

Transportation Information Update*

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AIR TRANSPORTATION

1. Monthly civil aviation statistics, January 2017

The six Canadian Level I air carriers flew 6.2 million passengers on scheduled Traffic increased 10.1% to 16.1 billion passenger-kilometres, while capacity rose 9.6% to 19.8 billion available seat-kilometres. This resulted in a slightly higher passenger load factor in January 2017 (81.3%) than in January 2016 (81.0%), as the increase in demand for travel was stronger than the rise in capacity.

2. Service bulletin: Quarterly civil aviation statistics, First quarter to fourth quarter 2015

Quarterly civil aviation operating and financial statistics for 2015 are now available in the service bulletin *Aviation*, see www.statcan.gc.ca

3. Paris in the spring? You can with WestJet Rewards

WestJet on April 3, 2017 announced the expansion of their reciprocal frequent flyer agreement with Delta Air Lines to include redemption of WestJet dollars on new select Delta routes including Paris, Tokyo, Rome, Madrid, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Sydney (Australia). Delta SkyMiles Members can now redeem miles anywhere WestJet flies.

4. Air Cargo Demand Continues Upward Trajectory in February

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released demand growth results for global air freight markets for February 2017 showing an 8.4% increase in demand measured in freight tonne kilometers (FTKs) compared to the same period last year. After adjusting for the impact of the leap year in 2016, demand increased by 12% -- almost four times better than the five-year average rate of 3.0%. Freight capacity, measured in available freight tonne kilometers (AFTKs), shrank by 0.4% in February 2017. The continued growth of air freight demand in 2017 is consistent with an uptick in world trade which corresponds with new global export orders remaining at elevated levels in March 2017.

5. Strong Passenger Demand, Record Load Factor in February

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced global passenger traffic results for February 2017 showing a second month of strong demand growth to begin 2017. Total revenue passenger kilometers (RPKs) rose 4.8%, compared to the same month last year. Although this was below growth achieved in January 2017, year-to-year comparisons are distorted because February 2016 was a leap month. Adjusting for the one fewer day this year, the underlying growth rate was estimated at 8.6%, just under January’s 2017 increase of 8.9%. Monthly capacity (available seat kilometers or ASKs) increased by 2.7%, and load factor rose 1.6 percentage points to 79.5%, which was the highest ever recorded for February 2017.

6. Air Canada Cargo receives excellence award

Air Canada Cargo received the Air Cargo Excellence Gold Award in the “up to 999,999 tonnes” air carrier category. Lise-Marie Turpin, Vice President said “Thank you to our customers for this remarkable recognition. We are honored to be recognized again this year with an Air

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TRANSPORTATION

Canada

1. Monthly civil aviation statistics, January 2017, March 30, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca
2. Service bulletin: Quarterly civil aviation statistics, First quarter to fourth quarter 2015, March 30, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca
3. Paris in the spring? You can with WestJet Rewards, April 3, 2017 www.ctl.ca
4. Air Cargo Demand Continues Upward Trajectory in February, April 5, 2017, www.iata.org
5. Strong Passenger Demand, Record Load Factor in February, April 6, 2017, www.iata.org
6. Air Canada Cargo receives excellence award, April 6, 2017, www.ctl.ca
7. WestJet doubles up on TripAdvisor awards, April 10, 2017, www.westjet.ca
8. Aircraft movement statistics: Small airports, December 2016, April 13, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca
9. WestJet reports March load factor of 84.1 per cent, April 13, 2017, www.westjet.ca
10. Flight Cancellations Down From Previous Year, January 2017, April 18, 2017, www.dot.gov
11. Transport Topics: FedEx claims top spot among logistics operators, April 18, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
12. Air fares, third quarter 2016, April 20, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca
13. WestJet announces intent to launch ultra-low-cost carrier, April 19, 2017, www.westjet.ca
14. Air Canada Named One of Montreal's Top Employers for the Fourth Consecutive Year, April 20, 2017, www.aircanada.ca
15. January 2017 U.S. Airline Traffic Data, April 20, 2017, www.dot.gov
16. Porter Airlines wins Best Free Airline Amenity from SmarterTravel, April 19, 2017, www.flyporter.com
17. February 2017 Passenger Airline Employment Data, April 21, 2017, www.dot.gov
18. Global Standards, Cooperation & Data Key to Keeping Aviation Safe, April 24, 2017, www.iata.org

* The views indicated are those of the authors and not of Industry Canada or the CTRF.

Cargo Excellence Award.”

7. WestJet doubles up on TripAdvisor awards

WestJet on April 10, 2017 announced it has been recognized as Best Airline in Canada and Travellers' Choice winner Mid-Sized and Low-Cost Airlines – North America in the 2017 TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice awards for Airlines.

8. Aircraft movement statistics: Small airports, December 2016

Take-offs and landings at 110 Canadian airports without air traffic control towers reached a total of 32,166 movements in December 2016. Eight airports accounted for 43% of the month's activity: Goose Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador (2,246 movements); St. Theresa Point, Manitoba (2,151); Moosonee, Ontario (2,113); Red Lake, Ontario (1,755); Peterborough, Ontario (1,557); Island Lake, Manitoba (1,544); Pickle Lake, Ontario (1,285); and Comox, British Columbia (1,224).

19. Air Canada ranked top employer in Montreal, April 24, 2017, www.cti.ca

20. Monthly civil aviation statistics, February 2017, April 25, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca

21. 4th-Quarter 2016 Air Fare Data, April 25, 2017, www.bts.gov

22. Uber looks to soar with flying taxis by 2020, April 25, 2017, www.globeandmail.ca

23. Quarterly civil aviation statistics, third quarter 2016, April 26, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca

9. WestJet reports March load factor of 84.1 per cent

WestJet on March 13, 2017 announced March 2017 traffic results with a load factor of 84.1 per cent, an increase of 0.9 percentage points year over year. Revenue passenger miles (RPMs) or traffic, increased 8.7 per cent year-over-year to 2.25 billion, and capacity, measured in available seat miles (ASMs), grew 7.4 per cent over the same period to 2.676 billion. For the 2017 first quarter, load factor, RPMs and ASMs increased .9 points, 6.8% and 5.6%, to 83% from 82.1%, to 6.392 from 5.966, and to 7.699 from 7.294, respectively. The airline flew a record 5.7 million guests in the first quarter, a year-over-year increase of 6.8 per cent or approximately 363,000 additional guests. WestJet President and CEO Gregg Saretsky said "We continue to be pleased with our strong traffic growth as a record number of guests chose to fly with us in the first quarter."

10. Flight Cancellations Down From Previous Year, January 2017

The U.S. Department of Transportation released its April 2017 *Air Travel Consumer Report*, compiling air carrier data for the month of February 2017. The April report contains denied boarding (over sales) data for the October-December 2016 quarter, as airlines report denied boarding numbers by quarter. The reporting carriers cancelled 1.5 percent of their scheduled domestic flights in February 2017, an improvement over both the 1.6 percent cancellation rate posted in February 2016 and the 2.0 percent rate in January 2017. The reporting carriers posted an on-time arrival rate of 82.6 percent in February 2017, down from the 83.6 percent on-time rate in February 2016, but up from the 76.0 percent mark in January 2017.

