

Transportation Information Update*

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AIR TRANSPORTATION

1. WestJet reports second quarter net loss of \$20.8 million

WestJet on July 31, 2018 announced its second quarter results for 2018, with a net loss of \$20.8 million, or \$0.18 per fully diluted share. This result compares with net earnings of \$48.6 million, or \$0.41 per fully diluted share reported in the second quarter of 2017. Based on the trailing twelve months, the airline achieved a return on invested capital of 7.7 per cent, down from 9.8 per cent in the second quarter of 2017. Year-to-date, WestJet recorded net earnings of \$16.4 million, or \$0.14 per fully diluted share. Ed Sims, WestJet President and CEO said "The impact of the threat of industrial action, in combination with the dramatic increase in fuel price and competitive capacity provided particularly significant challenges in the second quarter." ... "While we are disappointed with these results, all WestJetters can take great satisfaction from the successful delivery of key strategic initiatives like Swoop and WestJet Link."

2. WestJet posts smaller-than-expected loss as traffic growth offsets rising fuel prices

WestJet Airlines Ltd reported a smaller-than-expected loss on July 31, 2018 as it flew fuller planes and improved a key revenue metric, offsetting a steep rise in aviation fuel prices. The country's second-largest carrier said revenue passenger miles (RPMs) increased 6.2 per cent in the second quarter ended June 31, 2018. The Calgary-based company said aircraft fuel expenses rose 34.4 per cent to \$302.3 million, while overall expenses increased 13.8 per cent.

3. IATA, CFM International Sign Pro-Competitive Agreement on Engine Maintenance

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced that it has entered into an agreement with CFM International (CFM) that will lead to increased competition in the market for maintenance, repair and overhaul services (MRO) on engines manufactured by CFM, a 50/50 partnership between GE and Safran Aircraft Engines. "Airlines spend a tremendous amount of money on the maintenance and repair of aircraft and engines to ensure we are always operating to the highest levels of safety and reliability. This milestone agreement with CFM will lead to increased competition among the providers of parts and services related to the servicing of CFM engines. We expect increased competition will reduce airline operating costs and help to keep flying affordable. And we hope that this agreement will be an example for other manufacturers to follow," said Alexandre de Juniac, IATA's Director General and CEO.

4. Monthly civil aviation statistics, May 2018

The six Canadian Level I air carriers flew 6.6 million passengers on scheduled and charter services in May 2018 up 6.3% from May 2017 and continuing the upward year-over-year monthly trend that

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1. WestJet reports second quarter net loss of \$20.8 million, July 31, 2018, www.westjet.ca
2. WestJet posts smaller-than-expected loss as traffic growth offsets rising fuel prices, July 31, 2018, www.globeandmail.ca
3. IATA, CFM International Sign Pro-Competitive Agreement on Engine Maintenance, July 31, 2018, www.iata.org
4. Monthly civil aviation statistics, May 2018, July 31, 2018, www.statcan.gc.ca
5. Airport activity, 2017, August 2, 2018, www.statcan.ca
6. Aimia Rejects Bid by Air Canada, TD, CIBC and Visa Canada Consortium for Aeroplan Program, August 2, 2018, www.aircanada.ca
7. Aima and Porter Airlines form new Aeroplan points partnership, August 3, 2018, www.nationalpost.ca
8. Air Canada Sets New Single Day Record for Customers Carried, August 3, 2018, www.aircanada.ca
9. Freight Growth Slowdown Continues In June, August 8, 2018, www.iata.org
10. Porter Airlines and Aeroplan announce new comprehensive partnership, August 3, 2018, www.flyporter.com
11. American Airlines Cargo achieves record-setting quarter, August 9, 2018, www.transportweekly.com
12. Air Canada Cargo receives IATA certification for transport of live animals, August 9, 2018, www.ctl.ca
13. Government of Canada investing in safety at Michel-Pouliot Gaspé Airport, August 9, 2018, www.fc.gc.ca
14. Passenger Demand Accelerates in June, August 9, 2018, www.iata.org
15. AA Cargo volume up 9.7pc, August 13, 2018, www.transportweekly.com
16. Aircraft movement statistics: Small airports, April 2018, August 13, 2018, www.statcan.gc.ca

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

began in April 2014. Traffic increased 8.0% year over year to 17.1 billion passenger-kilometres in May 2018. Capacity rose 7.7% to 20.8 billion available seat-kilometres. This resulted in a slightly higher passenger load factor in May 2018 (82.2%) compared with the same month a year earlier (82.0%), as the increase in demand for travel was stronger than the rise in capacity. Total operating revenue increased 10.3% from the same month a year earlier to \$1.8 billion in May 2018.

5. Airport activity, 2017

The number of passengers enplaned and deplaned at Canadian airports reached 149.6 million in 2017, an increase of 6.2% compared with the previous year. This marked the eighth consecutive annual increase in air passenger traffic following the economic slowdown of 2009. The largest airports contributed significantly to the strong growth in passenger traffic, with increases seen at Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International (+5.9%), Vancouver International (+8.8%) and Montréal/Pierre Elliott Trudeau International (+9.6%). All sectors experienced growth in 2017, as the domestic sector expanded 5.4% (+4.5 million passengers), other international traffic was up 9.6% (+2.9 million) and transborder traffic (between Canada and the United States) increased 4.9% (+1.3 million).

6. Aimia Rejects Bid by Air Canada, TD, CIBC and Visa Canada Consortium for Aeroplan Program

Air Canada, The Toronto-Dominion Bank ("TD"), Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce ("CIBC"), and Visa Canada Corporation ("Visa") on August 2, 2018 announced that Aimia Inc. ("Aimia") has rejected their proposal to acquire its Aeroplan loyalty business disclosed on July 25, 2018. The parties had set a deadline of August 2, 2018 for Aimia to accept the proposal. Air Canada, TD, CIBC and Visa enhanced the offer and engaged in extensive discussions with Aimia over the past several days to attempt to reach an economically viable agreement.

7. Aimia and Porter Airlines form new Aeroplan points partnership

Aimia Inc. says it has a new deal from Toronto-based Porter Airlines to become a preferred Canadian airline for the Aeroplan loyalty points program as of July 2020, when the current arrangement with Air Canada ends. The announcement follows Aimia's rejection of a bid for Aeroplan from an Air Canada-led group that includes the key Aeroplan credit card partners Toronto-Dominion Bank, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and Visa Canada.

8. Air Canada Sets New Single Day Record for Customers Carried

Air Canada on August 3, 2018 welcomed more than 178,000 customers on board its aircraft, a new, single-day record for Canada's flag carrier. It also had a record breaking July 2018 carrying more than 5.2 million customers.

9. Freight Growth Slowdown Continues In June

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for global air freight markets showing that demand, measured in freight tonne kilometers (FTKs), rose 2.7% in June 2018, compared to the same period the year before. This continues the slowdown in air cargo growth that began earlier in 2018. Growth for the first half of 2018 stands at 4.7%, less than half the growth rate in 2017. Freight capacity, measured in available freight tonne kilometers (AFTKs), rose by 4.1% in June 2018. Capacity growth has now outstripped demand growth in every month since March 2018. Three main reasons were attributed for the slowdown.

17. Air cargo growth slows in June, yet IATA sees 4pc increase in 2018, August 15, 2018, www.transportweekly.com
18. WestJet gives Canadians more sun and fun this winter, August 13, 2018, www.westjet.ca
19. WestJet gives Calgary more sun and fun this winter, August 13, 2018, www.westjet.ca
20. Pack your bags, Saskatoon, you're heading to Orlando, August 13, 2018, www.westjet.ca
21. WestJet reports July load factor of 85.2 per cent, August 8, 2018, www.westjet.ca
22. Straighten Up and Fly Right, August 16, 2018, www.inboundlogistics.com
23. May 2018 U.S. Airline Traffic Data, August 16, 2018, www.bts.gov
24. London Stansted experiences 4.5pc increase in cargo traffic in July, August 20, 2018, www.transportweekly.com
25. Air Canada, TD, CIBC, Visa and Aimia Reach Agreement in Principle for Acquisition of Aeroplan Loyalty Business, August 20, 2018, www.aircanada.ca
26. June 2018 U.S. Passenger Airline Employment Data, August 20, 2018, www.bts.gov
27. Air Canada Expands Acceptance of Alipay and WeChat Pay to North American and Hong Kong Websites, August 21, 2018, www.aircanada.ca
28. European air cargo growth continues to stagnate in July, August 22, 2018, www.transportweekly.com
29. WestJet hears you loud and clear, Edmonton, August 22, 2018, www.westjet.ca
30. Strategies to Support Sustained Airline Financial Health, August 22, 2018, www.iata.org
31. WestJet becomes first Canadian airline to launch an AI Chatbot, August 27, 2018, www.westjet.ca
32. Air Canada, WestJet raising checked baggage fees for lowest-fare passengers, August 27, 2018, www.globeandmail.ca
33. Boeing forecasts greatest demand for pilots, technicians, cabin crew in Asia Pacific region, August 28, 2018, www.transportweekly.com
34. Moderate Freight Growth Continues in July, Up 2.1%, August 29, 2018, www.iata.org
35. Air fares, 2017, August 29, 2018, www.statcan.gc.ca

10. Porter Airlines and Aeroplan announce new comprehensive partnership

Porter Airlines and Air Canada are announcing a comprehensive partnership designating Porter as the preferred Canadian airline to issue Aeroplan Miles on Porter routes effective July 2020. Porter will also become a redemption partner, as of the effective time of the agreement, offering up to 60% of seat inventory for the purchase of flights with Aeroplan Miles at fixed-rate prices. The arrangement includes an extensive cooperative marketing program targeting existing Aeroplan members, with an emphasis on members who travel on Porter routes.

11. American Airlines Cargo achieves record-setting quarter

Driven by nearly 350 million pounds (158 million kilograms) of freight, up from 318 million (144 million kilograms) the same time last year, American Airlines Cargo achieved record-setting growth in the 2018 second quarter, while also posting a record month in June 2018. Several key trends contributed to the record month and quarter. E-Commerce related movements continue to support significant growth across the network, particularly out of Asia, Europe and Brazil, while pharmaceuticals, fruit and flowers were the largest growing commodities throughout the timeframe.

12. Air Canada Cargo receives IATA certification for transport of live animals

Air Canada Cargo received the first Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animals Logistics (CEIV Live Animals) Certification by IATA after successfully completing the pilot program launched in March 2018. This certification reinforces that Air Canada Cargo is operating to the highest standards in the transport of live animals, be it exotic species or household pets.

13. Government of Canada investing in safety at Michel-Pouliot Gaspé Airport

On August 9, 2018, the Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, announced a \$3,930,528 Government of Canada investment for the rehabilitation of airside pavement at the Michel-Pouliot Gaspé Airport. A fully rebuilt and up-to-date runway, free of cracks and with proper drainage, is key in ensuring safe usage by aircraft, passengers, and crews, and for protecting costly airport safety assets such as snow clearing equipment and aircraft rescue firefighting vehicles. The funding comes from Transport Canada's Airports Capital Assistance Program (ACAP).

