual average domestic itinerary air fare of \$384 decreased 2.3% from the 2023 inflation-adjusted annual fare of \$393. The average domestic fares from 1995 to 2024 is shown in the chart above.

2024 Annual Average Domestic Air Fare Decreases from 2023, April 15, 2025, <a href="https://www.bts.gov">www.bts.gov</a>

### Dubai: Undeclared lithium-batteries pose increasing threat to aircraft, lives, warns IATA

During the 18th World Cargo Symposium Brendan Sullivan, global head of cargo at IATA said "we need governments to actively support the International Civil Aviation Organization's (ICAO) for the safe transport of dangerous goods by air," as undeclared lithium-batteries pose increasing threat to aircraft

Dubai: Undeclared lithium-batteries pose increasing threat to aircraft, warns IATA, April 15, 2025, <a href="https://www.cargonews.com">www.cargonews.com</a>

### U.S. Cargo and Passenger Airlines Lost 4,423 Jobs in February 2025



Source: BTS

U.S. airline industry (passenger and cargo airlines combined) employment decreased to 1,004,718 workers in February 2025, 4,423 (0.44%) less workers than in January 2025 (1,009,141). U.S. scheduled-service passenger airlines employed 544,156 workers in February 2025, or 54% of the industry-wide total. Passenger airlines gained 269 employees in February 2025. United Air Lines led scheduled passenger carriers, adding 433 employees; Delta Air Lines added 314, and American Airlines added 124. U.S. cargo airlines employed 456,352 workers in February 2025, or 46% of the industry-wide total. Cargo carriers lost 4,677 employees in February. FedEx, the leading air cargo employer, decreased employment by 4,730 jobs. U.S. Cargo and Passenger Airlines Lost 4,423 Jobs in February 2025, April 16, 2025, <a href="https://www.bts.gov">www.bts.gov</a>

IATA CEIV Marks 10 Years of Improving Air Cargo Supply Chain Performance



Source: IATA

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) is marking 10 years of its Center of Excellence for Independent Validators (CEIV) program, which continues to improve the air cargo supply chain's performance on quality, safety, and compliance. Launched in 2014 with CEIV Pharma to support the handling of specialized cargo, CEIV provides industry-wide certification programs covering pharmaceuticals (CEIV Pharma), live animals (CEIV Live Animals), perishables (CEIV Fresh), and dangerous goods (CEIV Lithium Batteries). These programs are built on the foundation of global standards and independent validation, enabling greater transparency and operational consistency. IATA CEIV Marks 10 Years of Improving Air Cargo Supply Chain

IATA CEIV Marks 10 Years of Improving Air Cargo Supply Chair Performance, April 17, 2025, <a href="https://www.iata.org">www.iata.org</a>



Transportation's Top Stories

### Rail Transport Updates

**CANADA** 

Rail transportation, 2023



Source: Statcan

In 2023, operating revenues for the Canadian rail transportation industry rose 2.5% year over year to reach \$20.9 billion. This marks the third consecutive year of growth. Inflationary pressures as well as a higher volume of goods transported during the year largely contributed to this increase. Despite wildfires in June 2023 and labour disruptions at Canada's West Coast ports in July, freight revenues increased 3.2% from 2022 to \$18.8 billion. In 2023, freight revenues accounted for 90.1% of the rail industry's total operating revenues. Freight revenues for the shortline carriers—which made up 7.3% of the industry's total freight revenues in 2023—increased 9.1% compared with 2022. Passenger revenues increased 27.4% year over year to \$439.9 million in 2023, surpassing pre-COVID-19 pandemic levels (\$420.1 million in 2019) for the first time. VIA Rail reported carrying 4.1 million passengers in 2023, which was 815,000 more passengers (+24.7%) compared with one year earlier. Total rail operating expenses rose 3.4% (+\$438.2 million) year over year to \$13.4 billion in 2023. Total freight tonnage rose 3.1% year over year to 325.6 million tonnes in 2023. This marks the highest level of freight volume since 2019 (330.2 million tonnes).

Rail transportation, 2023, April 11, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

#### US/WORLD

Could short lines come to the rescue of Class I railroads?



Source: Freightwaves

There's a pachyderm of a quandary haunting the executive conference rooms of Class I railroads, and short lines may be the solution. Carload volumes have been falling since 2008-2009, almost a generation's worth of declines that began with the global financial crisis and accelerated during the fall of coal and the hollowing out of the American manufacturing base. The current environment represents nothing less than a service crisis for the largest carriers. It's a crisis that has been intensified by the impact on and of regulators such as the Surface Transportation Board and Federal Railroad Administration, as well as legislators, said consultant Anthony Hatch in a presentation at the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA) conference. The success of some shortlines may come to the rescue of Class I carriers. Success has raised a contradictory question of why the recent momentum of Class I strategy seemingly is

to buy or retake short lines. He pointed to then-Canadian Pacific's acquisition of the Central Maine & Quebec in 2020; Pan Am's sale to CSX in 2022 and the 2024 deal that saw BNSF acquire Montana Rail Link.

