

CANADA Daily News and Updates January 9th 2025

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- Air Canada to Launch Non-Stop Service Between Vancouver and Manila

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- ILA and USMX Announce Tentative Agreement on New Six-Year Master Contract
- Alliance Reshuffle Will Increase Box Ship Shortage as Carriers Hunt 'Buffers'

Air Updates

Air Canada to Launch Non-Stop Service Between Vancouver and Manila

Air Canada has announced the expansion of its international network with the addition of non-stop flights between its Pacific hub at Vancouver International Airport (YVR) and Manila Ninoy Aquino International Airport (MNL) in the Philippines.

The new route will operate four times weekly beginning April 2, using the airline's flagship Dreamliner aircraft.

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

Ocean Updates

ILA and USMX Announce Tentative Agreement on New Six-Year Master Contract

The International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) and United States Maritime Alliance (USMX) have reached a tentative agreement on all items for a new six-year master contract. The two sides agreed to continue to operate under the current contract until the union can meet with its full Wage Scale Committee and schedule a ratification vote, and USMX members can ratify the terms of the final contract.

Read more in the [joint statement](#).

Alliance Reshuffle Will Increase Box Ship Shortage as Carriers Hunt 'Buffers'

The combined capacity of the liners controlling more than 1% of the global liner fleet grew by 10.3% last year, according to Alphaliner.

And, despite the carriers' relentless search for more tonnage in 2024, market demand remains strong, and the threat of overcapacity still hasn't surfaced, reflected in low vessel idling and charter availability.

Alphaliner noted that the charter market was short on tonnage above 3,000 teu, with vessels of 5,500 teu and above “especially limited until the summer”.

This low availability of vessels, it warned, had the potential to create further rises in charter rates. It also noted that the commercially idle containership fleet ended the year “with a downtick” from what was already a low number. And over the past fortnight, Alphaliner again recorded “a reduction in carrier-controlled vessel idling”. In its latest survey, on 30 December, it recorded 58 ships, or 173,930 teu, as commercially idle.

It reported: “At only 0.6% of the total cellular fleet, the liner sector can still be considered ‘fully employed’, and there is zero structural idling.”

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