

CANADA Daily News and Updates April 24th 2024

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Ocean Updates

Labour Minister Appoints Industrial Inquiry Commission on Longshoring Disputes at Canada's West Coast Ports

Minister of Labour Seamus O'Regan Jr. on April 22 announced the appointment of an Industrial Inquiry Commission on the underlying issues in longshoring labour disputes at Canada's West Coast ports. The Commission will be chaired by Vincent Ready and will include Amanda Rogers as a Member of the Commission. The Commission will soon begin meeting with stakeholders and reviewing consultation submissions from relevant parties. The Commission will present its findings and recommendations in a report to the Minister in Spring 2025.

Read more in a [press release from Employment and Social Development Canada](#).

Boxes Piling into Mexican Ports – But Then Piling Up

Mexico's box ports continue to boost throughput, fuelled by nearshoring and roaring trade with the U.S.

Manzanillo, the nation's largest gateway, clocked up 7.3% growth for the first three months of the year, with 8,324,581 tons. Imports surged 15.7%, while exports advanced at a more stately 6.4%.

Box traffic at the port's four container terminals climbed 17.7%, to 958,271 teu, driven by a 19.2% rise in imports.

Manzanillo handles about one-third of Mexico's exports and 40% of containerized imports.

Ports have struggled with the increased traffic. In February, congestion at Manzanillo prompted some ocean carriers to skip calls at the port and offload containers at Lazaro Cardenas instead, for onward transport by rail or vessel. Lazaro Cardenas managed to avert serious delays on its docks, but its ro-ro capacity was choked by a large increase in auto traffic.

As of April 22, delays at Manzanillo were nine days, whereas Lazaro Cardenas showed delays of two days, according to GoComet. On the Gulf coast, delays were two days at Veracruz and four at Altamira.

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

Rail and Truck Updates

Thaw Period Extended by a Week in Northern Quebec

You will have to wait a week longer than expected to travel fully loaded in zone 3, which essentially represents northern Quebec.

The period of load restrictions due to thaw was due to end on May 10, but the Ministry of Transport and Sustainable Mobility (MTMD) has just announced that it is extending this deadline to May 17.

Read more in an [article from Transport Routier](#) (translated from French).

Customs Regulatory

Saudi Arabia and the Philippines to Launch ATA Operations in 2024

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) will welcome the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of the Philippines as part of its ATA Carnet International Guaranteeing Chain (ATA Chain). The ATA Carnet is an international customs document operated since 1963 that allows duty- and tax-free temporary admission of goods for up to one year.

The implementation of ATA Carnets will be effective on June 1, 2024 for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and on July 15, 2024 for the Republic of the Philippines, making the ATA Carnet procedure operational in 81 countries/customs territories.

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

Other Business

FIATA World Congress – Panama City, September 23 to 27

The [FIATA World Congress](#) is a major annual gathering that brings together leading professionals, thought leaders, experts and innovators from the logistics, transportation and freight industries.

During the event, there will be conferences, panel discussions, workshops and networking opportunities, all designed to foster knowledge sharing and promote collaboration among participants. Industry experts will provide up-to-date information on the latest trends, emerging technologies and best practices in the industry. You will be kept abreast of the latest developments and will be able to apply that knowledge in your own organization.

The 2024 FIATA Congress is a unique platform to get a complete overview of the global logistics industry. From supply chain and freight management to regulation and sustainability, you will have a holistic understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the industry.