Could short lines come to the rescue of Class I railroads?, April 11, 2025, <a href="https://www.freightwaves.com">www.freightwaves.com</a>

### U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Agreement to Save Taxpayers Over \$60 Million by Ending Grant for Texas High-Speed Rail Project

On April 14, 2025, U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy announced an agreement between the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and Amtrak to terminate the \$63.9 million grant awarded to Amtrak under the Corridor Identification and Development (CID) Program for the Amtrak Texas High-Speed Rail Corridor previously known as the Texas Central Railway project. This project was originally announced as a purely private venture, but as the cost estimates dramatically ballooned, the Texas Central Railway proposal became dependent on Amtrak and federal dollars for development work. The project capital cost is now believed to be over \$40 billion – making construction unrealistic and a risky venture for the taxpayer. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Agreement to Save Taxpayers Over \$60 Million by Ending Grant for Texas High-Speed Rail Project, April 14, 2025, www.dot.gov

## Railroads applaud bipartisan legislation to combat supply chain and retail theft

On April 14, 2025, Senate Judiciary Chairman Chuck Grassley and Rep. David Joyce introduced the Combating Organized Retail Crime Act (CORCA) to create a coordinated federal response to the mounting wave of sophisticated attacks against the nation's supply chain and retailers. The new legislation underscores that while theft tactics vary across industries, only an economy-wide response can effectively curtail this growing threat. "Organized criminal operations continue to evolve and escalate their targeted attacks against our nation's supply chain and retailers," said Association of American Railroads President and CEO Ian Jefferies. "This alarming trend affects every industry — including the nation's largest railroads, which experienced a 40% spike in cargo theft last year. Disrupting these organized crime networks requires a unified, federally led response. Chairman Grassley and Rep. Joyce's bipartisan legislation provides the strategic framework

necessary to disrupt these criminal networks and safeguard our supply chain."

Railroads applaud bipartisan legislation to combat supply chain and retail theft, April 14, 2025, www.ajot.com

### CSX honors 62 customers with annual "Chemical Safety Excellence" award

CSX on April 14, 2025 announced 62 customers as winners of the company's 31st Annual Chemical Safety Excellence Award for their "dedication to safely transporting hazardous materials across the company's rail network in 2024." For more than three decades, the award has honored chemical customers who prioritize safety in every shipment, "reflecting their commitment to protecting CSX employees, the surrounding communities, and the environment." It also underscores rail as the safest mode of land transportation for hazardous chemicals, the Class I noted. To qualify, customers must ship at least 600 carloads of hazardous materials during the year with zero non-accidental releases of regulated substances. The 2024 award recipients collectively shipped 164,438 carloads safely, "demonstrating the highest level of operational excellence," CSX stated in a release. This year's accolades included special recognition for Citgo Petroleum and Westlake Corporation, which achieved a milestone of five consecutive years of accident-free shipments. "Safety is at the core of everything we do at CSX," said Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer Kevin Boone. "The customers honored with this award are true partners in our shared commitment to reducing risks and enhancing safety. Together, we're building safer, stronger communities."

CSX honors 62 customers with annual "Chemical Safety Excellence" award, April 15, 2025, www.ajot.com

### CSX Corp announces first quarter results



Source: AJOT

CSX Corp. on April 16, 2025 announced first quarter 2025 operating income of \$1.04 billion compared to \$1.34 billion in the prior year period. Net income was \$646 million, or \$0.34 per diluted share, compared to \$880 million, or \$0.45 per diluted share, in the same period last year. Total volume of 1.52 million units for the quarter was 1% lower compared to first quarter 2024. Revenue totalled \$3.42 billion for the quarter, decreasing 7% year-over-year, as declines in coal revenue, fuel surcharge, and merchandise volume were only partially offset by the effects of higher merchandise pricing and growth in intermodal volume.

CSX Corp announces first quarter results, April 16, 2025, www.ajot.com

### Autonomous rail intermodal cars to begin testing this month



Source: Freightwaves

Parallel Systems, which is developing battery-electric railcars that operate autonomously, will launch testing this month on two Georgia railroads, Parallel said on April 14, 2025. The Los Angeles-based company also announced it had raised an additional \$38 million in funding, bringing its total to date to about \$100 million. "Federal Railroad Administration approval and closing our Series B funding round are two critical milestones for Parallel Systems," Matt Soule, Parallel founder and chief executive, said in a release. "Together with our strategic partnerships within the rail industry, Parallel Systems is now poised to fully commercialize our battery-electric rail system, starting with the FRA-approved project in Georgia."

Autonomous rail intermodal cars to begin testing this month, April 16, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

### AAR: North American Rail Volume Up Through Week 15



Source: Railway Age

For the first 15 weeks of 2025, ending April 12, 2025 North American carload and intermodal traffic was up 3.3% from the same point last year, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported April 16, 2025. The United States and Canada experienced gains, while Mexico saw a loss. Three of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They were coal, up 6,279 carloads, to 51,600; grain, up 3,632 carloads, to 24,119; and miscellaneous carloads, up 1,052 carloads, to 9,511. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included petroleum and petroleum products, down 618 carloads, to 9,778; nonmetallic minerals, down 544 carloads, to 31,076; and farm products excl. grain, and food, down 392 carloads, to 16,611. Total combined U.S. traffic for the first 15 weeks of 2025 was 7,308,756 carloads and intermodal units, an increase of 5.0 percent compared to last year. Canadian railroads reported 93,003 carloads for the week, up 1.1 percent, and 76,096 intermodal units, up 4.3 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 15 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 2,390,505 carloads, containers and trailers, up 0.3 percent.