14. Passenger Demand Accelerates in June

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced global passenger traffic results for June 2018 showing that demand (measured in total revenue passenger kilometers or RPKs) rose by 7.8% compared to June 2017. This was up from 6.0% year-over-year growth recorded in both May 2018 and April 2018. June capacity (available seat kilometers or ASKs) increased by 6.5%, and load factor rose 1.0 percentage point to 82.8%. The first six months of 2018 produced demand growth of 7.0%, a strong performance, but down from 8.3% growth recorded in the first half of 2017. "The first half of 2018 concluded with another month of above-trend demand growth, which is a good indicator for the peak summer travel season in the northern hemisphere. But the looming prospect of a global trade war is casting a long shadow.

15. AA Cargo volume up 9.7pc

Fort Worth's American Airlines Cargo's 2018 second quarter year-on-year freight volume increased 9.7 per cent to a near record 350 million pounds lbs (158 million kilos) as well as setting a monthly record in June 2018. "Our entire team is thrilled to have achieved such a strong second quarter and June for 2018," said AA cargo chief Lori Sinn. "We look forward to breaking more records in the future." Major contributors were e-commerce, particularly out of Asia, Europe and Brazil, while pharmaceuticals, fruit and flowers were the largest growing commodities.

16. Aircraft movement statistics: Small airports, April 2018

Take-offs and landings at 128 Canadian airports without air traffic control towers reached a total of 45,775 movements in April 2018. Ten airports accounted for 40.4% of the month's activity: Peterborough, Ontario (3,071 movements); Moosonee, Ontario (2,556); Goose Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador (2,159); Trois-Rivières, Quebec (1,829); Red Lake, Ontario (1,817); Comox, British Columbia (1,806); Island Lake, Manitoba (1,559); St. Theresa Point, Manitoba (1,317); Barrie-Orillia-Lake Simcoe Regional, Ontario (1,283); and Yorkton Municipal, Saskatchewan (1,088).

17. Air cargo growth slows in June, yet IATA sees 4pc increase in 2018

The growth rate of global air cargo volumes continued to weaken in June 2018, with freight tonne kilometres up 2.7 per cent year on year and 4.7 per cent in the first half of the year. However, that's less than half the 10.4 per cent growth recorded in the first six months of 2017. According to the International Air Transport Association (IATA), freight capacity increased 4.1 per cent in June 2018, exceeding demand growth for the fourth month in a row, reported IHS Media. IATA attributed the slower growth to the end of

the inventory restocking in early part of the year and the decline in global trading conditions, as seen by the drop in the Purchasing Managers' Index to its lowest level since 2016, with factory export orderbooks entering negative territory in China, Japan and the US. Further, the temporary grounding of the Nippon Cargo Airlines' entire fleet of 11 Boeing 747 freighters in June exacerbated the slowdown by skimming up to 0.5 percentage points off the monthly growth.

18. WestJet gives Canadians more sun and fun this winter

WestJet guests across Canada will have more ways to escape the cold this winter with the release of WestJet's seasonal schedule for winter 2018/2019. The schedule includes more flights from WestJet hubs to domestic, transborder, international and sun destinations including Maui, Phoenix, Las Vegas, Orlando, Huatulco, Puerto Vallarta and Belize, among others.

19. WestJet gives Calgary more sun and fun this winter

WestJet, the airline offering more flights to more destinations from Calgary than any other, will offer guests a new route to escape the cold this winter when the airline starts twice-weekly, non-stop service between Calgary International Airport (YYC) and Sangster International Airport (MBJ) in Montego Bay, Jamaica. The service begins November 3, 2018.

20. Pack your bags, Saskatoon, you're heading to Orlando

WestJet guests in Saskatoon will have a new route taking them to the sun this winter. Starting December 7, 2018, WestJet will begin weekly, non-stop service between Skyxe Saskatoon Airport and Orlando International Airport. In addition to the new route, WestJet also announced service between Saskatoon and Calgary will increase from six daily flights to eight daily flights each business day.

21. WestJet reports July load factor of 85.2 per cent

On August 8, 2018, WestJet announced July 2018 traffic results with a load factor of 85.2 per cent, a decrease of 0.4 percentage points year over year. Revenue passenger miles (RPMs), or traffic, increased 8.2 per cent year over year, while capacity, measured in available seat miles (ASMs), grew 8.7 per cent over the same period. WestJet welcomed an additional 144,000 guests in July 2018, a year-over-year increase of 6.5 per cent. Ed Sims, WestJet President and CEO said "In July, we continued to expand our reach while attracting 2.4 million guests to WestJet's award-winning brand of caring and friendly service. I want to thank all of our guests for their continued loyalty as yesterday, August 7th, we flew an estimated company record 80,219 guests across our network."

22. Straighten Up and Fly Right

Shippers can take several steps to rein in airfreight costs. These include checking that it's truly necessary, combining air with other modes of transportation, incorporating air into their ongoing logistics planning, and developing strong relationships with freight forwarders.

23. May 2018 U.S. Airline Traffic Data

U.S. airlines carried a new high of 73.9 million systemwide (domestic and international) scheduled service passengers, seasonally adjusted, in May 2018, up 0.1 percent from April 2018 for the fourth consecutive monthly increase and up 4.5 percent over the year (May 2017 to May 2018). Systemwide load factor (83.8 percent) was down 1.0 points from the all-time seasonally-adjusted high (84.8 percent) reached in October 2015. Domestic and international load factors both declined.

24. London Stansted experiences 4.5pc increase in cargo traffic in July

London Stansted Airport has posted a 4.5 per cent year-on-year increase in July 2018 cargo volume to 22,000 tonnes, bringing the 12-month rolling total to 262,000 tonnes, according to *Shipping Gazette*. Some 2.7 million passengers came through the airport in July 2018 a 7.4 per cent year-on-year increase as the summer holiday season got underway. This despite an airline strike and weather disruption as well as air traffic challenges across Europe.

25. Air Canada, TD, CIBC, Visa and Aimia Reach Agreement in Principle for Acquisition of Aeroplan Loyalty Business

Aimia has accepted Air Canada's sweetened bid of \$450 million offer. Air Canada, The Toronto-Dominion Bank ("TD"), Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce ("CIBC"), Visa Canada Corporation ("Visa") (collectively, "the Consortium") and Aimia Inc. ("Aimia") announced on August 20, 2018 that they have entered into an agreement in principle for the acquisition of Aimia's Aeroplan loyalty business. Calin Rovinescu, President and CEO of Air Canada, on behalf of the consortium said "We are pleased to see that an agreement in principle has been reached as Aeroplan members can continue to earn and redeem with confidence. This transaction, if completed, should produce the best outcome for all stakeholders, including Aeroplan Members, as it would allow for a smooth transition to Air Canada's new loyalty

program launching in 2020, safeguarding their miles and providing convenience and value for millions of Canadians."

26. June 2018 U.S. Passenger Airline Employment Data

U.S. **scheduled** passenger airlines employed 2.7 percent more workers in June 2018 than in June 2017: 1) June's 439,422 full-time equivalents (FTE) was the highest monthly employment total since November 2004 (439,776 FTEs); 2) June was the 56th consecutive month that U.S. scheduled passenger airline FTEs exceeded the same month of the previous year. For **four network** carriers: 1) June's 286,670 FTEs was 65.2 percent of total scheduled passenger airline FTEs; 2) It was up 3.0 percent (8,280 FTEs) over June 2017 (278,390 FTEs). For **five low-cost** airlines: 1) June's 91,038 FTEs was 20.7 percent of total scheduled passenger airline FTEs; 2) It was up 1.8 percent (1,646 FTEs) over June 2017 (89,392 FTEs)

27. Air Canada Expands Acceptance of Alipay and WeChat Pay to North American and Hong Kong Websites

Air Canada on August 21, 2018 announced that Alipay and WeChat Pay as payment choices are now available when booking on the carrier's North American and Hong Kong websites. Air Canada is the first Canadian airline and is amongst the first North American carriers to offer these secure payment options in North America.

28. European air cargo growth continues to stagnate in July

European airlines saw air cargo volumes in July 2018 continue to grow at a lower rate than earlier in the year. Lufthansa - the region's largest combination airline group in terms of cargo - saw freight traffic for the period decline by 2.9 per cent year on year to 904 million revenue cargo tonne kms. This is the second month in a row that the German airline group has recorded a decline and compares with its year-to-date growth rate of 2 per cent. While demand decreased, the amount of cargo capacity on offer from the group was up by 1.8 per cent and as a result its load factor for July 2018 slipped to 64.1 per cent against 67.2 per cent this time last year.

29. WestJet hears you loud and clear, Edmonton

WestJet on August 22, 2018 announced that it will maintain non-stop service between Edmonton and Las Vegas with four weekly flights starting October 11, 2018. Flights will operate Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays. "We heard directly from many guests that being able to fly non-stop from Edmonton to Las Vegas on WestJet was a priority," said Brian Znotins, WestJet Vice-President Network Planning and Alliances. "We have made this a reality so our guests can continue to book WestJet, WestJet Vacation packages as well as earn and use WestJet Rewards dollars, the WestJet RBC MasterCard and its associated companion vouchers for their vacations from Edmonton to this top tourist destination."

30. Strategies to Support Sustained Airline Financial Health

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced that the 2018 World Financial Symposium (WFS) will feature a strong focus on partnership strategies to accelerate delivery of transformation supporting sustained airline financial health. 2018 will mark the ninth consecutive year of industry profits and the fourth year in which airlines will make an aggregate return exceeding their cost of capital. However, rising costs, particularly fuel, will squeeze earnings, which are expected to slip from \$38 billion in 2017 to \$33.8 billion in 2018.

31. WestJet becomes first Canadian airline to launch an AI Chatbot

WestJet on August 27, 2018 is offering its guests more convenience with the launch of the first ever artificial intelligence (AI) powered chatbot from a Canadian airline. The chatbot, named Juliet, is available in English and French through Facebook Messenger, and enables travellers to easily manage many aspects of their trip including destination inspiration and discovery, flight booking and day-of travel information. To chat with Juliet, please visit: <http://m.me/westjet>

32. Air Canada, WestJet raising checked baggage fees for lowest-fare passengers

Many Canadians will be forced to spend a little more to travel after Air Canada and WestJet Airlines Ltd. said they are increasing fees for passengers to check their bags. The country's two largest airlines are raising the fee for the first checked bag to \$30 from \$25, and for the second bag to \$50 from \$30. The moves were made swiftly after major U.S. airline JetBlue Airways Corp. hiked its fees for checked bags and to change a ticket. "This is the first change since 2014 and will help offset overall increasing costs and keep overall ticket prices competitive," said Air Canada spokeswoman.

33. Boeing forecasts greatest demand for pilots, technicians, cabin crew in Asia Pacific region

Boeing reports that the Asia Pacific region will have the greatest global demand for new civil aviation personnel over the next 20 years. The region is projected to account for 33 percent of the global need for pilots, 34 percent for technicians and 36 percent for cabin crew. The 2018 Boeing Pilot & Technician Outlook is an industry forecast of new aviation personnel demand. It is closely tied to projections for new airplane deliveries around the globe.

34. Moderate Freight Growth Continues in July, Up 2.1%

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for global air freight markets showing that demand, measured in freight tonne kilometers (FTKs), rose 2.1% in July 2018, compared to the same period the year before. This was the slowest pace of growth seen since May 2016 and well below the five-year average growth rate of 5.1%. Freight capacity, measured in available freight tonne kilometers (AFTKs), grew by 3.8% year-on-year in July 2018. This was the fourth time in five months that capacity growth outstripped demand growth. While the temporary grounding of the Nippon Cargo Airlines fleet may have exaggerated a slowdown in growth at the beginning of July 2018, there are three indications that slower growth will continue.

