

CANADA Daily News and Updates March 19th 2025

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Air Updates

WestJet and Virgin Team Up on Transatlantic Cargo

WestJet Cargo has signed a block space agreement (BSA) with Virgin Atlantic to manage cargo sales on the UK airline's new flights from Toronto, which mark a return to the Canadian market after an absence of more than 10 years.

The new agreement will start on March 31 and will see the Canadian operator gain access to capacity on Virgin's new flights from Toronto (YYZ) to London Heathrow (LHR).

WestJet said the partnership will strengthen links between Canada and key destinations across Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

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

IATA CO2 Connect Enhanced with SAF Accounting

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has enhanced its [IATA CO2 Connect](#) emissions calculator to account for carbon emissions reductions related to the use of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF).

This follows the recent publication of the [IATA SAF Accounting & Reporting Methodology](#), which includes specific accounting rules and practices on how to include SAF in per-passenger CO2 data.

Initially, CO2 Connect will apply equal per-passenger emission reductions across an airline's network, meaning that all flights will benefit from an equal (percentage) reduction based on total

SAF purchases. In future enhancements, the ability to allocate per-passenger SAF emission reductions to specific routes will be added.

“Corporations and individual travelers want to clearly understand how sustainable their flying is. And, particularly if they have invested in SAF, they want to know what impact it is having. By enhancing CO2 Connect with the IATA SAF Accounting and Reporting Methodology we are providing the transparency and accuracy that individuals and corporates demand,” said Frederic Leger, IATA’s Senior Vice President Commercial Products and Services.

IATA CO2 Connect uses real operational data, such as aircraft type-specific fuel consumption, directly contributed by airlines. This approach contrasts with other calculators that primarily rely on modeled averages. Some 60 airlines are now contributing data to CO2 Connect.

Read more in a [press release from IATA](#).

Ocean Updates

Ocean Alliance Splits ANP Service into Two to Ease Vancouver Delays

Chronic bottlenecks at Canada’s Port of Vancouver have seen the Ocean Alliance split its Pacific North-west 3-Asia North-west Persian Gulf (ANP) service into two routes to reduce delays.

The Middle East part of the service will be a solo Asia-Persian Gulf loop, branded APG by Evergreen, China India Middle East Express 6 (CIMEX 6) by CMA CGM, and Middle East Express 5 (MEX 5) by Cosco, and calling Shanghai-Ningbo-Kaohsiung-Shekou-Port Klang Westport-Jebel Ali-Dammam-Umm Qasr-Jebel Ali-Port Klang (Westport)-Shanghai in 49 days.

Meanwhile, the Pacific North-west section will also operate as a standalone, marketed as Asia Northwest Pacific (ANP) by Evergreen, Northwest Express (NWX) by CMA CGM, and Evergreen PNW (EPNW) by Cosco. This service calls at Kaohsiung-Yantian-Shanghai-Ningbo-Tacoma-Vancouver-Tokyo-Nagoya-Osaka-Kaohsiung, and will also have a 49-day turnaround, using seven 5,300-9,500-TEU ships from Evergreen.

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

IMO Developing Roadmap for Maritime Digitalization

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is taking action to create a comprehensive strategy that harnesses emerging technologies to turbo-charge efficiency, safety and sustainability in the shipping industry.

During its 49th session in London from March 10 to 14, IMO’s Facilitation Committee (FAL) outlined a work plan for developing the IMO Strategy on Maritime Digitalization, which is set to be adopted by the Organization’s highest governing body – the IMO Assembly – by the end of 2027.

The cross-cutting strategy will span different areas of IMO’s work, fostering a fully interconnected, harmonized and automated global maritime sector.

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