AAR: North American Rail Volume Up Through Week 15, April 16, 2025, www.railwayage.com



### Transportation's Top Stories

### Marine Transport Updates

#### **CANADA**

### PRPA Helps Fund New Port Edward Fire Truck



Source: PRPA

The port of Prince Rupert improves safety by purchase of new fire truck. The District of Port Edward is safer and more secure with a brand-new fire truck now serving the community and surrounding area. The specialized vehicle was purchased for the volunteer Port Edward Fire Department through a partnership between the Prince Rupert Port Authority's (PRPA) Community Investment Fund and the District of Port Edward, with PRPA contributing \$155,000 to the \$500,000 cost. PRPA Helps Fund New Port Edward Fire Truck, April 15, 2025, www.rupertport.com

#### **US/WORLD**

## Port of Rotterdam takes important step in making shipping more sustainable



Source: AJOT

OCI and James Fisher Fendercare conducted an ammonia bunkering pilot between two vessels at a terminal in the port of Rotterdam on 12 April, 2025. This marks an important step in preparing the port for vessels bunkering clean ammonia. Ammonia is a carbon-free fuel, so no CO2 is released during combustion. The first ships capable of using ammonia as a bunker fuel are expected in 2026 or 2027. The pilot involved transferring 800 cubic meters of liquid, cold ammonia at -33 degrees Celsius between two ships. The actual transfer took about 2.5 hours and was conducted alongside a new quay at the Maasvlakte 2 APM terminal. The demonstration validated the Port of Rotterdam safety framework for ammonia bunkering, establishing that it is possible to do this safely and without ammonia release in the port. Port of Rotterdam takes important step in making shipping more sustainable, April 14, 2025, www.ajot.com

### Port of LA projects 10% volume drop due to tariffs ... for now



Source: AJOT

The Port of Los Angeles is projecting a 10% volume decline, possibly beginning in the month of May 2025, as the impact of higher tariffs causes a decline in imports and exports, according to Eugene Seroka, executive director, Port of Los Angeles. In his April 11th media briefing, Seroka said: "I anticipate a drop of at least 10% in our cargo volume from July 2025 until the end of this year. But that drop off could begin as early as next month in May. Of course, we are working with the information we have at this moment and this estimate may necessitate revisions as we learn more. The bottom line is this: the ripple effect of these tariffs will be felt by all of us, and there is no way around that." Additional uncertainty comes from the imposition of higher U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods that will have a major impact on the Port's container volumes: "Companies and consumers are still facing a great deal of uncertainty. The latest (Trump administration) announcement also included a 145% duty on all goods made in China, which represents about 40% of the imports that pass through our terminals here at the Port of Los Angeles."

Port of LA projects 10% volume drop due to tariffs ... for now, April 11, 2025, www.ajot.com

### Live Monitoring of Tanker Vessel Calls at U.S. Ports

While the U.S. was a net exporter via vessels of crude oil in 2024, exporting 208 million short tons, we also imported 150 million short tons of crude oil via vessels. Sixty-seven percent of crude oil by value were transported via vessels, compared to other modes. In 2024, crude oil was imported and exported via vessel at 34 U.S. seaports. There were nine ports located on the East Coast (30.3 million short tons), 14 ports on the Gulf Coast (274.8 million short tons), 10 ports on the West Coast (52 million short tons), and on port in Alaska (1.1

million short tons). The top-three ports were Corpus Christi, TX; Houston, TX; and Long Beach, CA [U.S. Census Bureau 2025]. Live Monitoring of Tanker Vessel Calls at U.S. Ports, April 14, 2025, www.bts.gov

US considering making port fees more affordable for Chinese ships: Report



Source: Freightwaves

The Trump administration could scale back plans to assess massive fees on Chinese ships calling U.S. ports. The White House and the United States trade representative, which first proposed the fees, are considering a revised plan that would charge less for operators of smaller ships, as well as vessels carrying agricultural and other bulk exports. Shippers, importers and other maritime stakeholders voiced opposition to the fees in USTR hearings held in March, saying the fees of as much as \$1.5 million per ship per call were not economically viable and could force smaller carriers out of the business. They said secondary ports were at risk, since carriers were likely to skip those calls rather than pay the fees, leading to congestion at major container gateways.

