

CANADA Daily News and Updates December 17th 2024

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Air Updates

Growth in Air Cargo Demand to Decelerate in 2025, IATA Says

Air cargo volume growth will be halved in 2025, but it will still be a good year for carriers behind continued ocean shipping delays, tight freighter capacity and strength in cross-border e-commerce, the International Air Transport Association forecast.

Cargo volumes are expected to reach 80 million tons, a 5.8% increase from 2024, the trade association said. Cargo demand this year has grown year over year between 10% and 13%, depending on whether it is measured by traffic (cargo ton kilometers) or tons, with the consensus growth rate at 12%. Volumes during the third quarter were second only to the fourth quarter of 2021, when the coronavirus pandemic supercharged airfreight shipping.

Read more in an [article from FreightWaves](#).

Ocean Updates

Carriers Unveil Panama Canal Transit Surcharges for New Year

Two major carriers have announced new Panama Canal surcharges on Asia-U.S. east coast transits in response to the canal authority implementing a new booking system to “optimize transit operations.”

As of January 1, the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) will modify its transit reservation system, including changes in the tariff structure and fee amounts and the introduction of new tariffs. ACP said the modifications aim “to improve the level of service, to reflect the value of the reservations service, to improve the supply and demand management and to optimize transit operations.”

MSC notified customers yesterday that, "to address the increased costs associated with these changes and maintain [its] commitment to providing reliable and efficient services," it will introduce a Panama Canal surcharge on January 1.

And last week, CMA CGM similarly advised of a "Panama Canal transit surcharge" from January 1, "to recover this extra cost" and "keep providing most reliable services transiting through Panama Canal."

Read more in an [article from The Loadstar](#).

Canadian Business/Government

Canada Post Won't Accept New Mail Until Thursday to Prioritize Clearing Backlog

The Canada Post strike has created a backlog of a "couple million" parcels during the busy holiday shipping season. Employees have been ordered back to work on Tuesday, but the company said it will "take some time" to clear the packages and letters that have been trapped for weeks.

It also warned that any new mail likely won't make it to its destination by Christmas, and delays are expected to continue into January.

Read more in an [article from CBC News](#).