35. Air fares, 2017

Base air fares in Canada, domestic and international combined, averaged \$232.50 in 2017, up 2.0% from 2016 and reversing the downward trend of the previous three years. The average domestic fare edged up 0.5% from 2016 to \$168.30, while the average international fare rose 2.5% to \$299.10. This was the first increase in the international sector since 2013. Among the 10 selected cities where passengers boarded the plane (enplanement), Saskatoon (+4.0%), Ottawa (+3.7%) and Calgary (+2.6%) had the largest increases in average domestic air fares in 2017, while Halifax (-1.1%) and Winnipeg (-0.8%) had the largest declines. Vancouver (\$193.40) remained the city with the highest average domestic air fare, followed by Toronto (\$193.20).

WATER TRANSPORTATION

1. PSA buys 60% stake in Ashcroft Terminal

PSA International Pte Ltd, the shipping terminal company owned by Singapore's sovereign wealth fund Temasek, has signed an agreement to acquire 60 percent of Ashcroft Terminal, a 320-acre privately owned transload and storage terminal in British Columbia. Ashcroft Terminal is the only major privately-owned industrial property in Canada where both Class 1 railroad lines — including Canadian National (CN) Railway and Canadian Pacific Railway — run through, transporting import and export cargoes to and from the Port of Vancouver, across Canada and as far as Chicago and other North American markets. Besides its unique rail connectivity, Ashcroft is also located close to the major highways of British Columbia that serve much of the province's resource industries.

2. Europe's smaller ports providing alternatives for shippers

The leading container ports still call the shots – thanks to the schedules of the three, powerful alliances – but rival smaller ports are adding business – and in the process are giving shippers options to northern and southern Europe.

3. Transatlantic carriers reduce capacity as EU-US exports slip 0.6pc

The world's major carriers are reducing EU-US transatlantic capacity to contend with a 0.6 per cent year-on-year decline in EU container export volume to 683,881 TEU in the first five months of the year, reports *IHS media*. Hong Kong's Orient Overseas Container Line (OOCL) announced it would cancel two sailings on its Atlantic Mediterranean Express Service in mid-August and early September. Cosco, CMA CGM, Evergreen and OOCL cancelled its TAT4/TAX loop while Hyundai Merchant Marine (HMM) had already announced plans to end two transatlantic services.

4. Russia's soaring box traffic slows, but still retains double digit growth

Soaring Russian container traffic of recent years has slowed from 11.6 per cent year on year to 2.5 million TEU in the first half compared to 15.3 per cent growth last year, according to the *Association of Russian Commercial Sea Ports*. Russian ports are

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1. PSA buys 60% stake in Ashcroft Terminal, August 1, 2018, www.ctl.ca
2. Europe's smaller ports providing alternatives for shippers, July 31, 2018, www.joc.com
3. Transatlantic carriers reduce capacity as EU-US exports slip 0.6pc, August 1, 2018, www.transportweekly.com
4. Russia's soaring box traffic slows, but still retains double digit growth, August 2, 2018, www.transportweekly.com
5. Singapore's PSA acquires majority stake in Canadian shipping terminal, August 6, 2018, www.transportweekly.com
6. Outlook for global container port demand positive, August 3, 2018, www.americanshipper.com
7. Long Beach looks to another record year despite threat of trade war escalating, August 6, 2018, www.transportweekly.com
8. Seaspan's Q2 net profit soars 140pc, August 6, 2018, www.transportweekly.com
9. Getting Wise to Smart Ports, August 5, 2018, www.inboundlogistics.com
10. Rotterdam first half volume up 6.2pc, August 7, 2018, www.transportweekly.com
11. Report examines two potential future digital scenarios for containerized trade, August 7, 2018, www.americanshipper.com
12. Transfer of four port facilities to the Government of Quebec, August 8, 2018, www.tc.gc.ca
13. Port of Virginia July container volume up, August 8, 2018, www.americanshipper.com
14. Government of Canada announces consultations in advance of a potential sale of Ridley Terminals Inc., August 9, 2018, www.tc.gc.ca
15. Global box freight rates continues to rise in August, major indices show, August 10, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

now recovering from low base numbers when box volumes fell 25.4 per cent in 2015, in a period of tit-for-tat economic sanctions and a much devalued rouble, resulting in a 28.5 per cent decline in imports. Imports are now up 11.8 per cent to 1.1 million TEU while first half growth last year soared at 17.3 per cent. Exports were up 11.9 per cent to 1.06 million TEU, but fell short of the previous growth in 2017 of 15.4 per cent. This year's laden export boxes increased 14 per cent (655,200 TEU) rising 9.6 per cent (410,400 TEU), quite the reverse of last year's first half whereas in H1 2017 the tendency was the opposite when laden export boxes were up 8.7 per cent while empties shot up 26.1 per cent.

5. Singapore's PSA acquires majority stake in Canadian shipping terminal

Singapore's port terminal operator, PSA International Pte Ltd, is expanding its global footprint after inking an agreement to acquire 60 per cent of Ashcroft Terminal, a 320-acre transload and storage terminal in British Columbia, Canada, located 300 kilometres from the port of Vancouver. PSA said a Canadian subsidiary will purchase the majority stake in the privately owned inland port facility that is served by both Canadian National (CN) Railway and Canadian Pacific Railway. These class 1 railroad lines transport import and export cargo to and from the port of Vancouver, across Canada and as far as Chicago and other North American markets.

6. Outlook for global container port demand positive

The medium-term outlook for global container port demand growth "is positive thanks to strong underlying economic momentum across the world's major economies," says Drewry. "While there may be clouds on the horizon in the form of tariff and trade war fears, economic fundamentals are likely to win out in the long run," said the London-based consultant, which has just released its Global Container Terminal Operators Annual Review and Forecast 2018. Drewry's latest five-year container port demand forecast is based on average global growth of just under 6 percent per annum. Drewry expects world container port throughput to grow by almost 240 million TEUs, from about 745 million TEUs in Mid 2018 to about 985 million by 2020.

7. Long Beach looks to another record year despite threat of trade war escalating

The Port of Long Beach had its busiest month ever in June 2018, but an intensifying trade war could stunt the momentum. The port's June's 2018 report showed that container volume increased 14.2 per cent compared to June 2017, with the equivalent of roughly 752,000 TEU shipped to and from the facility, which was 4.4 per cent higher than the port's previous record month. News of the record-setting month comes in the middle of escalating trade tensions between the Trump Administration and China, with both sides levying tens of billions of dollars in tariffs and the administration threatening to ratchet those up to US\$200 billion in goods.

8. Seaspan's Q2 net profit soars 140p

Hong Kong's Seaspan Corporation's net earnings and revenues in the second quarter of 2018 skyrocketed year over year thanks to its acquisition of Greater China Intermodal Investments (GCI). The containership leasing giant's net earnings for the quarter reached US\$68 million, surging 140.5 per cent from last year's second quarter, while revenues totalled \$281.7 million, up 37.7 per cent.

9. Getting Wise to Smart Ports

The nation's ports are testing technologies and investing in infrastructure improvements to adapt to a world where the ultimate consumer increasingly embraces Amazon-like expectations. For example, one of the

16 Hapag-Lloyd half year results: EUR 88.7 million EBIT in a challenging market, August 10, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

17. Half of Montreal port terminals to impose extended gate fee, August 13, 2018, www.joc.com

18. US containerised imports setting records as shippers try to beat tariff wall, August, 14, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

19. Port of Vancouver sees growth across most sectors, August 14, 2018, www.ctl.ca

20. Growth across most sectors drives record mid-year results at the Port of Vancouver, August 14, 2018, www.portofmetrovancover.com

21. Long Beach sees container decline, August 14, 2018, www.americanshipper.com

22. Grain exports via the St. Lawrence Seaway up 7.5%, August 15, 2018, www.ctl.ca

23. Oakland July up 3.6pc as export empties up 36.9pc, August 16, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

24. Port of Los Angeles volumes rebound, August 16, 2018, www.americanshipper.com

25. DP World's first-half profits slip, August 17, 2018, www.americanshipper.com

26. St Lawrence Seaway commodities see July growth as transits rise 2.5pc, August 21, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

27. Vancouver container throughput up 5.1pc, August 21, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

28. LA growth tops Long Beach, up 4.6pc to 833,568 TEU, August 21, 2018, www.tranportweekly.com

29. Hong Kong July container volume drops nearly 8pc, August 22, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

30. Cruisers rank Vancouver as one of the top cruise destinations, August 22, 2018, www.portmetrovancover.com

31. The universal Port of Hamburg in 2018 first half, August 23, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

32. Prince Rupert reaps benefits from quicker access to N American Midwest, August 24, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

33. Singamas posts US\$2.1m H1 loss, August 24, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

34. Tokyo International Container Terminal breaches 20m TEU mark, August 27, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

35. New York and New Jersey record July, August 27, 2018, www.americanshipper.com

36. Seattle, Tacoma and other NWSA ports see July box volume rise 10.6pc, August 27, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

world's busiest seaports, the Port of Long Beach has introduced technology-driven, digital processes and invested hundreds of millions of dollars in modernization initiatives to become a smart port. If you run down the list of the world's top 25 ports, and you will find most are in some stage of redevelopment and reinvention. They are making massive investments in infrastructure, equipment, and technologies to modernize operations and capabilities, all with the singular goal of becoming the smart port of the future.

10. Rotterdam first half volume up 6.2pc

The Port of Rotterdam posted a year-on-year 6.2 per cent first half increase in container throughput to 7.1 million TEU while setting a new record in May 2018 when 1.24 million TEU crossed the docks. Rotterdam's first quarter market share in the Hamburg-Le Havre range increased from 30.9 per cent to 31.2 per cent, reported *London Container Management* magazine.

11. Report examines two potential future digital scenarios for containerized trade

In their '*Brave new world? – Container transport in 2043*' report, leading international freight transport insurer TT Club, in conjunction with global management consulting firm McKinsey, have looked at the future of containerized trade, how value can be created and who the 'winners' could be within the industry by 2043. Industry experts, looking at the future for the container transport industry over the next 25 years, see the possibility of traditional supply chain service providers being significantly challenged. Increasingly digitally enabled services, which can directly control the flow of goods from factory to consumer, will become progressively more influential. It identifies six sources of value creation: 1. Greater economies of scale. 2. Flexibility. 3. Supply chain reliability and predictability. 4. Consolidation and integration. 5. Automation and productivity. 6. Environmental performance.

12. Transfer of four port facilities to the Government of Quebec

On August 8, 2018, an agreement in principle has been announced for the transfer, as of March 30, 2020, of the ports of Matane, Gaspé, Rimouski and Gros-Cacouna to the Government of Quebec under the Port Facility Transfer Program. In addition to the commercial docks, the transfer includes buildings and storage areas, breakwaters at the Matane and Gros-Cacouna ports and a spur pier at the Port of Rimouski. The Government of Canada will provide \$163M for the four ports. This includes a \$148.8M grant to the Province to support the future costs of operating and maintaining the ports, the balance representing investments in specific projects and other costs to be incurred by Transport Canada prior to their transfer.

13. Port of Virginia July container volume up

The Port of Virginia says it processed a record 252,679 TEUs of containerized cargo in July 2018, 8 percent more than in July 2017.