11. Transport Topics: FedEx claims top spot among logistics operators

FedEx Corp. has claimed the top spot in the latest edition of the Transport Topics Top 50 Largest Global Freight Carriers list. The list, produced on a yearly basis by the American Trucking Associations' industry news outlet in conjunction with SJ Consulting Group, ranks both asset-based and non-operating global cargo carriers by freight revenue. Memphis, Tenn.-based FedEx leapfrogged arch-rival UPS Inc. to become the largest logistics operator worldwide in 2016 with just over \$52 billion in cargo revenues, accounting for 92 percent of total company revenues. UPS wasn't far behind, however, posting \$51.8 billion in freight revenues.

12. Air fares, third quarter 2016

Base air fares in Canada, domestic and international combined, averaged \$244.90 in the 2016 third quarter, down 1.5% from the same quarter in 2015. This marked the sixth consecutive year-over-year quarterly decline. The average domestic fare was down 0.7% from the same quarter a year earlier to \$174.40, while the average international fare fell 5.0% to \$324.10.

13. WestJet announces intent to launch ultra-low-cost carrier

WestJet on April 19, 2017 announced its intention to launch a new, ultra-low-cost carrier (ULCC) in Canada subject to agreement with its pilots and any required regulatory approvals. Service is expected to start in late 2017 with an initial fleet of 10 high-density Boeing 737-800s designed by the airline that first brought low-cost air travel to Canada in 1996. The ULCC will provide Canadians with no-frills, lower-cost travel options.

14. Air Canada Named One of Montreal's Top Employers for the Fourth Consecutive Year

Air Canada has been recognized for the fourth year in a row as one of "Montreal's Top Employers" in an annual employer survey by Mediacorp Canada Inc.

15. January 2017 U.S. Airline Traffic Data

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) reported on April 20, 2017 that US airlines systemwide load factor (83.3) was down 1.3 points in January 2017 from the all-time seasonally-adjusted high (84.6) reached in October 2015. Domestic load factor (84.3) was down 1.4 points in January 2017 from the all-time seasonally-adjusted high (85.7) reached in October 2015. International load factor (80.7) was down 2.5 points in January 2017 from the all-time seasonally-adjusted high (83.3) reached in March 2013

16. Porter Airlines wins Best Free Airline Amenity from SmarterTravel

Porter Airlines was selected as the winner for Best Free Airline Amenity in the 2017 SmarterTravel Editors' Choice Awards. Porter's distinctive approach to service has been a feature at the airline since its inception more than 10 years ago.

17. February 2017 Passenger Airline Employment Data

U.S. scheduled passenger airlines employed 4.2 percent more workers in February 2017 than in February 2016, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) reported on April 21, 2017. February was the highest monthly total (420,824) since July 2005 (428,091) and was the 40th consecutive month that U.S. scheduled passenger airline full-time equivalent (FTE) employment exceeded the same month of the previous year.

18. Global Standards, Cooperation & Data Key to Keeping Aviation Safe

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) urged aviation safety stakeholders to reinforce their commitment to a safety framework based on global standards, cooperation and dialogue, and effective use of data. Alexandre de Juniac, IATA's Director General and CEO said "Safety is the top priority for all involved in aviation—and aviation is the safest form of long-distance travel. Last year there were over 40 million safe flights. That's an achievement that we can all be proud of. And it was made possible by a framework that incorporates respect for global standards, cooperation and the value of data."

19. Air Canada ranked top employer in Montreal

Air Canada has been recognized for the fourth year in a row as one of "Montreal's Top Employers" in an annual employer survey by Mediacorp Canada Inc.

20. Monthly civil aviation statistics, February 2017

The six Canadian Level I air carriers flew 6.0 million passengers on scheduled and charter services in February 2017, up 5.6% from February 2016. Traffic increased 6.6% to 14.9 billion passenger-kilometres, while capacity rose 7.1% to 18.2 billion available seat-kilometres. This resulted in a slightly lower passenger load factor in February 2017 (81.9%) than in February 2016 (82.3%), as capacity growth outpaced traffic growth. Total operating revenue edged down 0.6% from the same month a year earlier to \$1.5 billion in February 2017.

21. 4th-Quarter 2016 Air Fare Data

The average US domestic air fare decreased to \$347 in the fourth quarter of 2016, down 6.1 percent from \$369 in the fourth quarter of 2015, adjusted for inflation, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics reported on April 25, 2017.

22. Uber looks to soar with flying taxis by 2020

After upending the taxi market with its ride-hailing service, Uber Technologies Inc is now aiming for the skies with its flying taxis. The company expects to deploy its flying taxis in Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, and Dubai by 2020, Chief Product Officer Jeff Holden said at the Uber Elevate Summit in Dallas on April 25, 2017. Uber's flying taxis will be small, electric aircraft that take off and land vertically, or VTOLs, with zero emissions and quiet enough to operate in cities.

23. Quarterly civil aviation statistics, third quarter 2016

Total operating revenue for the 24 largest Canadian air carriers was \$6.5 billion in the third quarter, up 6.5% from the same quarter in 2015. Total operating expenses grew 7.1% to \$5.3 billion. As a result, net operating income rose 3.8% to \$1.2 billion. This amount, combined with a net non-operating loss of \$204.6 million, produced a net income of \$997.0 million. These airlines recorded a profit margin of 15.4% (net income divided by operating revenue). In other words, every dollar of service sold in the third quarter earned 15.4 cents of profit for the carriers.

WATER TRANSPORTATION

1. The Port of Montreal joins a select group of smart ports

In March 2017, the Port of Montreal was invited to join a select group of port authorities called chainPORT, an initiative of the Port of Hamburg that allows members to exchange information and develop innovative, forward-looking solutions in line with the smart port concept.

2. Vancouver Fraser Port Authority hosts public open houses on proposed Land Use Plan amendments in Delta and North Vancouver

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is consulting on four proposed amendments to its Land Use Plan for industrial properties recently purchased in Delta, District of North Vancouver, Richmond and Surrey. Under the [Canada Marine Act](#), the port authority is required to add them to its Land Use Plan by way of formal amendment. The amendment process is set out in the [Canada Marine Act](#) and includes public notification and consultation. As part of the public consultation period from April 3 to June 2, 2017, the port authority invites the public to attend open house events on the proposed amendments.

3. CMA CGM launches new OCEAN Alliance services from April 1

French shipping giant CMA CGM has launched the 40 new maritime services it is offering as one of the major players in the OCEAN Alliance. The shipping company said in a statement that combining this new offer of maritime services with a global intermodal and [logistics](#) offer, CMA CGM Group and its subsidiaries supply its customers with tailored solutions, even more competitive on the routes Asia-Europe, Asia-Mediterranean, Asia-Red Sea, Asia-Middle East, Trans-Pacific, Asia-East Coast of North America trades and Transatlantic. The shipping company will bring 119 of the 323 ships to OCEAN Alliance, which will be offering more port calls, more direct links and better transit times. CMA CGM said in its statement that it can offer its customers an unrivalled quality of service through the OCEAN Alliance. Between Asia and North America's West Coast, there will be 13 loops with 78 ships and 101 weekly calls in 31 ports.