US considering making port fees more affordable for Chinese ships: Report, April 15, 2025, <a href="https://www.freightwaves.com">www.freightwaves.com</a>

## Some European ports are congested but not (yet) related to tariffs, trade wars



Source: AJOT

Some major European ports are currently experiencing vessel congestion, but doubts have been cast on claims that this is related to the fast-developing trade wars between the US and China. However. such a scenario has not been ruled out in the coming months. According to a recent article in *The Sunday Times (of London)*, entitled Chaos at European ports, as trade war leaves ships in limbo, queues of hundreds of ships are building up at maritime gateways in Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and the UK amid tit-for-tat tariffs and plans to impose a \$1 million fee on Chinese-linked vessels docking at US ports. One shipping executive told the newspaper: "Stuff coming out of Asia is being canceled left, right and center, or is being diverted to other places", while a port source said that one perfume and luxury retailer, which had intended to ship goods from China to the US with a stop-off in Europe, had decided not to complete the journey. Instead, the company plans to keep the goods in storage in Europe and attempt to sell them to avoid a tariff. The article also quoted data from the shipping analytics firm MarineTraffic which showed that in the first week of April, 226 ships called at the Belgian port of Antwerp, compared to 34 in the same week a year ago. And 51 ships called at the port of Southampton, up from 12 in the equivalent week.

Some European ports are congested but not (yet) related to tariffs, trade wars, April 15, 2025, www.ajot.com

### Port of Corpus Christi customers move 51.3 Million tons in Q1 2025



Source: AJOT

The Port of Corpus Christi and its customers moved 51.3 million tons of commodities through the Corpus Christi Ship Channel in the first quarter of 2025, driven primarily by increases in crude oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG) shipments. The 51.3 million tons moved in Q1 2025 reflects the highest first quarter in the history of the Port of Corpus Christi as well as the first time volumes exceeded 50 million tons during that period. The Port's overall quarterly record, set in Q4 2024, sits at 54 million tons. Crude oil shipments in Q1 2025 totalled 33.4 million tons, up 10.5 percent over the same period last year, while LNG volumes were up 12.3 percent to 4.3 million tons. Increases were also seen in dry bulk and break-bulk commodities. Overall tonnage in Q1 2025 was up 5 percent from the prior year.

Port of Corpus Christi customers move 51.3 Million tons in Q1 2025, April 16, 2025, www.ajot.com

# U.S. Department of Transportation Announces Partnership between U.S. Army Corps of Engineers & U.S. Merchant Marine Academy on Modernization Efforts

On April 15, 2025, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) New York District and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA) have entered into a long-term agreement for the revitalization and modernization of USMMA's campus located in Kings Point, New York. The initial 10-year agreement was signed on April 11th during a ceremony at USMMA by Brig. Gen. John Lloyd for USACE and VADM Joanna Nunan for USMMA. The announcement follows President Trump's executive order to restore America's maritime dominance. Secretary Duffy visited the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy earlier this month to tour the campus and deliver a keynote address to the midshipmen.

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces Partnership between U.S. Army Corps of Engineers & U.S. Merchant Marine Academy on Modernization Efforts, April 15, 2025, <a href="https://www.dot.gov">www.dot.gov</a>

Analyst warns of 'carnage' on shifts in container shipping



Source: Frerightwaves

Significant shifts in the container shipping marked by record-breaking capacity and unexpected rate increases are pointing to potential severe near-term disruptions. Capacity from the Far East to North Europe is set to reach an all-time high in mid-April, according to data from analyst Xeneta. This surge surpasses the previous record set during the height of pandemic disruptions in November 2021, when capacity hit 336,800 twenty-foot equivalent units. Simultaneously, average spot rates on this route had increased by 4.8% as of April 15, 2025, reaching \$2,457 per forty-foot equivalent unit. The Mediterranean route has seen an even steeper rise, with rates jumping 6.8% to \$3,270 per FEU.

Analyst warns of 'carnage' on shifts in container shipping, April 16, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

Port Houston volumes rebound in March after fogfilled February



Source: AJOT

Port Houston's March 2025 container activity marked a rebound after a fog-impacted February. Container volumes reached 386,864 twentyfoot equivalent units (TEUs) for the month, a 7% increase compared to March 2023 and the busiest March on record. Year-to-date container volumes at Port Houston's public terminals surpassed 1 million TEUs, reaching 1,068,695 and essentially flat compared to last year. Port leadership remains vigilant as bilateral trade negotiations continue to influence supply chains. "While March was a solid month for us, we're watching closely for shifts in the global market and how that could impact cargo in our region in the coming months," said Charlie Jenkins, CEO of Port Houston, "At this time, we are focused on advocacy on behalf of our port's many industries and ensuring we continue to develop the necessary infrastructure to support the jobs created by America's largest port. We recognize that conditions can change quickly, and we're staying focused on infrastructure, service, and flexibility."

Port Houston volumes rebound in March after fog-filled February, April 17, 2025, <a href="https://www.ajot.com">www.ajot.com</a>



Transportation's Top Stories

### Road Transport Updates

### **CANADA**

70% of Carriers See Freight Drop; Further Tariffs Could Be 'Breaking Point': CTA Survey



Source: Ontruck

The ripple effect of US tariffs is being felt beyond the automative sector and throughout all parts of the supply chain, report Canadian trucking carrier members of the Canadian Trucking Alliance. In a recent survey, executive members of carriers belonging the CTA or provincial association boards, indicate current business conditions are perilous. Almost 70% of respondents indicate that loads to the US have been cancelled or paused, and include most commodities like lumber, oil products, fertilizers, farming equipment, tires and general food products.