14. Government of Canada announces consultations in advance of a potential sale of Ridley Terminals Inc.

The Government of Canada is pursuing the sale of Ridley Terminals Inc. to a private sector owner through a competitive sale process. Over the summer, the Government of Canada is engaging with local indigenous groups. These consultations, which are being held in the spirit of reconciliation, are intended to support an open, competitive and fair divestiture of Ridley Terminals Inc. that would be launched later in the fall. The Canada Development Investment Corporation, a federal Crown corporation under the purview of the Minister of Finance, has been mandated to manage the sale process on behalf of the Government of Canada. Established in 1983, Ridley Terminals Inc. operates on Ridley Island in Prince Rupert, British Columbia, where it transfers bulk commodities from rail cars onto ocean-going vessels. The primary commodities shipped through the terminal are coal and petroleum coke.

15. Global box freight rates continues to rise in August, major indices show

Container freight rates continued on their upwards trajectory in the first week of August 2018 following capacity reductions in the major east-west trade lanes. The Shanghai Shipping Exchange's Shanghai Containerised Freight Index (SCFI), which aggregates spot rates on 13 different outbound trades from Shanghai, rose by 3.1 per cent on a sequential basis last week after an 8.8 per cent increase the previous week.

16. Hapag-Lloyd half year results: EUR 88.7 million EBIT in a challenging market

Hapag-Lloyd has concluded the first half of the year 2018 with earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) of EUR 425.2 million. This is EUR 61.4 million higher compared to the EBITDA of the first six months of 2017 (EUR 363.8 million). The earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) stood at EUR 88.7 million after six months and therefore close to the level of the first half of the year 2017 (EUR 90.7 million). The group net result amounted to EUR -100.9 million, which is EUR 58.2 million below the 2017 half year result (EUR -42.7 million). These developments are mainly driven by the

ongoing intense competition as well as higher operational costs, partly compensated by synergies coming from the business combination with United Arab Shipping Company Ltd (UASC).

17. Half of Montreal port terminals to impose extended gate fee

In the midst of a volume uptrend, Montreal is the latest North American port to try extending its terminal gate hours to improve cargo fluidity in and out of the terminal, and to place a charge on containers to pay for it.

18. US containerised imports setting records as shippers try to beat tariff wall

Containerised imports arriving at major US ports have set two new records this summer and are expected to set another this month in August 2018 according to the monthly *Global Port Tracker* from the National Retail Federation (NRF) and Hackett Associates.

19. Port of Vancouver sees growth across most sectors

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority released the 2018 mid-year statistics for goods moving through the Port of Vancouver. Overall cargo through the port increased 4.4 per cent to 72.1 million metric tonnes (MMT) over the same time last year to reach record mid-year volumes. “This year’s record mid-year results for cargo movement show balanced, steady growth across most business sectors, demonstrating the increasing strength of the Canadian economy and the Port of Vancouver’s ability to handle Canada’s growing trade with Asia, despite general trade uncertainty,” said Robin Silvester, president and chief executive officer at the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority. Container volumes (measured in 20-foot equivalents or TEUs) increased by five per cent compared to mid-year 2017 to a record 1.64 million TEUs as a result of the growing demand for Canadian resources and products, and the increasing Canadian demand for consumer and manufacturing goods from Asia.

20. Growth across most sectors drives record mid-year results at the Port of Vancouver

Overall cargo traded through the Port of Vancouver increased in the first half of 2018, posting a 4.4 per cent increase to 72.1 MMT (million metric tonnes) compared with the first half of 2017. Auto unit numbers increased by 8.3 per cent compared to mid-year 2017, with 236,396 units moved through the port in the first half of 2018. Breakbulk cargo increased 14.4 per cent to 8.8 MMT compared to mid-year 2017, mainly attributable to a 21.1 per cent increase in domestic traffic. Bulk dry cargo volumes increased 0.7 percent. Decreases in grain products including specialty crops and feed (-10.2 per cent) and minerals, ores and concentrates (-27.8 per cent) were offset by increases in coal (8.9 per cent) and potash (22.7 per cent). Bulk liquid tonnage was up by 28.3 per cent over mid-year 2017 due to a strong 40.2 per cent increase in petroleum products. Container quantities increased by 5.1 per cent to 1.64 million TEUs due to a stronger economy and solid export traffic. Cruise passenger traffic is up 12.7 per cent over mid-year 2017.

21. Long Beach sees container decline

Port of Long Beach terminals handled 688,457 TEUs of containerized cargo in July 2018, a 4.4 percent drop compared with the same 2017 period, after several months of year-over-year gains. Throughput of loaded import containers fell 8.2 percent to 347,736 TEUs for the month, while loaded exports slid 5 percent to 119,747 TEUs. Those declines were offset in part by rising empty container volumes, which climbed another 2.6 percent to 220,975 TEUs compared with July 2017. Officials from the Southern California port attributed the decrease in overall volumes primarily to a shift in vessel deployment and port calls by the major east-west container carrier alliances, but also warned that escalating tariffs could dampen trade volumes throughout the remainder of the year.

22. Grain exports via the St. Lawrence Seaway up 7.5%

Overall cargo shipments on the St. Lawrence Seaway between March 29 and July 31, 2018 totaled 16.5 million metric tons, bolstered by grain exports and Great Lakes construction activity. “After a late start, Seaway cargo shipments have been gaining ground all season and are now in line with last year’s robust performance. Canadian grain exports to Europe continue to climb due to a large carryover from 2017. With a strong 2018 harvest expected, this momentum should continue in the autumn,” said Terence Bowles, president and CEO of The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation. Year-to-date grain shipments via the Seaway (including U.S. and Canadian grain) totaled 4.2 million metric tons, up 7.5 per cent compared to the same period in 2017. Canadian grain shipments, which represent 3.3 million metric tons of the volume, were up 3 per cent while U.S. grain was up nearly 32 per cent.

23. Oakland July up 3.6pc as export empties up 36.9pc

The Port of Oakland in July 2018 posted 3.6 per cent year-on-year increase in container volume to 217,364 TEU, according to *Shipping Gazette*. Laden imports slipped 0.6 per cent year on year to 84,301 TEU, while laden exports fell 7.3 per cent to 69,335 TEUs for the month. Empties jumped 26.9 per cent with inbound empties climbing 4.2 per cent to 16,038 TEU and outbound rising 36.9 per cent to 47,690 TEU.

Year to date, the port handled a total of 1.43 million TEU, up 2.5 per cent year on year, with laden imports up 1.8 per cent to 544,446 TEU with laden exports down 2.6 per cent to 522,012 TEU, and empties coming in at 362,539 TEU, up 12.1 per cent.

24. Port of Los Angeles volumes rebound

The Port of Los Angeles saw volumes of containerized cargo climb 4.6 percent year-over-year to 833,568 TEUs in July 2018, according to the latest data from the Southern California port. Throughput of loaded import containers grew 5.1 percent to 438,165 TEUs for the month, while loaded export volumes jumped 8.4 percent to 167,992 TEUs compared with July 2017. Empty container volumes were also on the rise, ticking up 1.1 percent to 227,411 TEUs. The July 2018 growth set a new record for the month and represented the fourth-highest monthly throughput in port history, but followed on the heels of four consecutive year-over-year declines.

25. DP World's first-half profits slip

DP World saw its profits attributable to owners of the company slip 2.1 percent in the first half of 2018 to \$593 million, according to the Dubai-based container terminal operator's most recent financial statements.

26. St Lawrence Seaway commodities see July growth as transits rise 2.5pc

Traffic through the St Lawrence Seaway remained steady in July 2018, with year-to-date total of 16.5 million tonnes while transits increased 2.5 per cent. reported the *American Journal of Transportation*. Top performing cargoes through July 2018 include coal - 308,000 tonnes, a 33.7 per cent increase; grain - 295,000 tonnes, a 7.54 per cent increase; liquid bulk - 455,000 tonnes, a 25.2 per cent increase, ore and concentrates - 45,000 tonnes, up 129.25 per cent; pig iron - 53,000 tonnes, a 78.2 per cent increase and steel slabs - 127,000 tonnes, a 63.1 per cent increase. "Seaway traffic continues to be steady through July, totalling 16.5 million tonnes of cargo moved," said Craig Middlebrook, deputy administrator of the US Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation. "We are seeing increases in a number of dry and liquid bulk commodities as well as US and Canadian grain. Through July, US grain exports traversing the Seaway were ahead of 2017 levels by 32 per cent, led by significant grain exports from the US Great Lakes ports of Toledo, Milwaukee, and Duluth."

27. Vancouver container throughput up 5.1pc

The Port of Vancouver saw cargo volumes rise 4.4 per cent in the first half of the year to 72.1 million tonnes, compared to the same period a year earlier. First-half container shipments were up 1.6 per cent year on year to 13.2 million tonnes. In terms of volumes, container shipments rose 5.1 per cent 1.6 million TEU. Vancouver Fraser Port Authority president Robin Sylvester said the results demonstrate the rising strength of the Canadian economy and the port's ability to handle the nation's increasing trade with Asia, reported *American Shipper*. The port authority is striving to create new capacity on the back of expectations that Canada's west coast container ports will be full by mid-2020.

28. LA growth tops Long Beach, up 4.6pc to 833,568 TEU

Breaking recent pattern of the Port of Long Beach growing faster than its San Pedro Bay rival, the Port of Los Angeles topped the two in growth with LA enjoying its busiest July in its 111-year history, according to *Shipping Gazette*. LA posted a 4.6 per cent year-on-year gain handling a volume of 833,568 TEU in July 2018 that the fourth busiest month in the port's history while Long Beach recorded a 4.4 per cent decline. Said LA port executive director Gene Seroka: "With a robust economy and cargo owners moving goods ahead of expected tariffs, our terminal operators, labour force and supply chain partners seamlessly moved a record amount of cargo across our docks."

29. Hong Kong July container volume drops nearly 8pc

Hong Kong container volume continued its decline in July 2018, falling 7.9 per cent to 1.64 million TEUs compared to the same month last year when throughput totalled 1.78 million TEU, according to the Hong Kong Maritime Port Board. Throughput at main Kwai Tsing terminals declined 8.1 per cent to 1.29 million TEU from 1.41 million TEU in July 2017. Elsewhere in the Port of Hong Kong throughput fell 6.9 per cent to 350,000 TEUs year on year, but was up by 10,000 TEUs compared to the previous month. The container turnover of the port of Hong Kong declined 4.4 per cent year on year to 11.49 million TEUs in the first seven months of 2018.

30. Cruisers rank Vancouver as one of the top cruise destinations

As a top global destination, Vancouver continues to attract a wide range of cruise lines and passengers from around the world that visit the Canada Place cruise terminal at Port of Vancouver during their Alaska-bound cruise. On August 22, 2018, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, which manages the Port of Vancouver, is pleased to announce that Vancouver has been recognized by cruisers as one of the top-rated cruise destinations in the US and Canada in the 2018 Cruise Critic's Cruisers' Choice Destination Awards.

The winners are chosen based on consumer ratings and reviews posted by cruise passengers to the Cruise Critic website. During the 2018 cruise season, 32 different vessels from 14 cruise lines will be visiting the award-winning Canada Place cruise terminal at the Port of Vancouver, ranging from luxury smaller expedition style ships, to some of the largest vessels in the Alaskan cruise market. More than 900,000 cruise passengers are expected in Vancouver this year, with over one million expected in 2019.