4. HHI to invest \$3.1b in R&D by 2021

Hyundai Heavy Industries (HHI) Group will invest \$3.1 billion in research and development (R&D) by 2021, the South Korean shipbuilder said on April 3, 2017. HHI Group has also officially split into four independent companies - Hyundai Heavy Industries, Hyundai Electric & Energy Systems (HEES), Hyundai Construction Equipment (HCE) and Hyundai Robotics (HR). HHI Group's shareholders approved of the split at a meeting held on Feb. 27 in Ulsan.

5. FMC to look for additional opportunities to provide regulatory relief

Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) Acting Chairman Michael Khouri said that following actions by the agency last month to reduce regulatory requirements for service contracts and NVOCC service arrangements (NSAs), he intends for the agency to look for additional opportunities to provide regulatory relief within its authority.

6. Montreal celebrates container anniversary

The Montréal Port Authority (MPA) and its clients celebrated the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the first containers at the Port of Montréal, a milestone in supply chain history. In 1967, the Port of Montréal handled its first container. In that year, it handled more than 11,300 TEU (Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit) containers for a single shipping line. In 2016, the Port handled 1,447,566 TEUs for six shipping lines. In the past fifty years, nearly 35 million TEUs have transited through Montréal's

WATER TRANSPORTATION Canada

1. Port of Montreal joins a select group of smart ports, April 4, 2017, www.worldportdevelopment.com
2. Vancouver Fraser Port Authority hosts public open houses on proposed Land Use Plan amendments in Delta and North Vancouver, April 3, 2017, www.portmetrovancover.com
3. CMA CGM launches new OCEAN Alliance services from April 1, April 5, 2017, www.transportweekly.com
4. HHI to invest \$3.1b in R&D by 2021, April 4, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
5. FMC to look for additional opportunities to provide regulatory relief, April 6, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
6. Montreal celebrates container anniversary, April 10, 2017, www.ctl.ca
7. 2017 cruise season kicks off tomorrow; expected to bring record volumes to Canada Place, April 10, 2017, www.portmetrovancover.com
8. Port of Virginia box volumes jump 8.9% in March, April 10, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
9. FMC approves cooperation agreement between Georgia, Virginia ports, April 10, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
10. Mergers: Commission approves acquisition of Hamburg Süd by Maersk Line, subject to conditions, April 10, 2017, www.europa.eu
11. Shanghai port box throughput soars 14pc, April 12, 2017, www.transportweekly.com
12. NRF: Import volumes fall back in February, April 11, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
13. Port of Long Beach's import volumes surge in March, April 12, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
14. Prince Rupert Port Authority: Monthly Container Traffic, April 17, 2017, www.rupertport.com
15. Port of Oakland expects to benefit from new alliances, April 17, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
16. Singapore container volume up 6.7pc, April 17, 2018, www.transportweekly.com
17. NovaAlgoa Short-Sea Carriers joint venture launched, April 19, 2017, www.ctl.ca
18. Mega alliances up rates 10pc, April 20, 2017, www.transportweekly.com
19. HK up 17pc in March, S'pore by 6.7pc, Shanghai by 14pc, April 20, 2017, www.transportweekly.com
20. Port of Halifax Authority: Container Traffic Statistics, April 20, 2017, www.portofhalifax.ca

port facilities.

7. 2017 cruise season kicks off tomorrow; expected to bring record volumes to Canada Place

The 2017 cruise season officially on April 11, 2017 at the Port of Vancouver with the arrival of the Star Princess at Canada Place cruise terminal. Approximately 840,000 cruise passengers on 237 vessel visits are expected in Vancouver this year, a two per cent increase in passenger volume over 2016.

8. Port of Virginia box volumes jump 8.9% in March

The Port of Virginia handled 232,148 TEUs of containerized cargo in March 2017, an 8.9 percent increase from the prior-year period, according to the most recent figures from the Virginia Port Authority (VPA). Throughput of loaded imports grew 9.5 percent to 99,665 TEUs and loaded exports ticked up 3.3 percent to 92,384 TEUs compared with the previous March. Inbound and outbound empty containers, meanwhile, were up 90.3 percent to 7,612 TEUs and 13.3 percent to 32,488 TEUs, respectively.

9. FMC approves cooperation agreement between Georgia, Virginia ports

The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) unanimously voted on April, 7, 2017 to allow port authorities in Virginia and Georgia to engage in discussions about a variety of commercial and operational topics. The Virginia Port Authority (VPA) and Georgia Port Authority's (GPA) East Coast Port Gateway Terminal Agreement (FMC No. 012469) took effect on April 10, 2017. The two port authorities said the agreement encourages the exchange of information and "best practices" in five areas.

10. Mergers: Commission approves acquisition of Hamburg Süd by Maersk Line, subject to conditions

The European Commission has cleared under the EU Merger Regulation the proposed acquisition of container liner shipping company Hamburg Südamerikanische Dampfschiffahrts-Gesellschaft KG (HSDG) of Germany by Maersk Line A/S of Denmark, subject to conditions. Both Maersk Line and HSDG are active worldwide in **container liner shipping**. The clearance is conditional upon the withdrawal of HSDG from **five consortia on trade routes** connecting (i) Northern Europe and Central America/Caribbean, (ii) Northern Europe and West Coast South America, (iii) Northern Europe and Middle East, (iv) the Mediterranean and West Coast South America and (v) the Mediterranean and East Coast South America. On these routes, the merged entity would have faced insufficient competition after the transaction.

11. Shanghai port box throughput soars 14pc

China's Shanghai port handled a total of 3.43 million TEU in March 2017, a 14.3 per cent increase compared to the year-ago period, according to figures from Shanghai International Port (Group) Co (SIPG). Last month's throughput surged 29.6 per cent compared to February's volume of 2.65 million TEU, data from SIPG showed, according to Seatrade Maritime News, Cochester, UK. For the first quarter of 2017, the world's busiest container port Shanghai recorded a total throughput of 9.39 million TEU, a climb of 9.9 per cent compared to 8.35 million TEU in the same period of 2016.

12. NRF: Import volumes fall back in February

Import volumes at major container ports in the United States are expected to continue their recent growth throughout the second quarter of 2017 compared with the same period a year ago thanks to an improving national economy, according to the latest monthly Global Port Tracker report by the National Retail Federation (NRF) and Hackett Associates. The rosy outlook from NRF and Hackett Associates comes as major container ports in the U.S. reported handling 1.43 million TEUs in February 2017, the latest month for which after-the-fact numbers are available, down 14.3 percent from January and 7 percent from the previous February.