70% of Carriers See Freight Drop; Further Tariffs Could Be 'Breaking Point': CTA Survey, April 15, 2025, <a href="https://www.ontruck.ca">www.ontruck.ca</a>

## Mullen Group to acquire Cole Group in logistics expansion



Source: Todays Trucking

Mullen Group announced it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Cole Group, including Cole International, Abco International Freight., and all related entities. The transaction remains subject to regulatory approvals and is expected to close in the second quarter. The Cole Group is a privately owned logistics services company specializing in customs brokerage, freight forwarding, and trade consulting. It operates from 43 locations throughout Canada and the U.S., employing more than 700 employees. "We will be adding another outstanding company to our portfolio of independently managed business units. Not only is the Cole Group an industry leader in customs brokerage and trade consulting, which happens to be one of the most talked about issues of the day, they have a sizeable 3PL freight service offering, a service that aligns very closely with our U.S. and international logistics segment," said Murray K. Mullen, chairman and senior executive officer of Mullen Group, in a news release. "These will be great additions to the Mullen Group."

Mullen Group to acquire Cole Group in logistics expansion, April 15, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com

### Lafarge Canada gets green light for trailers with steering axles in Alberta



Source: Todays Trucking

Lafarge Canada has received provincial approval to operate trailers equipped with hydraulically forced steering axles for concrete delivery in Alberta. This advancement follows a successful multi-year pilot in Calgary and Edmonton, and marks an update to Alberta's Traffic Safety Act, intended to benefit all sectors involved in the transportation of goods, according to a news release. "This approval showcases how innovative technologies can revolutionize logistics and deliver real benefits to our customers by boosting efficiency," said David Schmidt, fleet manager at Lafarge Canada, in a news release. "With rear-steer axle trailers, we're able to transport more materials with better maneuverability, resulting in smarter, safer, and more reliable service." Conventional mixer trucks carry 8.5 cubic metres of concrete. While trailers have been used for some time to carry 11 cubic metres, maneuverability concerns have limited their adoption. With the introduction of these new trailers, Lafarge has effectively removed these barriers and can capture a 30% increase in capacity across all fleets.

Lafarge Canada gets green light for trailers with steering axles in Alberta, April 15, 2025, <a href="https://www.todaystrucking.com">www.todaystrucking.com</a>

## Tariffs and economic uncertainty impacting truckload rates, says freight index



Source: Inside Logistics

AFS Logistics and TD Cowen have released the Q2 2025 edition of the TD Cowen/AFS Freight Index, showing continued pressure on truckload pricing, resilient less-than-truckload (LTL) rates and complex parcel pricing strategies by major carriers. The index, which provides predictive pricing insights for truckload, LTL and parcel markets, highlights how economic uncertainty and evolving trade policies are tempering any freight market recovery.

Tariffs and economic uncertainty impacting truckload rates, says freight index, April 15, 2025, www.insidelogistics.ca

# Ontario's Speech from the Throne Commits to Removing Trade Barriers, Fighting Crime and Making Generational Infrastructure Projects



Source: Ontruck

Kicking off the new session of the legislative assembly, the Speech from the Throne, <u>delivered by Lt.-Gov. Edith Dumont</u> Tuesday, outlined the priorities of the Ford Government for the upcoming legislative session, including removing trade barriers and committing to large-scale infrastructure projects like a new tunnel expressway and transitway under <u>Highway 401</u> and other projects supporting the busiest highway in North America. The speech also highlighted the impact of <u>Operation Deterrence</u> launched in January, which is enhancing security at Ontario's borders to crack down on the flow of

illegal guns, drugs and border crossings and other crimes in our communities. OTA has an ongoing survey monitoring its impact and supports the enhanced enforcement oversight on the industry.

Ontario's Speech from the Throne Commits to Removing Trade Barriers, Fighting Crime and Making Generational Infrastructure Projects, April 16, 2025, <u>www.ontruck.ca</u>

### Urban public transit, February 2025



Source: Statcan

In February 2025, 121.5 million passenger trips were made on urban transit networks in Canada, down 7.5% from February 2024, or 9.9 million fewer rides. This year, February experienced severe winter conditions in many parts of the country and had 28 days, compared with 29 days in 2024. In February 2025, despite the sharp decline in ridership, transit agency operating revenue (excluding subsidies) edged down 0.8% from the same month in 2024 to reach \$297.7 million, which was \$37.0 million lower than the pre-pandemic level observed in February 2019.

Urban public transit, February 2025, April 17, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca



BC Employment Standards Tribunal Highlights Out-Of-Control Underground Economy and Labour Trafficking

in Trucking



Source: Ontruck

The BC Employment Standards Tribunal recently shined a light on how the Canadian trucking industry is home to one of the largest underground economies and international human trafficking rings in Canada. As reported by CBC, a worker from India who claimed he was shorted wages and had to pay \$25,000 to obtain a job at a truck repair company in Richmond, B.C., has been awarded \$115,574.69 by the B.C. Employment Standards Tribunal. The growing labour abuse scam in trucking involves a vast network, which includes immigration consultants, driver training institutes, job placement firms and trucking companies. In many cases, the scheme charges a worker a 'head tax', for example in one the head tax was \$25,000.

