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IDLE BOXSHIP FLEET EXCEEDS 1M TEU: ALPHALINER

INACTIVE containership fleet has once again surpassed one million TEU, according to new data from Alphaliner. The global fleet of inactive containerships has experienced significant growth in recent weeks, with a rise in both the number of commercially idled vessels and ships entering repair yards, according to the latest survey by Alphaliner. The survey reveals that the capacity marked as inactive reached 315 ships, totalling 1.18 million TEU as of October 9. This marks the first time the inactive fleet has surpassed the 1 million TEU mark since late May. The majority of ships in the inactive fleet, 186 units, or approximately 60 per cent, are marked as being in repair yards, whereas 129 units are considered idled. Compared to the previous survey conducted on September 25, there has been a net addition of 44 ships representing 233,504 TEU, boosted by the idling of several large ships. As a result, the proportion of inactive capacity rose to 4.3 per cent of the total containership fleet as of October 9, up from 3.4 per cent two weeks earlier, according to Alphaliner's survey.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

ZIM LAUNCHES TWO NEW LATIN AMERICA SERVICES

ISRAEL's Zim Integrated Shipping Services Ltd announced the launch of two new services, the ZIM Albatross (ZAT) and ZIM Gulf Toucan (ZGT), aimed at meeting the needs of Zim's customers in Latin America. Both services are fully operated by Zim, expanding the carrier's presence and operations to and from Latin America, further connecting Zim's customers in that region with Zim's global network, reports AJOT. The new Zim Albatross service will provide a premium direct connection from and to North China, Korea, Mexico, and the West Coast of South America. Zim will deploy 4,250 TEU vessels on this service, allowing operational flexibility. Connections to/from Southeast Asia and the Indian sub-continent will be made via China. This service will commence in China in December 2023. The new rotation of Zim Albatross (ZAT): Xingang, Qingdao, Shanghai, Ningbo, Busan, Lazaro Cardenas, Buenaventura, Guayaquil, Callao, San Antonio, Busan and returning to Xingang.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

PEEL PORTS EXPANDS PORT OF LIVERPOOL'S STEEL TERMINAL

UK port and terminal operator Peel Ports Group is expanding its steel and metals terminal at the Port of Liverpool in response to increased client demand. Peel Ports began construction of the 1,858 square-metre extended warehouse at its North 3 Canada Dock in the current year. The investment comes as the Port of Liverpool saw one of its busiest months for steel volumes in September, with over 75,000 tonnes handled by employees throughout the port and Birkenhead Docks. "This positive news led to us choosing to increase the size of our facility, which offers customers the chance to expand their capacity, as well as improving our handling facilities at the port," noted Phil Hall, Mersey Ports director at Peel Ports Group. He further added: "Given the benefits of the Port of Liverpool's central location and its proximity to UK manufacturing sites, we believe this will be a very important and worthwhile investment." September was the port's strongest month for steel in more than two years since July 2021 when 93,000 tonnes were processed.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

QANTAS FREIGHT BACK IN BUSINESS IN BRISBANE BUT OTHER BACKLOGS REMAIN

QANTAS Freight has cleared a backlog of cargo at its Brisbane facility but said snarl-ups in Sydney and Melbourne remain. The company said that operations at its Brisbane facility were "back to business as usual" after an IT blackout on September 24 caused backlogs at its Australian facilities. While the logjam at Brisbane has been cleared, the company said it would be later this week that the Melbourne and Sydney stations were cleared, reports London's Air Cargo News. "The vast majority of exports and transships have also been uplifted with a small number of freight items still experiencing minor delays with rebooking." It's not just Qantas shipments that are being delayed by the backlog, the carrier said that its stations also handle cargo for other airlines, and these shipments were also subject to delays. The carrier said that any claims for delayed or damaged freight must be requested online and time limits apply.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

CHINA CONTAINERIZED FREIGHT INDEX

ROUTE	LAST PERIOD	THIS PERIOD
	2023/10/13	2023/10/20
CCFI	819.97	817.2
(JAPAN SERVICE)	805.78	827.71
(EUROPE SERVICE)	948.33	939.52
(W/C AMERICA SERVICE)	721.2	708.61
(E/C AMERICA SERVICE)	823.44	845.96
(KOREA SERVICE)	431.11	441.92
(SOUTHEAST ASIA SERVICE)	594.4	611.05
(MEDITERRANEAN SERVICE)	1274.41	1240.47
(AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND SERVICE)	723.08	742.73
(SOUTH AFRICA SERVICE)	706.09	716.14
(SOUTH AMERICA SERVICE)	569.71	577.38
(WEST EAST AFRICA SERVICE)	516.26	513.39
(PERSIAN GULF/RED SEA SERVICE)	881.41	844.65