13. Port of Long Beach's import volumes surge in March

The Port of Long Beach handled 505,382 TEUs in March 2017, an 8.7 percent increase from March 2016, the Port said April 12, 2017. Container imports in March surged 20.2 percent year-over-year to 249,534

21. Port of Montreal Authority: Container Traffic Statistics, April 20, 2017, www.portofmontreal.ca
22. Only three out of 10 top ocean carriers posted a profit in 2016, April 21, 2017, www.transportweekly.com
23. Port of Metro Vancouver Authority: Container Traffic Statistics, April 20, 2017, www.portmetrovancover.com
24. Vancouver Fraser Port Authority recognizes marine carriers for voluntary efforts to reduce air emissions with Blue Circle Award, April 21, 2017, www.metroportvancover.com
25. Drewry: Global container freight rates double from a year ago, April 24, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
26. Cruise passengers rank Vancouver experience one of the best in the world, April 27, 2017, www.portmetrovancover.com
27. Port of NY/NJ box volumes slip 1.7% in March, April 26, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
28. Carriers remain optimistic about 2017 despite capacity warnings from analysts, April 26, 2017, www.ctl.ca

TEUs. On the flip side, container exports during the month fell 5.3 percent year-over-year to 120,435 TEUs, as shipments to overseas markets experienced headwinds from the strong U.S. dollar, which makes U.S. goods more expensive overseas. Meanwhile, empty container volumes slipped 4.2 percent from March 2016 to 135,413 TEUs.

14. Prince Rupert Port Authority: Monthly Container Traffic

The Port of Prince Rupert Authority reported its container traffic (TEUs) for the month of March 2017. Total container traffic increased 26% to 64,197 TEUs from 51,152.5 TEUs. Imports increased 32% to 34,534.75 TEUs from 26,257.50 TEUs. Exports increased 19% to 29,662.25 TEUs from 24,895 TEUs. For the first quarter of 2017, total container traffic increased 8% to 186,880 TEUs from 172,309 TEUs. Imports increased 3% to 105,312 TEUs from 102,012 TEUs. Exports increased 16% to 81,568 TEUs from 70,296.5 TEUs.

15. Port of Oakland expects to benefit from new alliances

The Port of Oakland expects to benefit from the new alliance groupings that launched this month, as well as a new transpacific service Taiwan-based Wan Hai Lines will be launching. Carriers "are sharing services to a degree we have never seen in the business" in an effort to cut costs, Port of Oakland Maritime Director John Driscoll said.

16. Singapore container volume up 6.7pc

The Port of Singapore handled 2.7 million TEU in March 2017, representing an increase of 6.7 per cent compared to 2.5 million TEU recorded in March 2015, according to figures from the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA). Last month's throughput also jumped by 17 per cent compared to 2.3 million TEU in February this year. In the first quarter of 2017, Singapore port handled a total throughput of 7.6 million TEU, a hike of 3 per cent compared to 7.4 million TEU moved in the same period of 2016, the Seatrade Maritime News of Colchester, UK, reported.

17. NovaAlgoma Short-Sea Carriers joint venture launched

Algoma Central Corporation and Nova Marine Carriers SA have created a new joint venture that will focus on short-sea dry-bulk shipping for global markets. This new joint venture, operating as NovaAlgoma Short-Sea Carriers, or NASC, is a 50/50 joint venture between Algoma Central Corporation (Algoma) and Nova Marine Holdings Limited (Nova), the parent company of Nova Marine Carriers.

18. Mega alliances up rates 10pc

Carriers belonging to major east-west alliances - THE Alliance, the OCEAN Alliance and the 2M - have been far better at winning rate increases than independent shipping lines, according to Freightos International Freight Index. China-US west coast rates grew 11 per cent, according to the index while eastbound transatlantic prices between the US and Europe jumped 33 per cent from last week. Non-alliance line rates remained roughly the same, up just one per cent on average compared with the previous week, while alliance member carriers increased rates 10 per cent, Freightos said.

19. HK up 17pc in March, S'pore by 6.7pc, Shanghai by 14pc

Figures from the Hong Kong Maritime Port Board showed the HK harbour handled 1.77 million TEU in March 2017, representing a year-on-year increase of 17.1 per cent. The container turnover of the port of Hong Kong increased 12.6 per cent year-on-year in the first three months of 2017. Singapore's Maritime and Port Authority reported a 6.7pc increase in container movement in March, having handled 2.69 million TEU. This brought first quarter container throughput to 7.61 million TEU. The Shanghai International Port (Group) Co (SIPG) posted a 14.3 per cent jump in year-on-year container volume to 3.43 million TEU. For the first quarter of 2017, the world's busiest container port Shanghai recorded a total throughput of 9.39 million TEU, a climb of 9.9 per cent compared to 8.35 million TEU registered in the same period of 2016.

20. Port of Halifax Authority: Container Traffic Statistics

The Port of Halifax Authority reported its container traffic statistics (TEUs) for the first quarter of 2017 on April 20, 2017. Total traffic was 130,803 TEUs an increase of 14.3% from 114,421 TEUs, total exports were 64,784 TEUs an increase of 20% from 53,971 TEUs, and imports were 66,019 TEUs an increase of 9.2% from 60,450 TEUs.

21. Port of Montreal Authority: Container Traffic Statistics

The Port of Montreal Authority reported its container traffic statistics (TEUs) for the first quarter of 2017 on April 20, 2017. Total traffic was 360,122 TEUs an increase of 2.7% from 350,735 TEUs, total exports were 184,818 TEUs an increase of 1.3% from 182,428 TEUs, and imports were 175,304 TEUs an increase of 4.2% from 168,307 TEUs.

22. Only three out of 10 top ocean carriers posted a profit in 2016

Ten out of thirteen big container carriers posted losses in the second half of 2016, reported the Paris-based Alphaliner consultancy. Despite freight rate improvements that followed the bankruptcy of Hanjin last summer, only three carriers declared an annual profit while the rest posted losses.

23. Port of Metro Vancouver Authority: Container Traffic Statistics

The Port Metro Vancouver Authority reported its container traffic statistics (TEUs) for the first quarter of 2017 on April 20, 2017. Total traffic was 740,239 TEUs an increase of 5.1% from 704,387 TEUs, total exports were 349,717 TEUs an increase of 2.6% from 340,928 TEUs, and imports were 390,522 TEUs an increase of 7.4% from 363,459 TEUs.

24. Vancouver Fraser Port Authority recognizes marine carriers for voluntary efforts to reduce air emissions with Blue Circle Award

Fourteen marine carriers are being recognized by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority with Blue Circle Awards for their voluntary efforts to reduce air emissions in the Port of Vancouver. Twelve shipping lines and two cruise lines are the recipients of the eighth annual Blue Circle Awards, which recognize marine carriers that excel in environmental stewardship and attain the highest participation rates in the port authority's [EcoAction](#) program.

25. Drewry: Global container freight rates double from a year ago

Aggregate spot rates on eight major east-west trades are up 102 percent from the same time last year, according to maritime consultant Drewry's latest World Container Index report. Aggregate global spot container freight rates are up 102 percent from the same time last year.