BC Employment Standards Tribunal Highlights Out-Of-Control Underground Economy and Labour Trafficking in Trucking, April 16, 2025, www.ontruck.ca

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### ECONOMIC TRUCKING TRENDS: Could tariffs boost freight rates? And trailer orders bounce back



Source: Todays Trucking

ACT Research reported higher trailer orders in March 2025, while also suggesting there could be a bump in freight rates due to tightening capacity as a result of the trade war. Flatbed rates and volumes have been soaring in the spot market, but that too could be related to the trade war and a pull-forward of imports to get ahead of those tariffs. ACT Research reports preliminary net trailer orders jumped by about 3,800 units from February 2025 to March 2025, a 21% gain.

ECONOMIC TRUCKING TRENDS: Could tariffs boost freight rates? And trailer orders bounce back, April 17, 2025, www.todaystrucking.co

### Giant Tiger expands delivery options through DoorDash, Uber Eats



Source: Inside Logistics

Giant Tiger Stores Limited has expanded its on-demand delivery service through new national partnerships with DoorDash and Uber Eats. Customers can now order the retailer's full selection — including family fashion, groceries, health and beauty products and household essentials — from more than 200 Giant Tiger locations across Canada, with delivery available in as little as one hour. "Canadians are looking for easier, more convenient ways to shop, and we're thrilled to expand our digital offerings to meet that need with new partnerships with DoorDash and Uber Eats," said Simon Rodrigue, senior vice-president of strategy, supply chain and chief digital officer at Giant Tiger. "At Giant Tiger, we're committed to helping Canadians save both time and money. By offering same-day delivery at in-store pricing, we're making our wide selection of everyday essentials, including our exclusive private label brands and Made in Canada products, more accessible than ever." The move builds on the retailer's existing partnership with Instacart and is part of a broader strategy to meet evolving consumer demands for speed and convenience.

Giant Tiger expands delivery options through DoorDash, Uber Eats, April 14, 2025, www.insidelogistics.ca



### Transportation's Top Stories

### Other Transport Updates

#### **CANADA**



#### 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. For more information visit the Statistics Canada website.

Traffic Flow Dashboard, April 15, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

#### US/WORLD



### Transportation Producer Price Index – March 2025



Source: BTS

On April 11, 2025, the <u>Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS)</u> released the change in the costs faced by producers purchasing transportation services and industries producing them, from March 2024 to March 2025, as measured by the Producer Price Index (PPI). The PPI measures inflation from the perspective of costs to industry or producers of products. <u>Transportation equipment PPI</u> indicate the changes in transportation equipment prices faced by transportation providers, and any increase, increases providers costs. The PPI shows that prices increased for freight transportation and equipment by 1.6% in March 2025 from March 2024. Increases in transportation services PPI indicate increases in production costs faced by industries purchasing the services. From March 2024 to March 2025, the transportation services PPI changed, by mode.

Transportation Producer Price Index – March 2025, April 11, 202, www.bts.gov

### Tariff uncertainty pushing up transportation costs at US-Mexico border



Source: JOC

On the US-Mexico border, it's not just the actual tariff amount that's making trouble for shippers, but also the delays and increased paperwork associated with those levies, logistics managers said at the Redwood Logistics Cross-Border Logistics Council here. US importers and their Mexican logistics and customs partners are experiencing longer wait times when northbound shipments arrive at border towns such as Nuevo Laredo, the gateway to Laredo, Texas, the largest US land border crossing point. That's inevitably pushing up transportation costs and leading to supply chain disruptions — whether goods are subject to tariffs or not.

Tariff uncertainty pushing up transportation costs at US-Mexico border, April 14, 2025, www.joc.com



# U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Finalizes \$150 Million Grant to Enhance Border Security Infrastructure

On April 15, 2025, U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy announced an agreement has been executed for a \$150 million federal grant to construct a new road and Port of Entry facility for the San Diego-Baja California border region (Otay Mesa). These investments will enhance border security by providing Customs and Border Protection (CBP) with state-of-the-art inspection facilities. The new agreement also removed previous Green New Deal requirements, including a zero-emission vehicle charging provision, which was a waste of taxpayer funds and irrelevant to CBP's national security mission. The Otay Mesa East Port of Entry project was first awarded a grant from the Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight & Highway Projects (INFRA) program in September 2022.

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Finalizes \$150 Million Grant to Enhance Border Security Infrastructure, April 15, 2025, www.dot.gov

2024 warmest year on record in Europe, finds EU climate report



Source: Europa

The European State of the Climate Report finds that Europe was the fastest-warming continent in 2024. It also notes that there were record-high numbers of extreme heat days and tropical nights, as well as widespread flooding. The report calls for urgent action to increase climate resilience.