31. The universal Port of Hamburg in 2018 first half

In the first half of 2018 the Port of Hamburg achieved total throughput of 66.5 million tons. That represented a moderate downturn of 4.9 percent, with the downward trend slowing in the second quarter. General cargo throughput at 45.5 million tons (down 2.2 percent) and bulk cargo throughput at 21.1 million tons (down 10.4 percent) contributed to the total in Hamburg. Bulk cargo represents one-third of the total. This segment caused 71 percent of the total downturn, with reductions in suction and liquid cargoes being market-driven. However, the 3.1 percent fall in handling of grab cargoes, the largest sub-segment, accounting for 55 percent – or 11.6 million tons – of the bulk cargo total, was within the range of normal fluctuations. The trend in conventional general cargo handling once again proved very satisfactory. Up 777,000 tons or 8.0 percent, in the first half the upward trend first apparent in the fourth quarter of 2017 was maintained. In the first six months of 2018, imports of heavy freight rose by 62.5 percent to 160,000. Imports of metals and vehicles more than doubled: those of metals rose by 121.7 percent to 79,000 tons and those of vehicles rose by 106.4 percent up to 25,000 tons. In the first half of 2018 container throughput at 4.3 million TEU was slightly – 2.7 percent – lower than in the previous year. Handling of fewer empty boxes was the cause of 81 percent of the fall. In the first half of 2018, a total of 525,000 empty containers (TEU) were handled, or 15.6 percent fewer. Handling of boxes stuffed with general cargo at 3.8 million TEU was almost stable, being 0.6 percent lower.

32. Prince Rupert reaps benefits from quicker access to N American Midwest

Canada's port of Prince Rupert saw its first-half container throughput shoot up by 19 per cent thanks to its rapid rail connection to the North American midwest and its comparatively shorter route to East Asian ports that shaves days off total transit times. Shanghai is 1,200 kilometres closer to Prince Rupert than to the Los Angeles/Long Beach port complex, which translates into 60 hours' less transit time at 20 knots. Upon arrival, import boxes can be loaded onto a Canadian National (CN) Rail train for transport to points east and can reach Chicago within 90 hours, The Maritime Executive of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, reported.

33. Singamas posts US\$2.1m H1 loss

Container manufacturer Singamas Container Holdings suffered a 2018 first-half loss of US\$2.1 million despite revenues surging 63 per cent year on year to \$969.2 million on the back of healthy demand for containers. The loss was attributed to increasing material costs and appreciation of the Chinese yuan in the first few months of 2018. The company's container manufacturing segment produced 458,374 TEU in the first six months of 2018, up from 310,070 TEU in the previous corresponding period. The average selling price (ASP) of a standard 20-foot dry freight container rose from \$1,902 to \$2,203 mainly due to the use of waterborne paint and the ongoing rise in the price of corten steel, *Seatrade Maritime News*, Colchester, UK reported.

34. Tokyo International Container Terminal breaches 20m TEU mark

Japan's MOL-operated Tokyo International Container Terminal (TICT) reached a major milestone on August 21, 2018 by handling more than 20 million TEU in its 47 years of operations. TICT started operations in November 1971, and in December of that year. The full containership Kamakura Maru, serving the Asia-Europe route, was the first vessel to call at the facility. The facility has become the first terminal in the Port of Tokyo to handle 20 million TEU and a ceremony was held recently to celebrate the occasion.

35. New York and New Jersey record July

The Port of New York and New Jersey set yet another monthly record for cargo volumes in July 2018, according to the latest figures from the port authority. Container throughput jumped another 7.9 percent to 622,559 TEUs compared with the same month a year ago, which itself was an all-time record for the month of July. Volumes of loaded import containers swelled 10.4 percent year-over-year to 322,093 TEUs for the month, while loaded exports grew 3.3 percent to 116,441 TEUs compared with July 2017. Through the first seven months of 2018, the port has seen overall container volumes rise nearly 7 percent year-over-year to 4.07 million TEUs.

36. Seattle, Tacoma and other NWSA ports see July box volume rise 10.6pc

Container terminals that are members of the Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA), including the ports of Seattle and Tacoma, handled 327,462 TEU in July 2018, up 10.6 per cent year on year. The result marked

the second consecutive month of growth that ended three straight months of year-on-year declines. During July, total international container volumes surged 14.8 per cent against the same month last year to 262,139 TEU as imports rose 18.3 per cent to 139,567 TEU - the most for the month since 2010 - and exports jumped by 11 per cent to 122,571 TEU, the most since 2005, reported American Shipper citing figures from the NWSA.

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

1. The Government of Canada invests in transportation infrastructure at the Central Manitoba Railway Pine Falls subdivision

On July 31, 2018, the Honourable MaryAnn Mihychuk, Member of Parliament for Kildonan — St. Paul, on behalf of the Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, announced a major investment of \$5.6 million for a project at the Central Manitoba Railway Pine Falls Subdivision that will help local businesses compete by moving local goods to market and by making improvements to railway infrastructure. The project consists of upgrades to the shortline track and supporting infrastructure of approximately 14 kilometres of the Pine Falls subdivision running from Canadian National's Symington Yard to the Imperial Oil terminal at Birds Hill. Work includes installing new railway ties, modern rail and other track materials; drainage, grade and ballast improvements; and new main line switches and crossing improvements to make the track suitable for heavier trains.

2. CN Announces Early Redemption of Notes Due March 1, 2019

CN on July 31, 2018 announced that on Aug. 30, 2018, it is redeeming all of its outstanding 5.55% Notes due March 1, 2019, as described in the terms and conditions of the prospectus supplement. The redemption price shall be determined on Aug. 27, 2018 as defined in the prospectus supplement and the market conditions on that date.

3. Government of Canada invests \$20.7 million to improve rail safety

On August 1, 2018, Member of Parliament for Ottawa South, the Honourable David McGuinty, on behalf of the Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, announced 105 new projects and initiatives that will keep Canadians safe, contribute to increasing safety at grade crossings and along rail lines, and increase public confidence in Canada's rail transportation system. Collectively, the projects will receive more than \$20 million under the Government of Canada's Rail Safety Improvement Program. The Rail Safety Improvement Program builds on three previous rail safety programs with an increased overall funding level, an expanded list of eligible recipients and a broadened scope of projects that can be funded to enhance rail safety.

4. U.S. rail shipments rise 5.2 percent in July

Total combined U.S. freight railroad traffic in July 2018 grew 5.2 percent to 2.16 million carloads and intermodal units compared with the same month a year ago, according to the latest data from the Association of American Railroads.

5. BNSF's Q2 earnings chug ahead nearly 37 percent

Burlington Northern Santa Fe LLC (BNSF), a Class I railroad owned by Berkshire Hathaway, saw year-over-year increases in net earnings

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

Canada

1. The Government of Canada invests in transportation infrastructure at the Central Manitoba Railway Pine Falls subdivision, July 31, 2018, www.tc.gc.ca

2. CN Announces Early Redemption of Notes Due March 1, 2019, July 31, 2018, www.cn.ca

3. Government of Canada invests \$20.7 million to improve rail safety, August 1, 2018, www.tc.gc.ca

4. U.S. rail shipments rise 5.2 percent in July, August 3, 2018, www.americanshipper.com

5. BNSF's Q2 earnings chug ahead nearly 37 percent, August 6, 2018, www.americanshipper.com

6. Industry Snapshots: Uses of Transportation 2017 Update, August 6, 2018, www.bts.gov

7. Intermodal fortunes rise, but shippers brace for higher rates to come, August 8, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

8. VIA rail sets ridership record over August long weekend, August 9, 2018, www.viarail.ca

9. Time to think big picture on Churchill rail line, August 9, 2018, www.winnipegfreepress.ca

10. CSX remodels on Canadian precision railroading to move more with less, August 14, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

11. Government of Canada announces funding to improve rail safety in Mont-St-Hilaire, August 14, 2018, www.tc.gc.ca

12. Veteran CN precision scheduled railroaders appointed to enhance industry-leading efficiency and customer service standards, August 15, 2018, www.cn.ca

13. CP sees increase in grain shipments for 2017-18 crop year, August 20, 2018, www.ctl.ca

14. CN recognizes 40 customers and supply chain partners for sustainability leadership, August 23, 2018, www.cn.ca

15. CP moves 1pc more Canadian grain in 2017-18 crop year to reach 25.8m tonnes, August 24, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

16. Government of Canada announces funding to improve rail safety in Alberta, August 27, 2018, www.tc.gc.ca

17. Railway carloadings, June 2018, August 29, 2018, www.statcan.gc.ca

18. Seamless travel between VIA rail and train de Charlevoix, August 29, 2018, www.viarail.ca

of 36.6 percent and revenues of 12 percent for the second quarter of 2018. BNSF reported net earnings of \$1.3 billion on revenues of \$5.9 billion. BNSF benefited from increased volumes, higher average revenue per car/unit and a tight trucking market. Also a tailwind was the lower effective income tax rate, which was 20.9 percent for the quarter, down from 37.7 percent for last year's second quarter.

19. Transport Canada announces support for connected and automated vehicles and for research and development to reduce air emissions from rail transportation, August 29, 2018, www.tc.gc.ca

6. Industry Snapshots: Uses of Transportation 2017 Update

Transportation activities made up almost 4 percent of the U.S. economy in 2016, a total of \$734.7 billion. Transportation also contributed indirectly to the economy by enabling the production of goods and services as non-transportation industries required \$951 billion of transportation services to produce output.

7. Intermodal fortunes rise, but shippers brace for higher rates to come

The Intermodal Association of North America (IANA) posted a 6.7 per cent year-on-year increase in volume led by a 16 per cent surge in trailers on flatcars, reported IHS media. Container traffic increased 6.8 per cent and 53-foot containers rose 6.2 per cent, said IANA. Container lessors were near full booking on equipment to intermodal marketing companies.

8. VIA rail sets ridership record over August long weekend

The number of passengers onboard VIA Rail Canada's (VIA Rail) trains over the 2018 August long weekend hit a new record. It reached the 90,000 passenger mark for the very first time in ten years. With ticket sales up by 8% compared to 2017, the past long weekend was again very busy onboard. Friday, August 3rd was the busiest day of the weekend, with 18,900 people travelling. Many Ontarians chose the train for their long weekend getaway. 85% of trips took place in Ontario or between Ontario and the province of Québec where 78,200 people travelled, primarily between Toronto, Montréal and Ottawa, Québec City and London.

9. Time to think big picture on Churchill rail line

Whether operation of the Hudson Bay Railway (HBR) is economically viable is examined in this article. Based on the past traffic and future traffic forecasts, the author is of the opinion that "There appear to be only two viable choices for the HBR: find an economic use or abandon it. Moving oil or inviting the Chinese to create a container route have challenges, but the idea that this railway can be kept limping along with public Band-Aids is ridiculous. As things stand, a more productive use of public funds would be to convert the rail bed into a gravel road."

10. CSX remodels on Canadian precision railroading to move more with less

American Class I railway CSX Corp has announced its intention to decentralise its management structure to support an operations model that turned around two Canadian railways, reports *American Shipper*. It is part of CSX's precision scheduled railroading transformation that aims to move the same amount of cargo with fewer trains. "This pushes decision-making closer to day-to-day field operations and eliminates bureaucracy," said CSX president and CEO James Foote.