26. Cruise passengers rank Vancouver experience one of the best in the world

The Port of Vancouver's cruise terminal at Canada Place won a 2016 Best Destination Experience Award from *Cruise Insights Magazine*. In 2016, 826,820 cruise passengers visited Canada Place cruise terminal at the Port of Vancouver, with an expected 840,000 passengers on 237 vessels. As a top global destination, Vancouver continues to attract a wide spectrum of cruise lines and passengers from around the world. In 2017, 15 cruise lines will be visiting Canada Place cruise terminal at the Port of Vancouver. Key highlights were: 1) 1.6 billion total economic impact in Vancouver; 2) \$840 million in GDP; 3) 12,000 total jobs; 4) \$549 million in total wages; 5) Average direct expenditure per cruise ship visit was approximately \$3 million; 6) Vancouver saw 826,820 passenger arrivals in 2016; 7) Vancouver accounted for the highest volume of passenger and crew visits in B.C., they on average spent \$322 and \$121 respectively; 8) Vancouver accounted for more than 60 per cent of all cruise passenger arrivals in B.C.; 9) Nearly 80 per cent of cruise line expenditures in B.C. (\$422 million) were related to vessels homeporting in Vancouver.

27. Port of NY/NJ box volumes slip 1.7% in March

The Port of New York and New Jersey handled 1.53 million TEUs in first quarter 2017, a 2.4 percent increase from the previous year and new record for the port. The Port of New York and New Jersey handled 508,270 TEUs of containerized cargo volumes in March 2017, a 1.7 percent decrease from the same 2016 period, after posting record throughput figures the previous two months, according to the most recent figures from the port authority.

28. Carriers remain optimistic about 2017 despite capacity warnings from analysts

Despite growing confidence in a container market recovery over the past six months, a leading shipping analyst has predicted the return of freight rate volatility to the world's major trades as the spectre of overcapacity comes back to haunt the industry.

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

1. Rail transportation, 2015

Operating revenue for the Canadian railway industry edged up 0.6% from 2014 to \$14.4 billion in 2015. Freight transportation revenue, which accounted for 91.2% of total revenue, was up 0.3% to \$13.1 billion, while revenue from passenger operations increased 9.1% to \$304.3 million. In 2015, operating expenses fell 5.3% to \$10.0 billion. As a result, the operating ratio—the industry's operating expenses as a proportion of operating revenue declined from 0.73 to 0.69. The average number of employees declined 1.9% from 2014 to 32,051 in 2015. In 2015, the volume of commodities transported by Canadian rail carriers decreased 1.4% to 304.9 million tonnes. This was the first year-over-year decrease since 2009. From 2010 to 2015, total operating revenue earned by Canadian railways increased 36.1%, while total operating expenses rose 15.9%. The total cost of diesel fuel increased 10.9% over this period and total diesel fuel consumed was up 5.3%. In terms of output, the tonnage of revenue freight increased 5.7% from 2010 to 331.5 million tonnes in 2015. The number of revenue passengers declined 8.8% during this same period. Over 2010 to 2015, the amount of track operated decreased 5.0% to just over 63,000 kilometres and the number of employees was largely unchanged from 2010 to 2015, edging up 0.1%.

2. STB proposes rule changes for rail rate cases

The Surface Transportation Board (STB) has proposed rule changes to "help improve and expedite" cases involving litigation over railroad rates, the board said in a statement. The changes were proposed as a means of implementing Section 11 of the STB Reauthorization Act of 2015, which required the agency to consider how procedures for expediting court litigation might be applied to rate reasonableness complaints. The latest rules follow a public comment period for an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM) filed last June by the STB, the board said.

3. AAR: U.S. rail traffic up 5.5% in March

United States-based freight railroads saw shipment volumes increase for the fifth consecutive month in March 2017 after several months of year-over-year declines, according to data from the Association of American Railroads (AAR). Total carload and intermodal traffic for the month rose 5.5 percent from the previous March to 2.58 million units following increases of 4.2 percent in February 2017, 0.5 percent in January 2017, 6.9 percent in December 2016 and 1.1 percent in November 2016.

4. UK shippers embrace rail as benefits of modal shift build

The economic and environmental imperatives for UK shippers and importers to switch inland distribution mode from road to rail are becoming increasingly hard to ignore, delegates at the Multimodal conference heard.

5. CN recognizes 32 customers for sustainability leadership under CN EcoConnexions Partnership Program

CN recognized 32 of its customers for their sustainability practices that are aligned with the objectives of the CN EcoConnexions program. The 32 partners under CN's recognition program are: Alcoa Corporation, Atlantic Container Line, Bunge North America, Bonduelle Canada, Canfor, Cenovus Energy Inc., CMA CGM (America) LLC, COSCO Shipping Lines (North America), Domtar Corporation, E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, Fairmount Santrol, Ford Motor Company, Hapag-Lloyd, Kruger Products LP, Labatt Breweries of Canada, Loblaw's Inc., Maersk Line, MOL, Mondelēz International, NYK Line,

RAIL TRANSPORTATION Canada

1. Rail transportation, 2015, March 31, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca
2. STB proposes rule changes for rail rate cases, April 6, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
3. AAR: U.S. rail traffic up 5.5% in March, April 6, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
4. UK shippers embrace rail as benefits of modal shift build, April 5, 2017, www.ctl.ca
5. CN recognizes 32 customers for sustainability leadership under CN EcoConnexions Partnership Program, April 6, 2017, www.cn.ca
6. US rail freight volume rises 5.5 percent yoy in March, April 11, 2017, www.transportweekly.com
7. FRA finds thousands of safety defects on crude routes, April 12, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
8. UP to invest \$923.1m in rail infrastructure across five states, April 18, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
9. CP reports first-quarter diluted EPS of \$2.93 and adjusted diluted EPS of \$2.50, April 19, 2017, www.cpr.ca
10. Canadian Pacific profit off 17pc, revenue up 1pc, April 21, 2017, www.transportweekly.com
11. United Steelworkers Local 1976 Ratify Five-Year Agreement with CP, April 19, 2017, www.cpr.ca
12. CSX Q1 2017 profits flat despite increased revenues, April 20, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
13. CN reports Q1-2017 net income of C\$884 million, or C\$1.16 per diluted share, April 24, 2017, www.cn.ca
14. CN declares second-quarter 2017 dividend, April 24, 2017, www.cn.ca
15. Government of Canada launches Rail Safety Week and, announces investments in Rail Safety, April 24, 2017, www.tc.gc.ca
16. CSX ups quarterly dividend, full-year 2017 expectations, April 24, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
17. Railway Carloadings, February 2017, April 26, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca
18. Minister Garneau launches review of *Railway Safety Act* one year ahead of schedule, April 26, 2017, www.tc.gc.ca
19. CN signals and communications employees in Canada ratify new contract, April 26, 2017, www.cn.ca
20. Norfolk Southern increases Q1 net income, April 26, 2017, www.americanshipper.com

OOCL, PepsiCo Canada, Resolute Forest Products, Teck, Tembec, Tenaris, UPS, Verso Corporation, Walmart Canada, West Fraser, Weyerhaeuser, and Yang Ming

6. US rail freight volume rises 5.5 per cent yoy in March

US-based freight railroads achieved a 5.5 per cent year-on-year volume increase in March, after handling a record 2.58 million carloads and intermodal traffic. The positive result continues with rises of 4.2 per cent registered in February 2017, 0.5 per cent in January 2017, 6.9 per cent in December 2016 and 1.1 per cent in November 2016, according to the Association of American Railroads (AAR). In the first quarter of 2017, total US rail traffic rose 3.5 per cent against the previous year to 6.71 million carloads and intermodal units.