<u>2024 warmest year on record in Europe, finds EU climate report,</u> April 15, 2025, www.europa.eu



### In memoriam of Gerry Bruno



It is with deep sadness that I share the news of the passing of a giant among us: Mr. Gerry Bruno.

Without a doubt, Gerry, through his remarkable 50-year career, made our industry stronger and more innovative, whilst demonstrating his compassion over and over.

I consider myself incredibly fortunate to have started working with Gerry in 1985, when I was a UBC summer student at Transport Canada. Even then, his gift for inventiveness and his genuine kindness stood out.

His creativity and clarity in identifying what truly mattered caught the attention of the fledgling VAA board of directors. In 1991, Gerry and I were seconded to become employees #2 and #3 at VAA, tasked with preparing its first-ever business plan.

### Transportation's Top Stories

### Other CILT News

Of all Gerry's many public accomplishments, which are too numerous to list here, this business plan stands out as perhaps the most influential of all. And how do I know this? Well, when Dr. David Emerson later arrived as the first president, he viewed the plan as "our North Star to guide the future of YVR for the next 30 years."

Here we are, +30 years later. And I'm very much looking forward to hearing Ms. Vrooman's insights on what the next 30 years may hold.

Gerry then turned his sights to a global stage with the launch of InterVISTAS Consulting. I see some of his former colleagues here, a testament to his legacy.

But Gerry's greatness extended far beyond his professional success. His kindness, patience, and unwavering willingness to support others were constants in his life. For those of us lucky enough to have known him, these qualities were inspirational to say the least—and for that and much more, I am truly grateful.

In closing, and on behalf of CILTNA-Pacific, we extend our heartfelt condolences and best wishes to Gerry's family.

May you rest in peace, Gerry.

Thank you, Joe Sulmona CMILT

#### **Events**



On Tuesday, April 15, 2025, the Pacific Chapter of CILTNA hosted a reception/presentation at the Terminal City Club in Vancouver, BC with guest speaker <u>Tamara Vrooman</u>, President & CEO, Vancouver International Airport (YVR), Chair of the Greater Vancouver Gateway Council and Chair of the Canadian Policy Council for Airports Council International – North America (ACI-NA). Moderated by: <u>Martin Crilly</u>, Executive Member, Pacific Chapter.

More than 60 members and supporters of the Pacific Chapter attended, and each registered participant was entered into a draw to win 2 round trip economy class tickets for travel between Canada and North America, the Caribbean or Hawaii. Courtesy of Air Canada.

Photo captions -

Left: Tamara Vrooman, Martin Crilly and Marian Robson, Chair, Pacific Chapter in conversation.

Top middle: Tamara Vrooman, Martin Crilly during the presentation.

Top right: Students from the BCIT Aerospace Campus and Capilano U pose with Tamara Vrooman.

Bottom middle: Joe Sulmona giving a tribute to his dear friend, Gerry Bruno who passed away on April 14.

Bottom right: A full house to hear the conversation with Tamara Vrooman at the Terminal City Club.

All photos are courtesy of Twinklz Multimedia: <a href="https://twinklz.ca/">https://twinklz.ca/</a>



#### <u>British Columbia Aviation Council (BCAC)</u> Conference 2025 Kamloops (YKA): Innovation – Eyes on the Horizon

Starts: 02 Jun 2025 @ 12:00pm PDT Ends: 04 Jun 2025 @ 5:00pm PDT

Where: Delta by Mariott Hotel, 540 Victoria Street, Kamloops, British

Columbia, Canada, V2C 2B2

To register, please visit:

https://bcaviationcouncil.silkstart.com/events/bcac-2025-june-2-4-

<u>conference</u>



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Don't miss this opportunity to launch a rewarding career in global supply chain management. Apply now: <u>bcit.ca/supply-chain</u>, become a leader in this critical field!

### **Job Postings**

#### \* Logistics Coordinator, IMT Group, Ingersoll, ON

#### Location:

Ingersoll, ON

#### Responsibilities:

- Provide support in all areas of freight scheduling.
- Inbound from globally sourced vendors.
- Outbound to internal and external customers and third-party storage facilities.
- Customs and Regulatory document control.
- Ensure compliance with import & export documentation prepared by IMT and our vendors and customers.
- Determine shipping requirements by coordinating with relevant functional areas, i.e. Quality, Engineering, Sales, Production, and Shipping
- Coordinate and collect any special receiving instructions/equipment requirements for inbound/outbound shipments.