11. Government of Canada announces funding to improve rail safety in Mont-St-Hilaire

On August 14, 2018, the Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, announced more than \$335,000 to upgrade the signal system of the Route 116 grade crossing at Benoit Road in Mont-St-Hilaire under Canada's Rail Safety Improvement Program. The warning system will be upgraded so that it can continue to safely manage incoming traffic from multiple directions.

12. Veteran CN precision scheduled railroaders appointed to enhance industry-leading efficiency and customer service standards

JJ Ruest, president and chief executive officer of CN on August 15, 2018 announced senior management appointments, tapping experienced precision scheduled railroaders to drive cost efficiencies and capacity utilization initiatives, while advancing CN's supply chain mindset and customer focus. "Amid solid market demand, we aim to grow faster than the broader economy," said Ruest. "These outstanding CN leaders will enhance our precision scheduled railroad model - one we developed and that redefined the industry - to new levels of operating efficiency and superior supply chain customer service..."

13. CP sees increase in grain shipments for 2017-18 crop year

Canadian Pacific moved 25.8 million metric tonnes (MMT) of western Canadian grain and grain products, soybeans and other non-regulated principal field crops during the 2017-2018 crop year, up 1 per cent over the 2016-2017 crop-year and 1 per cent above its three-year average. September 2017 was CP's biggest-ever month for moving Canadian grain. On balance, the past year was a success, achieved by working closely with and listening to customers and supply-chain partners. CP has indicated in a letter to the

Minister of Transport that it stands ready to again safely and efficiently deliver during the 2018-2019 crop year.

14. CN recognizes 40 customers and supply chain partners for sustainability leadership

CN on August 23, 2018, recognized 40 of its customers and supply chain partners for their sustainability practices. The CN EcoConnexions Partnership Program celebrates companies that pledge to work to reduce their carbon emissions, increase energy efficiency and drive sustainable business practices throughout the supply chain.

15. CP moves 1pc more Canadian grain in 2017-18 crop year to reach 25.8m tonnes

Canadian Pacific (CP) moved 25.8 million tonnes of western Canadian grain and grain products, soybeans and other crops during the 2017-2018 crop year, an increase of one per cent year on year, achieved by working closely with and listening to customers and supply chain partners, according to *Shipping Gazette*. In its July 31 letter to Minister of Transport Marc Garneau, CP published a detailed plan to move this year's crop. CP is closely watching crop forecasts for the railway's service area and is in regular communication with customers and supply chain partners to validate forecasts for the upcoming crop size.

16. Government of Canada announces funding to improve rail safety in Alberta

On August 27, 2018, the Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, Minister of Natural Resources and Member of Parliament for Edmonton Mill Woods, on behalf of the Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, announced more than \$3.3 million to support eighteen projects that will improve rail safety in Alberta. The funds will be used to: build fencing and other barriers to discourage trespassing on railway properties; install flashing lights, bells, and gates at the crossings; and install advanced train detection and crossing control system.

17. Railway carloadings, June 2018

The volume of rail freight carried in Canada totalled 31.6 million tonnes in June 2018, up 2.5% from the same month a year earlier. Freight originating in Canada rose 2.7% from the same month last year to 28.3 million tonnes. Non-intermodal freight increased by 5.5% to 312,000 carloads in June 2018. The amount of freight loaded into these cars rose 3.4% from June 2017 to 25.3 million tonnes. Intermodal freight loadings fell 0.6% from June 2017 to 208,000 units in June. In terms of weight, intermodal traffic decreased 2.7% to 3.1 million tonnes. Freight traffic received from the United States rose 1.3% to 3.2 million tonnes as a result of increases in both non-intermodal (+0.6%) and intermodal (+10.1%) freight.

18. Seamless travel between VIA rail and train de Charlevoix

With the imminent arrival of colourful fall foliage, VIA Rail Canada (VIA Rail) announces a partnership agreement with Train de Charlevoix. The pilot project allows customers to reserve seats on board a VIA Rail train as well as on the Train de Charlevoix in a single transaction. They are able to plan a trip originating in Ottawa or Montréal and ending in Québec City, Côte-de-Beaupré, or the coastal cities and towns of Charlevoix, or vice versa. A shuttle provides ground transportation between Gare du Palais in Québec City and the station at the base of Montmorency Falls.

19. Transport Canada announces support for connected and automated vehicles and for research and development to reduce air emissions from rail transportation

The Government of Canada is protecting air quality so that Canadians have healthy communities in which to live, work and raise their families, while investing in innovation that will create Canada's transportation system of tomorrow. The Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, on behalf of the Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, was in Ottawa on August 29, 2018 to announce funding under two Transport Canada programs. An investment of \$265,000 through the Program to prepare for connected and automated vehicles. An investment of \$50,000 funded under the Clean Rail Academic Grant Program will support academic research programs that are developing technologies and practices to reduce air emissions from the rail sector.

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION

1. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, June 2018

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index (CMSPI) increased 0.5% in June 2018, following a 0.4% increase in May 2018. The couriers component was up 0.5% in June 2018, while the local messengers and local delivery component increased 0.3%. Year-over-year, the CMSPI rose 5.3% in June 2018 compared with the same month a year earlier. Both the couriers component (+5.0%) and the local delivery component (+6.3%) increased.

2. Monthly Passenger Bus and Urban Transit, May 2018

Total operating revenues (excluding subsidies) for urban transit companies were \$342.0 million in May 2018, up 11.2% from the same month last year. Ridership was 157.8 million passenger trips over the same period.

3. ATA: Truck tonnage slips in June

Domestic truck tonnage slipped 0.4 percent in June 2018 compared with the previous month after a revised 0.4 percent uptick in May 2018, according to the latest reading of the American Trucking Associations' advanced seasonally adjusted For-Hire Truck Tonnage Index.

4. UPS quarterly profit up 7.3pc as revenues rise 9.6pc

Atlanta's United Parcel Service's (UPS) second quarter adjusted profit increased 7.3 per cent year on year to US\$1.5 billion, drawn on revenues of \$17.5 billion, up 9.6 per cent, according to *Shipping Gazette*. The parcel giant and third-party logistics credited higher profit and revenues to a three per cent increase in package volume and a 4.6 per cent increase in pricing. "UPS is making great progress on our transformation initiatives to enhance profitable growth and improve operating leverage," said UPS chairman and CEO David Abney. The company's international division saw operating profit climb 8.4 per cent year on year to \$618 million and revenues surging 13.6 per cent to \$3.6 billion.

5. End of Uber autonomous truck effort shows capacity relief still ways off

Uber's decision to scrap its autonomous trucking plans does not mean we will not see "driverless" trucks someday, but it does dispel a notion that had caught fancy, in some circles.

6. Tax fairness, Infrastructure Spending, Truck Safety Among CTA's top Pre-Budget Asks

The Canadian Trucking Alliance issued five key policy recommendations to the federal government concerning tax fairness in the trucking sector, supporting important infrastructure projects across the country, and committing to implementing electronic on-board recorders by the end of 2019, among other things. CTA asked the government to stop widespread tax evasion in the trucking industry by cracking down on an emerging employment model known as 'Driver Inc'. CTA requested CRA be given the necessary funding to combat the spread of the Driver Inc model.

7. June 2018 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI)

The US Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI), which is based on the amount of freight carried by the for-hire transportation industry, rose 0.4 percent in June 2018 from May 2018, rising for the second consecutive month to reach a new all-time high. On a year to year basis it rose 8.2%. The June 2018 index level (136.5) was 44.0 percent above the April 2009 low during the most recent recession.

8. City of Vancouver receives \$386k in funding for research on

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION Canada

1. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, June 2018, July 31, 2018, www.statcan.gc.ca

2. Monthly Passenger Bus and Urban Transit, May 2018, July 31, 2018, www.statcan.gc.ca

3. ATA: Truck tonnage slips in June, July 31, 2018, www.americanshipper.com

4. UPS quarterly profit up 7.3pc as revenues rise 9.6pc, August 2, 2018, www.transportweekly.com

5. End of Uber autonomous truck effort shows capacity relief still ways off, August 1, 2018, www.joc.com

6. Tax fairness, Infrastructure Spending, Truck Safety Among CTA's top Pre-Budget Asks, August 3, 2018, www.ontruck.ca

7. June 2018 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI), August 8, 2018, www.bts.gov

8. City of Vancouver receives \$386k in funding for research on self-driving vehicles, August 10, 2018, www.tc.gc.ca

9. Transport Canada supports projects to prepare Canada for connected and automated vehicles, August 10, 2018, www.tc.gc.ca

10. Travel between Canada and other countries, May 2018, August 10, 2018, www.statcan.gc.ca

11. Quebec gets funding to recruit women truck drivers, August 13, 2018, www.ctl.ca

12. Increase driver safety and reduce costs with in-cab video, August 13, 2018, www.todaystrucking.com

13. OEMs: Fleet Adoption of Safety Tech Rising Fast, August 16, 2018, www.ontruck.com

14. Truckload rate growth hits double digits, August 16, 2018, www.americanshipper.com

15. Drones and driverless trucks will not deliver supply chain benefits: report, August 16, 2018, www.ctl.ca

16. China's road cargo traffic expands in July, August 20, 2018, www.cargonews.com

17. More than \$700 billion generated by trucking in the U.S. in 2017: ATA, August 20, 2018, www.todaystrucking.com

18. Trucking conditions to remain strong for next year: FTR, August 20, 2018, www.todaystrucking.com

19. June 2018 North American Freight Numbers, August 22, 2018, www.bts.gov

20. Truck volumes continue 'robust' growth, August 22, 2018, www.americanshipper.com

21. Bridges in Canada need better inspections says Canada Research Chair, August 23, 2018, www.todaystrucking.com

22. Canada's Core Public Infrastructure Survey: Roads, bridges and tunnels, 2016, August 24, 2018, www.statcan.gc.ca

23. Express Mondor completes integration of Transport L'Épiphanie, August 23, 2018, www.ctl.ca

24. Oversize-Overweight Vehicles Prohibited from Peace Bridge For 7 Months, August 22, 2018, www.ontruck.ca

25. Ontario Freezing Driver Fees, August 22, 2018, www.ontruck.ca

self-driving vehicles

Joyce Murray, Member of Parliament for Vancouver Quadra, on behalf of the Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, on August 10, 2018 announced over \$386K in funding to the City of Vancouver for their infrastructure and pilot deployment planning project for connected and automated vehicles. The City of Vancouver's project will explore how self-driving vehicles and connected vehicles can integrate into our future transportation network, to make our city safer, less congested and sustainable.

9. Transport Canada supports projects to prepare Canada for connected and automated vehicles

The Government of Canada welcomes innovation that will help to create Canada's transportation system of tomorrow. That is why Transport Canada is providing \$2.9M in funding under the program to Advance Connectivity and Automation in the Transportation System in order to help Canadian jurisdictions prepare for connected and automated vehicles. In particular, Transport Canada funding will support research, studies, and technology demonstrations across Canada. Results will help address technical, policy and regulatory issues related to connected and automated vehicles. Findings will be shared extensively to encourage further innovation across Canada. In support of this program, Adam Vaughan, Member of Parliament for Spadina - Fort York, on behalf of the Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, on August 10, 2018 announced over \$1.3M in funding to the following groups in the Greater Toronto Area.