SHANDONG PORT GROUP OPENS TRADING COMPANY IN SINGAPORE

CHINA's Shandong Port Group has opened Trafigura SPG International Trading Company in Singapore collaborating with Singapore-based commodity trader Trafigura. The new company will be engaged in petroleum and liquefied natural gas business, as well as metallic mineral products trading services, reports UK's Seatrade Maritime News. In April this year, Shandong Port Group and Trafigura Group inked cooperation agreement seeking for more collaboration opportunities. Combining the advantages of supply chain services provided by Shandong Port Group and commodity trading and freight services offered by Trafigura Group, the new company aims to achieve CNY50 billion (US\$6.9 billion) revenue annually, according to Shandong Port. Shandong port is the largest trading port in north China, which currently operates over 370 production berths in 22 port areas. The port has opened up its first international regional office in Singapore earlier this year to expand service network in Southeast Asia.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

AIR CHARTER SERVICE EXPANDS IN CHINA FOCUSING ON SHANGHAI

AIRCRAFT charter broker Air Charter Service (ACS) has strengthened its effort to focus on Shanghai and its surrounding provinces, including those of Zhejiang and Jiangsu, by moving its office in the city to larger premises. Earlier this month, ACS said it had restructured its operations across Asia Pacific, adding a Greater China region that consists of the charter firm's Hong Kong, Beijing and Shanghai offices, reports London's Air Cargo News. The Shanghai team has been expanded this year following the transferral of several senior staff from the Beijing office. Newly appointed deputy regional director, Wanny Wu, who has recently transferred to the office, commented: "Shanghai is the third largest city in the world, as well as one of the wealthiest, and renowned for its finance, manufacturing and tourism industries, making it the natural choice for the first stage of strengthening our presence in China.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

MAERSK AND ONE IN THE MARKET FOR UP TO 25 NEWBUILDS

DANISH shipping giant Maersk is being tipped by container shipping analysts at Alphaliner as lining up another series of methanol-fueled ship orders, reports Singapore's 247. Alphaliner is reporting Maersk has put out a request for proposals to build up to fifteen 3,500 TEU boxships with Chinese yards in pole to win the order. Last month Maersk held a high-profile naming ceremony for the Laura Maersk, the world's first methanol-powered boxship, a feeder that is now working in the Baltic. Maersk has taken the lead with methanol orders. It also has contracted for a series of 9,000 TEU ships and in total has 25 methanol-dual fuel ships set to join its fleet by 2027, not including the rumoured 15 extra ships mentioned by Alphaliner. Alphaliner is also reporting that Japan's Ocean Network Express (ONE) is in the market for up to 10 more container vessels of around 13,000 TEU. In the request for proposals, ONE has asked yards for conventional tonnage and for variants with methanol dual-fuel propulsion. Methanol-powered ships represent 52 per cent of all new boxship capacity ordered this year, the latest data from Alphaliner shows.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

CONTAINER MARKETS RUNNING AT SIX PER CENT DEFICIT

DATA from Sea-Intelligence indicates that container markets are currently operating at a 5.9 per cent loss when compared to the anticipated growth based on global GDP. Global container demand traditionally had a close association with global GDP growth, but in the years leading up to the pandemic, this correlation began to weaken as per Sea-Intelligence's latest analysis, reports London's Port Technology. Pre-pandemic, there was a noticeable shift away from the historical pattern of container demand growing at a multiplier above GDP growth.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)

MAERSK, HAPAG-LLOYD PUT SHIPPERS ON NOTICE AHEAD OF EUROPEAN ETS SURCHARGES

TWO major shipping companies have revealed details of anticipated surcharges that shippers will face next year as the industry aligns with the European Union's emissions trading system, with Maersk cautioning that these expenses will be substantial, reports New York Journal of Commerce. Beginning January 1, ship operators will be mandated to monitor and report their emissions, as well as surrender allowances for every tonnes of CO2 emitted during voyages within the European Economic Area and 50 per cent of voyages commencing or concluding in European ports.

(Source: Shipping Gazette)