- Collect, organize, and retain historical bid/actual data for all freight quoted and shipped for customers.
- Responsible for request for quote process and selecting carrier(s). Coordinate with multiple carriers, as appropriate.
- Analyze and validate freight invoices are complete and accurate.
- Measure functional metrics to evaluate and improve the overall process.
- Ensure IMT has, and maintains, visibility of all freight charges (i.e. freight, permits, detention, etc)
- Negotiate freight rates.
- Manage any claims that result from damage, delays or charges related to the transportation of shipments.
- Develop and maintain a good working relationship with all departments, suppliers, subcontractors and freight forwarders.
- Participate in proactive team efforts to achieve departmental and company goals.
- Protect confidential information by not communicating, disclosing to, or using for benefit of third parties.
- Ensure Tariff codes are updated in MRP/ERP and used for all cross-border shipping.
- Prepare monthly reports to submit to management and identify cost saving opportunities

#### Requirements:

- Post Secondary Degree/Diploma in Supply Chain Management, Logistics or equivalent. CCS preferred
- Minimum of 3-5 years of related logistics experience with cross border shipments and 3+ year's experience in a manufacturing environment
- Working knowledge of cross border shipments and experience working to directly resolve challenges presented during border crossings.
- Working knowledge of ACE and CERS portals.
- Strong proficiency with ERP/MRP systems and Microsoft Office.
- Advanced MS Excel skills are essential, with a requirement to create detailed spreadsheets for presentation to management.
- Strong understanding of inventory, and warehousing processes.
- Excellent organizational, planning and prioritization skills.
- High-level attention to detail and accuracy oriented.
- Excellent communication, problem solving and decisionmaking skills.

- Exceptional task management abilities.
- Growth mindset, goal oriented and focused on continuous improvement and cost savings
- High level of interpersonal skills to work effectively in a team environment.
- Proactive, with the ability to work with limited guidance.
- Flexibility to work extended hours as required, based on business needs.
- Knowledge of tariff classification(s)
- Knowledge of CUSMA and certification of goods
- Knowledge of freight code/NMFC and class for LTL(s)
- Knowledge of Defense industry considered an asset.

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### \* Warehouse Order Coordinator, BFG Enterprise Services, Markham, ON

About the job WAREHOUSE ORDER COORDINATOR

**Role:** Coordinates the timely movement of products to meet contractual commitments and client needs. Performs systems and carrier tracking, customs coordination, confirmations, and related activities for the movement of products. Daily activities include file creation, in-transit report creating, disbursements and usage, etc.

### Responsibilities:

- Manage priorities to meet shipping volumes
- Ensure that customer orders are delivered on time and in full as per service level agreements.
- Provide shipping department with schedules and documentation for next day loading.
- Verify completion of applicable delivery documentation.
- Confirm deliveries have been made and resolve discrepancies.
- Act as liaison between logistics and program management.
- Communicate daily with carriers, freight forwarders and clients in coordinating pick-up and delivery of shipments when required.
- Coordinate the activities of product flow from receiving, warehouse, assembly, and shipping on a timely and accurate basis. Report on issues, gaps and take corrective action where required.
- Comply with the organizations environmental, health & safety, recycling, sustainability efforts and quality assurance policies and standards.
- Prepare reports, metrics and analysis with the use of functions on MS Office Suite (Word, Excel, Access and Outlook) for distribution within the organization
- File maintenance, including but not limited to, invoices, waybills, international shipment, storage, daily shipment, inventory and monthly shipping lists.
- Expedites, traces and obtains verification of shipment delivery, audits inbound and outbound freight bills, files carrier damage claims and updates carrier contract information
- Perform any other duties as required

#### **Qualifications:**

- Completion of college courses in Logistics or Distribution an asset
- Experience with Microsoft GP is an asset
- Minimum two years of experience in Logistics/Warehousing
- Strong knowledge of Logistics and transportation
- Have strong attention to detail and the ability to prioritize and organize work
- Have excellent customer service and communication skills, and the ability to build collaborative relationships with clients and internal BFG staff
- Proficient with Microsoft Office

To apply, please visit: <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/4208434407">https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/4208434407</a>

### \* Logistics Coordinator, Forte Village Resort, North Tonawanda, NY

#### **Job Summary:**

Buffalo Pumps is seeking a detail-oriented and proactive Logistics Coordinator to support and enhance our shipping and order fulfillment processes. This role plays a critical part in ensuring that all pumps and parts are accurately documented, labeled, and shipped according to customer and regulatory requirements. As a member of the Production Planning Department, the Logistics Coordinator will collaborate closely with manufacturing, sales, and shipping teams to manage outbound logistics, maintain accurate records, and deliver exceptional service to our global customer base.

#### **Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Receive and record weights and dimensions for all outgoing parts and pumps.
- Utilize our ERP system to reserve parts for shipment, ensuring proper handling and packaging.
- Create and print packing lists and commercial invoices for shipments.
- Enter tracking information from daily shipping reports into ERP.
- Facilitate the photographing of marine and commercial pump orders prior to shipment.
- Monitor carrier performance, track open shipments, and ensure on-time delivery and freight compliance.
- Work with sales to resolve shipping discrepancies or urgent order requests.
- Collaborate with freight providers to schedule pickups, secure quotes, and confirm bookings.
- Help maintain inventory of shipping materials and coordinate restocking needs.
- Support internal process improvements related to shipping accuracy, customer documentation, and freight cost controls.
- Ensure compliance with DOT, ITAR, and international export regulations.
- Perform other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Technical Operations Manager.

#### Requirements:

#### **EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE**

- Previous experience working with an MRP based production planning and scheduling system.
- Experience with preparation of freight/traffic paperwork, including export shipping papers.
- 1-3 years of experience in a shipping or logistics role is desired.

To apply, please visit <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/4211764680">https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/4211764680</a>



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