

This Issue

EXTERNAL NEWS

AIRLINE NEW SERVICE

SHIPPING LINE UPDATES

SHIPPING LINE NEW SERVICE

CONTINUED PORT CONGESTION

AIR CARGO RATES

CONTAINER RATES

INTERNAL NEWS

CHINA CONTAINERIZED

FREIGHT INDEX

EVERGREEN OFFICIALLY OPENS TAIWAN'S FIRST AUTOMATED CONTAINER TERMINAL

CHINA-AUSTRALIA EVERGREEN Marine Corp (EMC) has celebrated the official opening of Terminal 7 at Kaohsiung Port, Taiwan's first automated container terminal. The event was presided over by EMC's chairman, Y I Chang, and president, Eric Hsieh. A host of local government officials and distinguished guests were also in attendance, reports London's Port Technology. In his remarks at the opening ceremony, EMC's chairman, Mr Chang, said: "In line with the trend of the international shipping industry and the operational demand of mega container ships, Evergreen consolidated the cargo handling services in Terminal 4 and Terminal 5 of Kaohsiung Port and moved the operations to the advanced Terminal 7." We removed the trucking demand to haul containers between the two separate terminals and cutting carbon emissions from such transportation.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

US CARGO VOLUME IN AUGUST SHOULD BE HIGHEST SINCE LAST FALL: REPORT

THE latest Global Port Tracker report released by the National Retail Federation and Hackett Associates shows that import cargo volume this month at major US container ports is expected to hit its highest level in nearly a year as retailers stock up for the winter holidays. NRF vice president for supply chain and customs policy Jonathan Gold, said in a statement: "Port and package-delivery labour negotiations that threatened the supply chain at the beginning of the summer have been resolved and retailers are now focused on preparing for the all-important holiday season. "There are always supply challenges to be faced but holiday merchandise is flowing into the country, and we expect to see a smooth shipping season ahead of the winter holiday shopping season. "Hackett Associates Founder Ben Hackett said double-digit year-over-year decreases in cargo volume this year have come even though consumer spending and US employment have increased. "Dollar figures for international trade show imports remain in a year-over-year decline and cargo volume shows the same," Mr. Hackett said.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

FALLING AIR CARGO RATES BUT STILL ABOVE 2019 LEVELS

GLOBAL air cargo rates in the second quarter remained well above 2019 levels despite capacity steadily increasing to pre-pandemic levels and a sharp drop in demand across most major trade lanes, reports New York's Journal of Commerce. The supply-demand imbalance saw second-quarter pricing drop 40 per cent year over year, but average air cargo rates in the period were still 34 per cent above those recorded in 2019, according to air freight analyst World ACD. "Average yields on all of the world's top 10 international air cargo markets were significantly higher in Q2 this year than their 2019 pre-COVID levels, although they were down versus last year's levels," the Netherlands-based analyst noted in a first-half market update. The strength of second-quarter rates compared with pre-pandemic levels was clearly illustrated on the main export trades out of Asia. Shanghai-North Europe rates averaged US\$3.34 per kilo gramme for the quarter, down 53 per cent year over year but up 32 per cent from the second quarter of 2019, according to the Baltic Air Index (BAI).

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

GLOBAL SHIPPING INDUSTRY HIT BY SEVERE DROUGHT IN PANAMA

A SEVERE drought in Panama is leading to unusually long delays and tough restrictions along one of the world's most important trade routes, according to the UK's Financial Times. High temperatures and one of the driest years on record have led authorities in the Central American country to lower the number of crossings and bar ships with heavy loads from using the Panama Canal. The restrictions have led big carriers including German group Hapag-Lloyd to announce surcharges for routes that rely on the gateway between the Atlantic and Pacific. While lower demand for goods exports has lessened the impact, vessels with loads still light enough to use it are facing extended waits of more than two weeks. "The Panama Canal is really the wild card in the container shipping market right now," said Peter Sand, chief analyst at Xeneta. "Shippers should consider their options and manage their risks as Panama congestion is on the rise."