7. FRA finds thousands of safety defects on crude routes

Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inspectors have discovered nearly 24,000 defects on roughly 58,000 miles of rail routes used to transport crude oil in 44 states, according to a report from the Associated Press. The findings are part of a targeted inspection program that began in January 2015, following several high-profile crude-by-rail accidents in the United States and Canada. Defects found included worn rails, broken or loose bolts, and cracked steel bars, etc.

8. UP to invest \$923.1m in rail infrastructure across five states

Union Pacific Railroad (UP) has announced investment plans totalling \$923.1 million across five states as part of its \$3.1 billion capital plan for 2017. The capital plan was unveiled in February 2017, and since then, the Omaha, Neb.-based Class I railroad said it would invest in Texas, California, Arkansas, Louisiana and Oregon. UP is investing \$452 million in its Texas rail infrastructure, with \$359 million going towards railroad track maintenance and \$93 million dedicated to maintaining bridges.

9. CP reports first-quarter diluted EPS of \$2.93 and adjusted diluted EPS of \$2.50

CP announced its 2017 first quarter results on April 19, 2017. The results were as follows: 1. Revenues increased 1 percent to \$1,603 million from \$1,591 million; 2. Reported diluted EPS fell 17 percent to \$2.93 from \$3.51 and adjusted diluted EPS were flat year-over-year at \$2.50; 3. Reported operating ratio decreased by 80 basis points to 58.1 percent from 58.9 percent. The operating ratio in the first quarter of 2017 includes a \$51-million recovery associated with the early departure of the previous CEO; and 4. Adjusted operating ratio, which excludes this gain, increased by 240 basis points in the first quarter of 2017 to 61.3 percent. Keith Creel, CP's President and Chief Executive Officer said "Thanks to our hard-working employees, industry-leading operating model and commitment to service, we produced solid results this quarter. We turned a corner in March and are now seeing positive volumes, which makes us cautiously optimistic that the demand environment is improving."

10. Canadian Pacific profit off 17pc, revenue up 1pc

Canada's No 2 rail operator, the Canadian Pacific Railway (CP), has announced that first quarter profit - earnings per share - fell 17 per cent year on year, drawn on revenues of C\$1.6 billion (US\$1.19 billion), which increased one per cent.

11. United Steelworkers Local 1976 Ratify Five-Year Agreement with CP

Canadian Pacific and the United Steelworkers (USW) Local 1976 on April 19, 2017 announced that a five-year labour agreement covering approximately 600 administrative support and intermodal employees in Canada has been ratified. The agreement ensures wage increases of 2 percent each year over the term of the contract and provides the opportunity for additional increases of 0.5 percent to 1 percent in the fourth and fifth years depending on gains in Revenue Ton Miles (RTMs). The new agreement takes effect Jan. 1, 2018.

12. CSX Q1 2017 profits flat despite increased revenues

The Jacksonville, Fla.-based Class I railway saw net earnings increase 1.6 percent to \$362 million for the first quarter of 2017 even as revenues jumped 9.6 percent to \$2.87 billion compared with the same 2016 period.

13. CN reports Q1-2017 net income of C\$884 million, or C\$1.16 per diluted share

CN on April 24, 2017 reported its financial and operating results for the first quarter ended March 31, 2017. The first quarter result were: 1. Net income increased 12 per cent to C\$884 million, while diluted EPS increased 16 per cent to C\$1.16, compared with the first quarter of 2016. 2. Adjusted net income increased 11 per cent to C\$879 million, with adjusted diluted EPS increasing 15 per cent to C\$1.15. 3. Operating income increased seven per cent to C\$1,303 million. 4. Revenues increased by eight per cent to C\$3,206 million. Carloadings increased nine per cent and revenue ton-miles increased 14 per cent. 5. Operating expenses increased nine per cent to C\$1,903 million. 6. Operating ratio was 59.4 per cent, an increase of

0.5 of a point from the prior-year quarter. 6. Free cash flow was C\$848 million in the first quarter of 2017, up from C\$584 million for the year-earlier quarter. Luc Jobin, CN president and chief executive officer, said: "I am very proud of the solid response from our team of railroaders in accommodating the strong demand during the quarter. We delivered record first-quarter volumes, including a 14 per cent increase in Western Canadian grain tonnage moved over our network, despite a return to more demanding winter conditions versus last year."

14. CN declares second-quarter 2017 dividend

CN announced on April 24, 2017 that its Board of Directors has approved a second-quarter 2017 dividend on the Company's common shares outstanding. A quarterly dividend of forty-one-and-one-quarter cents (C\$0.4125) per common share will be paid on June 30, 2017, to shareholders of record at the close of business on June 9, 2017.

15. Government of Canada launches Rail Safety Week and, announces investments in Rail Safety

With over 44,000 kilometres of track across the country, and approximately 14,000 public and 9,000 private grade crossings, everyone has a role to play in railway safety. On April 24, 2017, the Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, launched Rail Safety Week and announced 131 new projects and initiatives that will keep Canadians safe, contribute to the reduction of injuries and fatalities, and increase public confidence in Canada's rail transportation system. Collectively, the projects receive more than \$20 million under the Government of Canada's Rail Safety Improvement Program.

16. CSX ups quarterly dividend, full-year 2017 expectations

New CSX Corp. President and CEO E. Hunter Harrison reported that CSX had relatively flat profits for the first quarter of 2017 despite a sizable increase in revenues. The company announced it was upping its quarterly shareholder dividend and full-year financial projections, and instituting a new \$1 billion share repurchase program. The company's board of directors has approved an increase in the quarterly dividend from \$0.18 to \$0.20.

17. Railway Carloadings, February 2017

The volume of rail freight carried in Canada totaled 27.0 million tonnes in February 2017, up 1.0% from the same month last year. In February 2017, freight originating in Canada increased 0.2% from the same month last year to 24.4 million tonnes. Non-intermodal freight decreased 1.3% to 266,000 carloads in February. The amount of freight loaded into these cars totalled 21.7 million tonnes, down 0.3% from the same month last year. Intermodal freight loadings rose 2.8% to 178,000 units from February 2016 to February 2017. Freight traffic received from the United States rose 9.1% to 2.7 million tonnes as a result of a 10.2% increase in non-intermodal freight and a 3.3% decline in intermodal freight from the United States.

18. Minister Garneau launches review of *Railway Safety Act* one year ahead of schedule

The Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, on April 26, 2017 launched the statutory review of Canada's *Railway Safety Act* a year ahead of schedule, as part of his continuing commitment to rail safety. The Review will focus on examining existing provisions and programs under the Act, including their suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness. This is needed to ensure the Act's core objective of ensuring rail safety for Canadians is met.

19. CN signals and communications employees in Canada ratify new contract

CN announced on April 26, 2017, the ratification of a new five-year collective labour agreement by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) System Council 11. The union represents approximately 700 CN signals and communications employees in Canada. The agreement is retroactive to Jan. 1, 2017 and runs through Dec. 31, 2021. It provides wage increases in each year and benefit improvements.

