

# CANADA Daily News and Updates April 7th 2025

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## Ocean Updates

### Could Panama Throw a New Wrench Into BlackRock's Ports Deal?

BlackRock could hit another roadblock in its attempt to secure control of two flagship ports near the Panama Canal once the Central American country releases an audit on a 25-year concession granted to Hong Kong-based CK Hutchison.

Panama's government is requesting documents from CK Hutchison to complete an audit on the concession. Comptroller General Anel Flores said recently that results of the audit are expected in the coming 'days or weeks.'

In February, Panama's Attorney General released a binding opinion finding that the port contract was unconstitutional. Panama's Supreme Court will have the last word on that.

If the Comptroller General finds irregularities in the concession renewal or the Supreme Court declares the contract to be unconstitutional, the concession could be revoked, complicating the BlackRock-CK Hutchison deal and possibly creating grounds for international arbitration, lawyers and experts have said.

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

## U.S. Business/Government

### Future Auto Jobs from Tariffs? The Numbers Don't Add Up

The implementation of tariffs by President Donald Trump is, he says, aimed at revitalizing America manufacturing and bringing back jobs to the U.S., as well as rolling back tariffs that foreign countries place on U.S. exports. However, several economic analyses and historical data suggest that such tariffs do not necessarily lead to a significant increase in manufacturing employment.

Douglas A. Irwin, the John French Professor of Economics at Dartmouth College and a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics, warns that, even if some companies relocate factories back to the U.S. to avoid high tariffs, "jobs would probably not follow," indicating that manufacturing processes might remain automated or streamlined, limiting new employment opportunities.

Moreover, the numbers the president presented when he announced tariffs this week, many economic sources point out, are just wrong.

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

## International Business/Government

### Macron Calls for Suspension of Investments in U.S., CMA CGM's \$20-Billion Investment in Doubt

CMA CGM's \$20-billion investment in the U.S. could be in doubt after French president Emmanuel Macron called for a suspension of European investments in the U.S. following President Trump's tariff announcement.

Speaking to a group of French business leaders and politicians, he said: "Future investments, investments announced in the last weeks, should be suspended for a time for as long as the situation with the United States is not clarified.

"What would be the message if big European actors invest billions of euros in the U.S. economy at the very moment they are hitting us?" he asked.

French group CMA announced last month, as negotiations over tariffs were in play, that it was investing \$20 billion in the U.S., in words clearly framed to appease the White House and soften tariffs talks.

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

### China Readies 34% Tariff on U.S. Imports Starting April 10

China will levy a 34% tariff on imported goods originating from the U.S. on April 10, matching the duty the Trump administration will place on the country, China's Ministry of Finance announced Friday.

Additional tariffs the country has imposed on the U.S. amid their trade war will not be reduced or exempted.

The U.S. agriculture, aerospace, electronics and auto industries will be especially impacted by the 34% tariff given their export activity to China, said Jason Miller, a professor of supply chain management at Michigan State University.

The country also announced export controls on some rare earth-related items.

Read more in an [article from Supply Chain Dive](#).