10. Travel between Canada and other countries, May 2018

US residents made 2.0 million trips to Canada in May 2018, up slightly (+0.5%) from April 2018. US residents made 0.9% fewer trips to Canada over the first five months of 2018 in comparison with the same period in 2017. Residents of overseas countries (countries other than the United States) made 563,000 trips to Canada in May 2018, an increase of 3.3% from April 2018 following two months of decline. From January to the end of May 2018, Canadians made 18.1 million trips to the United States, an increase of 11.5% compared with the same five months in 2017. Canadian residents made 1.0 million trips to overseas destinations (countries other than the United States) in May 2018. This was a decrease of 1.8% from the previous month and the first decline in four months.

11. Quebec gets funding to recruit women truck drivers

The Federal government announced funding for a project in Quebec that aims to change current recruitment, integration and training practices of businesses and training centres so that more women can find jobs in the trucking industry. Camo-route will receive \$294,000 in funding for their project, "Women Truck Drivers: Target 10%."

12. Increase driver safety and reduce costs with in-cab video

When an accident occurs involving a commercial motor vehicle, truck drivers — and the companies that employ them — are typically the first to take the fall. However, video is the only definitive way to prove a driver's innocence. According to Transport Canada, 20 percent of all accidents involve a large truck or commercial vehicle, and its *National Collision Database Online* reports that five percent of all total accidents in Canada involved commercial vehicles in 2014. Installing an in-cab video monitoring system consisting of a forward-facing camera, driver-facing camera, or both can help you fully understand how an incident happened and if your driver was at fault. Additionally, it can improve safety habits for your drivers, reduce insurance and litigation costs, as well as exonerate your drivers in the face of a claim.

13. OEMs: Fleet Adoption of Safety Tech Rising Fast

The pace of safety technology adoption is accelerating across the trucking industry as more fleets are becoming convinced of the benefits, according to several equipment and technology suppliers interviewed by *Fleet Owner* magazine. "Ten years ago, there was a lot more convincing we had to do," said Jon Morrison, WABCO's president of the Americas. "The return on investment is clear." So much so, that truck makers are beginning to offer certain safety technologies as standard equipment.

14. Truckload rate growth hits double digits

26. Truck volumes continue 'robust' growth, August 23, 201, www.americanshipper.com

27. Uber available across Texas, August 27, 2018, www.cargonews.com

28. Adopting fuel-saving technologies help fleets save millions: NACFE report, August 28, 2018, www.todaystrucking.com

Growth in domestic U.S. truckload rates accelerated yet again in July 2018, with pricing jumping another 10.2 percent compared with the same month a year ago, according to the latest *Cass Truckload Linehaul Index*.

15. Drones and driverless trucks will not deliver supply chain benefits: report

An increased focus on customer experience is the top factor driving innovation and adoption of new technologies in transportation and logistics, according to a new report from supply chain software provider BluJay Solutions and research firm Adelante SCM. *Competing on Customer Experience: The Driving Force Behind Supply Chain Innovation* highlights keys to winning in the new age of supply chain logistics and offers key insights that to help readers identify how their organization stacks up against competitors in terms of innovation, and perspective to develop informed strategies to approach supply chain innovation and customer experience. The report also provides historical views on recognizing disruptive technologies, the importance of customer experience as a key competitive differentiator, and pitfalls of outdated and rigid supply chain solutions. Despite all the hype surrounding blockchain, drones, and driverless trucks, those technologies ranked near the bottom of the list in terms of which technologies will deliver the most innovative benefits to the supply chain in the next five years. Instead, companies believe technologies such as Mobile Devices and Apps, Control Tower Visibility, and Warehouse Automation/Robots will lead the way.

16. China's road cargo traffic expands in July

China's road freight transport continued to expand in the first seven months of 2018, the Chinese Ministry of Transport said August 17, 2018. From January to July 2018, the amount of cargo carried on roads, which takes up the lion's share in China's total cargo transport, increased 7.5 percent year-on-year to 21.38 billion tons, the ministry said in a statement. In July 2018 alone, road cargo traffic rose 6.4 percent to 3.4 billion tons, the statement said. The growth came amid China's steady economic growth, which stood at 6.8 percent in the first half of 2018, well above the government's annual growth target of around 6.5 percent. In the first seven months, the amount of cargo transported by water edged up 2.6 percent to 3.86 billion tons, according to the ministry.

17. More than \$700 billion generated by trucking in the U.S. in 2017: ATA

The U.S. trucking industry has generated more than \$700 billion dollars in revenue in 2017 according to the American Trucking Associations (ATA). The organization released its annual collection of trucking data, the "ATA American Trucking Trends 2018." Trucks moved more than 57% of freight between Canada and the U.S. and about 69% trade between the U.S. and Mexico last year.

18. Trucking conditions to remain strong for next year: FTR

Trucking capacity remains extremely tight, according to the latest *FTR Trucking Conditions Index*, which remained unchanged from May 2018 to June 2018. Conditions for truckers are at their most favorable, the index suggests, with the capacity crunch at its peak through July. FTR projects some stabilization later in the year due to added capacity and productivity enhancements in the segment, however it also expects trucking conditions to remain "very strong" over the next year or more.

19. June 2018 North American Freight Numbers

Total Freight (moved by all modes of transportation) between the U.S. and other North American countries (Canada and Mexico) in June 2018 was \$106.2 billion, up 6.4 percent from June 2017. Truck moved \$66.6 billion of freight, accounting for 62.7 percent of all freight, up 5.3 percent compared to June 2017. U.S.-Canada freight by truck accounted for \$30.6 billion and U.S.-Mexico freight by truck accounted for \$36.0 billion. Compared to previous year U.S.-Canada freight by truck was up 2.7 percent and U.S.-Mexico freight by truck was up 7.6 percent. Rail moved \$15.7 billion of **total** freight, up 2.0 percent compared to June 2017.

20. Truck volumes continue 'robust' growth

Domestic truck tonnage climbed 1.9 percent in July 2018 compared with the previous month after a revised 0.5 percent decline in June 2018, according to the latest reading of the American Trucking Associations' advanced seasonally adjusted For-Hire Truck Tonnage Index.

21. Bridges in Canada need better inspections says Canada Research Chair

Canada's bridges need a more rigorous inspection process according to a Canada research chair in smart infrastructure. Forty-three people were killed in Genoa, Italy Aug. 14, 2018 when an 80-foot section of the Morandi Bridge collapsed. Three heavy-duty trucks were among the vehicles that fell when the bridge gave way. Dr. Sriram Narasimhan, a professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Waterloo says that while the condition of infrastructure like bridges can be rated as a whole – 75% of Canada's bridges are rated "good" or "very good" – when tragedies like these happen it is an individual

piece of that infrastructure that is failing. “A very small percentage are vulnerable or in a bad position,” he says. “When it comes to failure it happens to one bridge. It’s also critical for us to look at the weakest links.”

22. Canada's Core Public Infrastructure Survey: Roads, bridges and tunnels, 2016

Statistics Canada, in partnership with Infrastructure Canada, has launched its first-ever catalogue of the state of the nation's infrastructure to provide statistical information on the stock, condition, performance and asset management strategies of Canada's core public infrastructure assets. This first release presents findings on roads, bridges and tunnels.

23. Express Mondor completes integration of Transport L'Épiphanie

Express Mondor has finalized its acquisition and integration of the Transport L'Épiphanie's entire team and assets. As a result of this transaction, the Express Mondor group now has two complementary divisions specializing in non-standard transportation that have all the equipment required to serve customers by offering safe and high-quality transportation services in Canada and the United States. On August 23, 2018, Express Mondor and Transport L'Épiphanie's combined rolling stock represents a fleet of more than 100 tractors and over 300 trailers, all of which are managed by a team of more than 200 competent and experienced employees.

24. Oversize-Overweight Vehicles Prohibited from Peace Bridge For 7 Months

Between October 15, 2018 and May 15, 2019, the Peace Bridge center lane will be closed to complete the final phase of the Peace Bridge rehabilitation project, prohibiting oversize and overweight vehicles from the bridge. The Peace Bridge has indicated it is impossible to accommodate oversize and overweight vehicles while the centre lane is shut down.

25. Ontario Freezing Driver Fees

Ontario Premier Doug Ford and Minister of Transportation John Yakabuski announced the province is cancelling several driver fee increases which were set for September 1, 2018, such as road and knowledge tests and fees for obtaining and renewing license.

26. Truck volumes continue 'robust' growth

Domestic truck tonnage climbed 1.9 percent in July 2018 compared with the previous month after a revised 0.5 percent decline in June 2018, according to the latest reading of the American Trucking Associations' advanced seasonally adjusted For-Hire Truck Tonnage Index.

27. Uber available across Texas

Uber has expanded its ride-sharing smart phone application to be available across Texas last week ... Patrick J. said “It’s another opportunity for transportation activity ... In Texas, the take-home amount in gross revenue for driver partners in 2017 was more than \$540 million, according to an Uber news release...”

28. Adopting fuel-saving technologies help fleets save millions: NACFE report

The rate of adoption for fuel-saving technologies is up according to the North American Council for Freight Efficiency's (NACFE) 2018 Annual Fuel Fleet Study. As detailed in the full report, the 20 fleets that participated in the study, which operate more than 71,000 tractors and upwards of 236,000 trailers, showed that adoption of 85 fuel-savings technologies on both tractors and trailers has increased from 17% in 2003 to 44% in 2017. The report goes on to say that these actions are improving overall efficiency. In total, the 20 fleets saved more than \$600 million in 2017 compared to the average trucks in North America. They reached an average fuel economy of 7.28 mpg, compared to the average 5.91 mpg, representing a 2% increase over 2016 numbers.

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION

Canada

1. Canada to join Mexico, Japan, South Korea, EU to talk auto tariffs

Canada will join Mexico and other European and Asian auto-producing countries this week to plot strategy ahead of the potential imposition of tariffs on vehicles and auto parts exported to the United States. Japan and the European Union organized the meeting for July 31, 2018 in Geneva, where vice and deputy ministers from Canada, the EU, Japan and South Korea will gather to talk about the punishing levies threatened by U.S. President Donald Trump. A Canadian government official told *The Canadian Press* on July 29, 2018 that deputy international trade minister Timothy Sargent would attend the meeting on Canada's behalf. Trump has threatened to impose tariffs under Section 232 of the decades-old *U.S. Trade Expansion Act*. The legislation allows the president, under certain circumstances, to impose duties recommended by his commerce secretary under the notion that the goods being imported are a threat to national security.

2. US Mexico NAFTA talks minus Canada: feds insist they're encouraged

Canada's continental partners are simply trying to work through difficult bilateral sticking points on NAFTA, federal insiders insist, even as the Canadian government appears to have been left out of ongoing talks between the United States and Mexico. A senior government official said on July 31, 2018 that the U.S. and Mexico's return to the table to sort out their differences is a positive sign for the future of the North American Free Trade Agreement — even if Canada wasn't invited to take part.

3. Preparing for the Digitization of Logistics

By 2019 there could be 224 million digital shoppers in the United States, and according to research by McKinsey, about 70 percent of those shoppers will choose the cheapest form of home delivery. Why? Because of increased consumer preferences and the evolution of warehouse-to-home delivery systems. As we move beyond traditional deliveries and into a world where entire ecosystems of things must move seamlessly to any location, on-demand and regardless of ownership, supply chain and logistics professionals must be aware of emerging trends and the challenges and opportunities that come along with them. Three main trends are the keys when thinking about the future of digitized logistics: Expansion and Stabilizing Landscape; Shifting Delivery Methods; and Changing View of Ownership.