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

CHINA CONTAINERIZED FREIGHT INDEX

ROUTE	LAST PERIOD	THIS PERIOD
	2023/8/11	2023/8/18
CCFI	874.58	889.52
(JAPAN SERVICE)	788.46	753.66
(EUROPE SERVICE)	1074.36	1128.49
(W/C AMERICA SERVICE)	733.29	754.56
(E/C AMERICA SERVICE)	880.06	905.5
(KOREA SERVICE)	424.35	435.18
(SOUTHEAST ASIA SERVICE)	551.09	546.78
(MEDITERRANEAN SERVICE)	1533.86	1556.71
(AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND SERVICE)	609.72	623.82
(SOUTH AFRICA SERVICE)	705.28	723.29
(SOUTH AMERICA SERVICE)	699.27	713.21
(WEST EAST AFRICA SERVICE)	591.91	607.01
(PERSIAN GULF/RED SEA SERVICE)	899.02	854.99

ROTTERDAM CUSTOMS SEIZE EIGHT TONNES OF COCAINE FROM MAERSK CONTAINER

DUTCH customs have recently made the largest-ever drug bust in the Port of Rotterdam by seizing eight tonnes of cocaine from a container aboard a Maersk containership. According to the Dutch Public Prosecution Service, the drugs represent an "enormous" street value of EUR600 million (US\$653 million), reports Singapore's Splash 247. The container with more than eight tonnes of cocaine came from Ecuador and arrived in Rotterdam via Panama hidden in a consignment of bananas. When the bust was made last week, Dutch customs did not reveal the company or the ship on which the drugs were found. Maersk confirmed to Danish media outlet Finans that the cocaine was shipped to the Netherlands in one of its containers. In total, 8,064 one-kilo packages of cocaine were found in 12 pallets of bananas. Customs officers found the packages during a check with drug detection dogs and a container scan. The case is under investigation and the drugs have been destroyed.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

SHENZHEN AIRPORT STRESSES E-COMMERCE AS CROSS-BORDER VOLUMES SOAR

SHENZHEN Bao'an International Airport's cross border e-commerce volumes doubled in the first seven months of the year and expects greater increases to come thanks to the addition freighter flights, London's Air Cargo News. The airport, adjacent to Hong Kong, handled a total of 93,000 tonnes of cross-border e-commerce traffic between January and July - up 101 per cent year on year - thanks in part to the addition last year of a Boeing 777 freighter flight jointly operated by Central Airlines and e-commerce logistics firm Yun Express. At the end of July, the two partner airlines added a second 777 freighter to the operation which should boost volumes further. The extra freighter will be used to increase the frequency of the airlines' Shenzhen-Paris service from three flights per week to six flights per week. Meanwhile, their Shenzhen-Riyadh route will increase from one to two flights per week.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

OOCL RECEIVES THE FOURTH 24,188-TEUER - THE OOCL FELIXSTOWE

HONG KONG's Orient Overseas Container Line (OOCL), now a Cosco unit, has strengthened its fleet structure by introducing one more 24,188-TEU OOCL Felixstowe at the Dalian COSCO KHI Ship Engineering shipyard. OOCL invited a number of distinguished guests, partners and customers to witness the important moment when the vessel was named by He Lijun. "We ordered this series of ultra large container vessels not only to provide better services to our customers, but also to enhance our cost competitiveness and to seize the initiative for future development," said OOCL chief executive Yang Zhijian. "I firmly believe that, with leadership from Cosco Shipping, support from all stakeholders and the power of synergy, OOCL will certainly reach new heights of creating greater value for customers, partners, shareholders, and indeed society at large," he said. OOCL Felixstowe is the fourth eco-friendly 24,188-TEU vessel to be received by OOCL in a series of 12, and will be serving the Asia-Europe LL3 service with her three sister vessels. The ships port rotation is: Shanghai, Xiamen, Nansha, Hong Kong, Yantian, Cai Mep, Singapore, Piraeus, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Zeebrugge, Valencia, Piraeus, Abu Dhabi, Singapore and back to Shanghai.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

EU TO ENACT NEW SET OF ECO RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR SHIPPING

IN a bid to enhance maritime safety and curb pollution, the European Union (EU) is introducing a series of proposed changes to existing directives governing maritime practices, reports Hellenic Shipping News Worldwide. These reforms focus on key areas of maritime operations and aim to align EU regulations with international standards. Flag states, responsible for registering ships and ensuring their adherence to international rules, play a pivotal role in maritime safety.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

EUROPE PULLS AHEAD OF US AS LANE FOR SOUTH AMERICA CONTAINER TRADE

EUROPE and the Mediterranean region are emerging as dominant container trade partners for east coast of South America (ECSA) exports, particularly from Brazil, reports New York's Journal of Commerce. Carriers are responding to this trend by introducing new services and increasing vessel deployment on this corridor. According to liner metrics, both the number of services and vessels connecting South America with Europe and the Mediterranean have shown steady growth over the past four years. In contrast, the South America-North America corridor has experienced a decline in these metrics.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)