20. Norfolk Southern increases Q1 net income

Norfolk Southern Corp. posted a net income of \$433 million for the first quarter of 2017, up 12 percent year-over-year, the Class I railway said on April 26, 2017. The company attributed the upward trend to a 7 percent rise in income from railway operations and a lower effective income tax rate. Railway operating revenues of \$2.6 billion increased 6 percent from the first quarter of 2016, as overall volumes ticked up 5 percent, resulting from growth in coal, intermodal and merchandise commodities.

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION

1. For-hire Motor Carrier Freight Services Price Index, fourth quarter 2016

The For-hire Motor Carrier Freight Services Price Index rose 0.9% in the fourth 2016 quarter, following a 0.4% increase in the third quarter. The general freight trucking component rose 1.3%, while the specialized freight trucking component was unchanged. The index was down 0.1% in the 2016 fourth quarter compared with the same quarter of 2015. This was the ninth consecutive year-over-year decrease. The general freight trucking component increased 0.6% while the specialized freight trucking component was down 1.5%.

2. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, February 2017

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index (CMSPI) increased 1.6% in February 2017, the couriers component rose 1.6% while the local messengers and local delivery component increased 1.5%. On a year to year basis, the CMSPI rose 6.8% in February 2017 compared with the same month a year earlier. The couriers' component increased 7.5%, while the local delivery component rose 3.3%.

3. Monthly Passenger Bus and Urban Transit, January 2017

Total operating revenues (excluding subsidies) for urban transit companies were \$305.0 million in January 2017. Over the same period, ridership was 141.3 million passenger trips.

4. JB Hunt opens enterprise services branch in Toronto

JB Hunt Transport Services, Inc has opened a new enterprise sales branch in Toronto, Ontario, its first such office in Canada. "Providing supply chain solutions for Canada is essential to many of our customers," said Eric McGee, the company's senior vice-president of transportation.

5. Association Boss: Autonomous Vehicles Won't Replace Drivers

It will be still be quite awhile before autonomous vehicles become an active part of the trucking industry; and even then, the technology won't replace truck drivers, says the president of the Ohio Trucking Association during a panel discussion at the Truckload Carriers Association's annual convention. "I think one of the big issues is the Hollywood glamour of autonomous vehicles compared to the reality we are in," says Thomas Balzer. "We're really in the infancy of this thing."

6. NAFTA Trade Growth continues in January

The total value of cross-border trade between the United States and its partners in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which include Canada and Mexico, in January 2017 grew 6.7 percent to \$88 billion compared with the same 2016 period, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). BTS noted total NAFTA freight values have now grown in three consecutive months and four of the last six months when compared with the prior-year period. The January increase was also the largest year-over-year increase since September 2014. For the full year in 2016, however, NAFTA freight flows fell 3.4 percent from 2015 to \$1.069 trillion in current dollars, according to BTS figures.

7. U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao Approves Release of \$768.2 Million for Emergency Repairs to Roads and Bridges in 40 States

U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao on April 6, 2017 approved the release of \$768.2 million for emergency repair work to roads and bridges damaged by storms or catastrophic events in 40 states. Funded

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION Canada

1. For-hire Motor Carrier Freight Services Price Index, fourth quarter 2016, March 30, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca
2. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, February 2017, March 31, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca
3. Monthly Passenger Bus and Urban Transit, January 2017, March 31, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca
4. JB Hunt opens enterprise services branch in Toronto, March 31, 2017, www.ctl.ca
5. Association Boss: Autonomous Vehicles Won't Replace Drivers, April 5, 2017, www.cantruck.ca
6. NAFTA Trade Growth continues in January, April 5, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
7. U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao Approves Release of \$768.2 Million for Emergency Repairs to Roads and Bridges in 40 States, April 6, 2017, www.dot.gov
8. Volumes growing, rates stagnant: FTR, April 10, 2017, www.todaystrucking.com
9. U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao Announces More Than \$9 Million for Tribal Transportation Safety Improvements, April 10, 2017, www.dot.gov
10. February 2017 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI), April 12, 2017, www.bts.gov
11. Trucking HR Canada Launches Compensation Benchmarking Study, April 18, 2017, www.cantruck.ca
12. North American freight market growth continues in March, April 20, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
13. PwC: Logistics M&A activity slows in Q1 2017, April 21, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
14. CTA Provides Comments on Clean Fuel Standard Discussion Paper, April 26, 2017, www.cantruck.ca
15. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, March 2017, April 27, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca

through the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Emergency Relief (ER) program, it is one of the largest single awards for such repair work made by the federal government.

8. Volumes growing, rates stagnant: FTR

Analysts at FTR are predicting U.S. freight volumes will grow this year, but say rates will likely be stagnant for at least six months.

9. U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao Announces More Than \$9 Million for Tribal Transportation Safety Improvements

Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao announced on April 10, 2017 that 74 tribes in 20 states will receive more than \$9 million for 77 projects from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)'s Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund (TTPSF) to improve transportation safety on tribal lands.

10. February 2017 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI)

The Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI), which is based on the amount of freight carried by the for-hire transportation industry, rose 1.5 percent in February 2017 from January 2017, rising after remaining unchanged in January 2017 from December 2016, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS). The February 2017 index level (126.4) was 33.5 percent above the April 2009 low during the most recent recession.

11. Trucking HR Canada Launches Compensation Benchmarking Study

Trucking HR Canada has developed an industry specific compensation benchmarking study. The data gathered through the study will assist employers in developing competitive compensation packages for all occupations from truck drivers to dispatchers and fleet managers. The study will look at average annual incomes, benefits packages, retirement plans, rewards and recognition programs, and much more. The data collected will be aggregated into a comprehensive report – which will include a national overview and provincial breakdowns for each occupation.

12. North American freight market growth continues in March

Shipment volumes and payments in March 2017 were up 0.9 percent and 3 percent, respectively, compared with the same 2016 period, according to Cass. The North American freight market showed continued, albeit slowing, growth in March 2017, with volumes registering the fourth year-over-year increase in as many months after slipping back into negative territory in November 2016, according to the latest Cass Freight Index Report.

13. PwC: Logistics M&A activity slows in Q1 2017

Merger and acquisition activity in the transportation and logistics sector slowed considerably in the first quarter of 2017 despite more deals getting done, according to a quarterly analysis of global M&A activity in the sector by multinational professional services and consulting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). Total deal value for mergers and acquisitions in the sector dropped 38 percent to \$18.2 billion, even as the number of deals jumped 26 percent to 63 transactions compared with the first quarter of 2016.

14. CTA Provides Comments on Clean Fuel Standard Discussion Paper

CTA reiterated that overall it has been supportive of ECCC's Heavy Truck Greenhouse Gas regulations in both phases I and the current Phase II proposal. The reduction of greenhouse gases from heavy trucks makes good environmental and business sense for trucking fleets, CTA stated. In its comments, CTA asked ECCC to address four issues: 1) Lower carbon fuels and alternatives availability for use in each transportation sub-sector; 2) How market ready is lower carbon fuels technology and alternatives in this sector?; 3) The barriers to usage of lower carbon fuels and alternatives in the transportation sector; and 4) Possible needs for transportation to transition to lower carbon fuels

15. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, March 2017

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index (CMSPI) rose for the sixth consecutive month, increasing by 2.2% in March 2017. The couriers' component rose 2.8% while the local messengers and local delivery component decreased 1.0%. The CMSPI rose 9.9% in March 2017 compared with the same month a year earlier. The couriers component was up 11.6%, while the local delivery component increased 1.8%.

