

CANADA Daily News and Updates March 6th 2025

Ocean Updates

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Ocean Updates

Liners Cut Long-Haul Sailings, But 'It Won't Be Enough' to Stop Rates Tumbling

MSC and the Ocean and Premier container shipping alliances are withdrawing some transpacific and Asia-Europe services in a bid to stem falling freight rates, according to consultancy Linerlytica's report this week.

MSC's hapless transpacific Mustang service, which was supposed to have been reintroduced last July but was delayed by bottlenecks in Singapore, will not materialize at all, with its intended vessels moved to other lanes.

The Ocean Alliance has delayed this month's Asia-North Europe string (NEU3) launch, and the Premier Alliance is likely to hold two transpacific strings scheduled to start in May.

But Linerlytica believes these capacity cuts won't halt the downward pressure on freight rates.

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

Gemini Carriers Making Good on Schedule Reliability Promise So Far

The Gemini partners are making good on their promise of 90% schedule reliability, "miles ahead" of the Premier and Ocean alliances' timekeeping, with Hapag-Lloyd performing "slightly better than Maersk."

eeSea founder Simon Sunboell said this week that the Gemini pair had achieved 91% schedule reliability in the first month of operating together.

According to eeSea data to March 1, Hapag-Lloyd averaged 99% reliability, while Maersk was some 10% less, at 88%.

This, Sundboell said, is because Hapag-Lloyd is less exposed to the more volatile transatlantic trade.

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

U.S. Senators Launch Strategic Ports Reporting Act to Counter Growing Chinese Maritime Influence

A bipartisan group of U.S. senators has introduced legislation aimed at monitoring and countering China's expanding control over strategic ports worldwide, addressing what lawmakers call a direct threat to American national security and economic interests.

The Strategic Ports Reporting Act would require the Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense to develop a comprehensive global mapping of ports considered vital to U.S. military, diplomatic, economic and resource exploration interests.

The legislation specifically targets efforts by the People's Republic of China to build, buy or control strategic maritime infrastructure around the world. It mandates a detailed study of PRC activities related to port ownership and requires an assessment of vulnerabilities in U.S.-controlled ports.

The legislation calls for a strategy to secure trusted investment and ownership of strategic ports, protect infrastructure from Chinese control, and ensure open access and security for such ports.

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

Trump Announces a New White House Office of Shipbuilding

It is rare that maritime interests get billing in the annual State of the Union speech, the most-watched formal policy address that a U.S. president gets to deliver. On Tuesday, President Donald Trump took time to call for a reinvigorated American shipbuilding industry, and pledged new support for both commercial and naval yards.

"To boost our defence industrial base, we are also going to resurrect the American shipbuilding industry, including commercial shipbuilding and military shipbuilding. And for that purpose, I am announcing tonight that we will create a new office of shipbuilding in the White House that offers special tax incentives to bring this industry home to America where it belongs," Trump said. "We used it to make so many ships. We don't make them anymore very much, but we're going to make them very fast, very soon. It will have a huge impact."

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