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION

Canada

1. National tourism indicators, fourth quarter 2016

Tourism spending in Canada increased 0.4% in the 2016 fourth quarter, following a 2.1% gain in the third quarter. Since the third quarter of 2009, tourism spending has increased every quarter except the third quarter of 2012 when it declined 0.3%. Both tourism spending by Canadians in Canada and by international visitors increased in the 2016 fourth quarter. For the calendar year 2016, tourism spending in Canada grew 4.2%, following a 2.5% gain in 2015. Expenditures by both Canadians at home and international visitors contributed to the gain. Spending by international visitors rose 9.7% in 2016, following a 5.4% increase in 2015. Spending by Canadians at home rose 2.8%, following a 1.7% gain in 2015.

2. CEI: Transportation regulations stifling safety improvements

U.S. transportation regulations - both existing and proposed - are getting in the way of industry safety improvements, according to a new report from the Competitive Enterprise Institute (CEI), a non-profit, non-partisan public policy group dedicated to the principles of free enterprise and limited government. Future safety gains in freight and passenger transportation “are being held back by government red tape that stifles innovation and improvement,” according to the report.

3. BCTA Lauds Parking & Oversize Permitting Plans

Construction on the parking facility will begin this summer at the site on the north side of the highway, just east of the Port Mann Bridge, and should be completed by winter 2018, the government announced. Facilities will include washrooms and showers, as well as security measures including fencing and lighting. It's the second such facility announced for the Lower Mainland under a 10-year transportation plan known as BC on the Move. The first was built on Highway 91 at Nordel Way in Delta, and can hold up to 40 vehicles.

4. New Publications from the OECD

The International Transport Forum (OECD) has released two publications. 1. Synergies from Improved Bicycle-Transit Integration, April 3, 2017, www.itf-oecd.org; and 2. Measuring Integration and Urban Sustainability with Indicators, April 3, 2017, www.itf-oecd.org

5. Tabling of the Agency's 2017-2018 Departmental Plan

The Canadian Transport Agency's 2017-2018 Departmental Plan was tabled in Parliament on March 9, 2017.

6. International Transport Forum - Research

The OECD International Transport Forum has released a paper on *Bike Share Deployment and Strategies in Japan*, Discussion Paper, 6 April 2017.

7. Leading indicator of cross-border traveller volume, Leading indicator of cross-border traveller volume, March 2017 (preliminary)

Data on the number of US travellers entering Canada by car in March are now available upon request from Statistics Canada. Data are available by the visitors' state of residence and province of entry into Canada. The number of travellers entering Canada is a key economic indicator of international trade and tourism growth. Most foreign travellers entering the country on any given day are from the United States and use the automobile as their mode of transportation. On an average day, 300,000 travellers enter Canada.

8. National Transportation Statistics Updated

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) on April 14, 2017 updated National Transportation Statistics (NTS) – a web-only reference guide to national-level

Canada

1. National tourism indicators, fourth quarter 2016, March 30, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca
2. CEI: Transportation regulations stifling safety improvements, March 29, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
3. BCTA Lauds Parking & Oversize Permitting Plans, April 3, 2017, www.ctl.ca
4. New Publications from the OECD, April 5, 2017, www.itf-oecd.org
5. Tabling of the Agency's 2017-2018 Departmental Plan, April 9, 2017, www.cta-otc.gc.ca
6. International Transport Forum – Research, April 10, 2017, www.itf-oecd.org
7. Leading indicator of cross-border traveller volume, Leading indicator of cross-border traveller volume, March 2017 (preliminary), April 10, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca
8. National Transportation Statistics Updated, April 14, 2017, www.bts.gov
9. China exports up 16.4pc in March, April 19, 2017, www.transportweekly.com
10. Travel between Canada and other countries, February 2017, April 20, 2017, www.statcan.gc.ca
11. IMF increases 2017 global growth forecast, April 19, 2017, www.americanshipper.com
12. Supply Chain Management: It's IoT Time, April 26, 2017, www.inboundlogistics.com

transportation data. NTS, updated quarterly, includes a wide range of national transportation information. NTS consists of more than 260 tables of national data of which 36 were updated on April 14, 2017.

9. China exports up 16.4pc in March

China's export shipments increased the most in two years in March 2017 as global demand held up, though imports slowed after holiday season sales soared in February, reported Bloomberg News. In dollar volume, exports were up 16.4 per cent in March 2017, reversing a 1.3 per cent fall in February 2017, according to China Customs figures. While down from the dazzling 38 per cent increase enjoyed in February, imports still increased a robust 20.3 per cent to leave a trade surplus of US\$23.93 billion.

10. Travel between Canada and other countries, February 2017

Canadian residents made 3.5 million trips to the United States, in February 2017 down 1.0% from January 2017 but up 7.2% compared with February 2016. Fewer Canadian residents took car trips to the United States. Canadian residents took 1.0 million trips overseas in February 2017, the highest figure for the month since modern record keeping began in 1972. This was an increase of 2.6% from January 2017, and up 8.5% compared with the same month last year. US residents made 2.0 million trips to Canada in February 2017, down 1.1% from the previous month and down 0.6% compared with February 2016. Of these trips to Canada, 673,000 were same-day trips by car, down 1.0% from the previous month and down 4.5% compared with February 2016. Canada received 550,000 residents visiting from overseas countries in February 2017, 0.9% fewer than in January 2017, but a rise of 11.9% over February 2016.

11. IMF increases 2017 global growth forecast

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is raising its outlook for the worldwide economy in the coming year. The IMF on April 17, 2017 released its latest quarterly World Economic Outlook (WEO) Update for 2017, titled "Gaining Momentum?" In the report, the IMF projected that the global economy will grow 3.5 percent this year, up from its January projection of 3.4 percent and a 3.1 percent annual growth rate in 2016. Looking ahead to 2018 and beyond, the IMF forecasts global growth to rise to 3.6 percent next year and continue to increase marginally, reaching 3.8 percent by 2020.

12. Supply Chain Management: It's IoT Time

This story looks at several ways in which companies are applying Internet of Things (IoT) technology to supply chain management. Drivers carry cell phones in their cars to feed GPS locations to a traffic information and navigation service, which uses the data to detect congestion. A home security system in Michigan alerts the resident, wintering in Florida, that someone is lingering at the front door. An electronic chair in a dentist's office tells the manufacturer it's time to perform preventive maintenance. The Internet of Things (IoT) is making its way into every aspect of life. By 2021, 22.5 billion devices will be connected to the IoT, compared with 6.6 billion in 2016, according to a BI Global Intelligence survey. The world will invest \$4.8 trillion in IoT technologies and products during that time, the company forecasts.