4. Canada, Mexico say NAFTA deal on auto-content rules 'close' as U.S. displays flexibility

The United States and Mexico are nearing a deal on the key issue of autos content rules at talks to renew the North American Free Trade Agreement, Mexican and Canadian officials said on August 1, 2018. Guillermo Malpica, head of the trade and NAFTA office for the Mexican government, also said the United States had "started showing more flexibility last week" on autos content and other topics at the negotiations, which have dragged on for almost a year.

5. Feds, farmers disagree about what to do with surplus funds

The government and grain producers have very different ideas about what to do with a \$130 million surplus collected by the

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION

Canada

1. Canada to join Mexico, Japan, South Korea, EU to talk auto tariffs, July 30, 2018, www.ctl.ca
2. US Mexico NAFTA talks minus Canada: feds insist they're encouraged, July 31, 2018, www.ctl.ca
3. Preparing for the Digitization of Logistics, July 31, 2018, www.inboundlogistics.com
4. Canada, Mexico say NAFTA deal on auto-content rules 'close' as U.S. displays flexibility, August 1, 2018, www.globeandmail.ca
5. Feds, farmers disagree about what to do with surplus funds, August 2, 2018, www.ctl.ca
6. Trade restrictions weigh on the outlook for air transport, August 3, 2018, www.iata.org
7. How would a global trade war affect aviation?, August 2, 2018, www.iata.org
8. Strategic Investment Packages, August 2, 2018, www.itf-oecd.org
9. Canada's June trade numbers surprisingly strong despite U.S. tariffs on metals, August 3, 2018, www.ctl.ca
10. US mends ties with allies, prepares for trade war with China, August 3, 2018, www.ctl.ca
11. NAFTA trade growth streak, August 7, 2018, www.americanshipper.com
12. NAFTA in August? Canada's US envoy says 'aspirational,' but will work for it, August 8, 2018, www.ctl.ca
13. Container imports strong this summer, August 10, 2018, www.americanshipper.com
14. Retail imports set multiple new records ahead of tariffs: NRF, August 10, 2018, www.ctl.ca
15. U.S. President Trump threatens auto tariffs against Canada if trade talks fail, August 13, 2018, www.ctl.ca
16. 'It's messy right now': Trade uncertainty weighs on Canadian farmers as commodity prices plunge, August 13, 2018, www.financialpost.ca
17. Feds to launch talks on safeguards to keep steel from flooding into Canada, August 14, 2018, www.ctl.ca
18. Feds preparing response in case Trump follows through on auto tariff threat, August 16, 2018, www.ctl.ca
19. Stocks March Higher on Growing Hopes for China Trade Talks, August 16, 2018, www.cargonews.com
20. Pipeline transportation of oil and other liquid petroleum products, June 2018, August 20, 2018, www.statcan.gc.ca
21. Survey of economists: Some Trump policies could slow growth, August 20, 2018, www.ctl.ca
22. Auto traffic through US ports grows amid tariff pressure, August 20, 2018, www.joc.com
23. Ports rally against Section 301 tariffs, August 21, 2018, www.americanshipper.com
24. Chinese ambassador hopes to speed trade talks with Canada amid protectionism, August 21, 2018, www.ctl.ca

Canadian Grain Commission (CGC). The CGC announced that it will invest the funds in a Harvest Sample Program. Beginning in the 2018-19 crop year, producers who participate in the Harvest Sample Program will receive falling number and deoxynivalenol (DON) results for their wheat samples at no cost. With this additional information in hand, producers will be better able to market their crop to ensure the best return for their farms. However, the Western Grain Elevators Association (WGEA), however is disappointed by the decision. In a statement released to the media, the WGEA believes that over the course of five years the CGC systematically overcharged the industry. According to the WGEA these amounts were charged to farmers and exporters, and should rightly be returned to the grain sector through a future fee reduction.

6. Trade restrictions weigh on the outlook for air transport

IATA is of the opinion that the impact of the current trade skirmish

on the air transport industry is likely to be relatively moderate at this stage. They estimate that if the trade war continues air passenger transportation would be reduced by 4.3% in 2023. However, further escalation could result in a much more material impact on both cargo & passenger demand. While a full-blown global trade war does not form part of our central outlook, it represents an important risk.

7. How would a global trade war affect aviation?

IATA has indicated that air passenger and air freight are both at risk from an escalation in tariffs and global trade protectionism. A trade war is not good news for the air transport. At this stage, the likely industry impacts appear modest, but this may change as the dispute continues to evolve. However, as always, ‘the devil is in the detail’. The magnitude of any impact, and on whom it falls most, will depend on the type of protectionist measures enacted, the breadth of their coverage (eg, bilateral tariffs versus a global trade war), as well as their size. At this point, such factors remain uncertain. Finally, it is worth reiterating that we do not consider a full-blown global trade war to be a ‘central case’ scenario, but nonetheless it is important to be cognizant of the potential impacts such an unfortunate turn of events would have on the industry

8. Strategic Investment Packages

The OECD has released a report on *Strategic Investment Packages* on August 2, 2018. This report reviews international best practice of transport appraisal and considers how the existing policy frameworks can help governments strategically address regional challenges. The report is the product of the work undertaken by the International Transport Forum (ITF) at the OECD to inform the reform of the National Investment Plan of the Slovak Republic.

9. Canada’s June trade numbers surprisingly strong despite U.S. tariffs on metals

Surging exports led by higher-priced energy products allowed Canada to shrug off new U.S. steel and aluminum tariffs in June 2018 to post the lowest monthly merchandise trade deficit with the world in 17 months. The difference between Canada’s exports and imports narrowed from a negative \$2.7 billion in May 2018 to \$626 million in June 2018, the smallest deficit since January 2017, fuelled by an increase in the value of total exports of 4.1 per cent while imports edged down 0.2 per cent, Statistics Canada reported August 3, 2018. Analysts had expected a trade deficit of \$2.3 billion, according to a poll by Thomson Reuters Eikon. In volume terms, exports rose 2.1 per cent and imports were down 1.3 per cent.

10. US mends ties with allies, prepares for trade war with China

Gathering strength for a brutal trade war with China, the United States appears to be trying to patch things up with its friends. U.S. and Mexican negotiators are meeting in Washington on August 2 and 3, 2018 to work on a rewrite of the North American Free Trade Agreement — an effort that looked virtually dead a few months ago. And last week President Donald Trump announced a cease-fire in a potentially destructive dispute with the European Union over trade in cars, trucks and auto parts. Meanwhile, the Trump administration ratcheted up the pressure on China this week by proposing a doubling in tariffs on \$200 billion in Chinese imports. Beijing has vowed to counterpunch with trade sanctions of its own.

11. NAFTA trade growth streak

The total value of cross-border trade between the United States and its partners in the North American Free Trade Agreement — Canada and Mexico — climbed another 9.2 percent to \$102.5 billion in May 2018 compared with the same month a year ago, according to the latest data from the U.S. Department of

25. Global automakers unite to fight tariffs, August 22, 2018, www.americanshipper.com
26. Few support more tariffs, August 23, 2018, www.americanshipper.com
27. Mexico, U.S. poised to resolve NAFTA differences as soon as Monday, sources say, August 26, 2018, www.globeandmail.ca
28. National Travel Survey, first quarter 2018, August 27, 2018, www.statcan.gc.ca
29. U.S., Mexico reach trade ‘understanding’ to overhaul NAFTA: Trump, August 27, 2018, www.ctl.ca
30. Threat to exclude Canada from U.S. Mexico trade deal may not be legal: experts, August 29, 2018, www.ctl.ca
31. Britain and China pave way for post-Brexit free trade agreement talks, August 29, 2018, www.transportweekly.com
32. Friday NAFTA deadline not firm; no deal better than bad one, says Trudeau, August 29, 2018, www.ctl.ca

Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). Year-over-year growth has been posted in each of the last 19 months for which after-the-fact data is available, despite ongoing negotiations among the United States, Mexico and Canada to revise the 24-year-old free trade deal. The May 2018 growth was slightly slower than the 11.3 percent pace seen in April 2018, but still outstripped the 5.5 percent rate seen in March 2018 as well as February's 8.7 percent year-over-year increase. Year-over-year, the value of U.S.-Canada freight flows rose 7.7 percent to \$55.12 billion in May 2018, while U.S.-Mexico trade values increased 10.8 percent to \$52.13 billion.

12. NAFTA in August? Canada's US envoy says 'aspirational,' but will work for it

Canada's ambassador to the United States says predictions that NAFTA talks can be settled by the end of month are "aspirational" — even if American and Mexican officials are close to resolving their differences on complex auto sector issues. But David MacNaughton supports the push towards the ambitious goal and says Canadian negotiators are prepared to put in the long hours to help make it happen before the end of August.

13. Container imports strong this summer

With retail sales rising and retailers rushing to bring merchandise into the country ahead of proposed new tariffs on products from China, imports at container ports heavily used by the nation's retailers are setting new highs this summer. But the analysts who prepare the monthly *Global Port Tracker* report warn a trade war could result in a downturn in traffic in 2019.

14. Retail imports set multiple new records ahead of tariffs: NRF

With retail sales rising and retailers rushing to bring merchandise into the country ahead of proposed new tariffs on products from China, imports at the nation's major retail container ports have set two new records this summer and are expected to set another in July 2018, according to the monthly *Global Port Tracker* report released by the National Retail Federation and Hackett Associates.

15. U.S. President Trump threatens auto tariffs against Canada if trade talks fail

Donald Trump launched a fresh auto-tariff threat against Canada on August 10, 2018 at a time when Ottawa finds itself in a holding pattern on NAFTA negotiations as it awaits the completion of one-on-one talks between the United States and Mexico. In a tweet that appeared to reference NAFTA's renegotiation, the U.S. president said the "deal with Mexico is coming along nicely" and that "Canada must wait." Trump then sent a warning to Ottawa: "Their Tariffs and Trade Barriers are far too high. Will tax cars if we can't make a deal!"

16. 'It's messy right now': Trade uncertainty weighs on Canadian farmers as commodity prices plunge

Canadian pork farmers are the latest to be stung by U.S. President Donald Trump's trade policies, as the tariff disputes send prices plummeting. Retaliatory tariffs imposed by Mexico and China, both engaged in trade battles with the United States, have specifically targeted American pork imports. Mexico slapped a retaliatory levy of 20 per cent on U.S. pork while China has upped its tariffs to 62 per cent. The measures have deepened the already sizeable challenges facing U.S. pork producers, who are grappling with an oversupply problem after an anticipated capacity boost at processing plants didn't materialize this year.

17. Feds to launch talks on safeguards to keep steel from flooding into Canada

The federal government will announce the start of consultations on August 14, 2018 on how best to address concerns that cheaper foreign steel is entering the Canadian market, industry representatives say. Jesse Goldman, a lawyer representing the Canadian Coalition for Construction Steel, says the group has been informed by federal officials that Finance Minister Bill Morneau will make the announcement during an event at the ArcelorMittal Dofasco steelmaker's offices in Hamilton, Ont.

18. Feds preparing response in case Trump follows through on auto tariff threat

With threats of devastating U.S. tariffs hanging over the auto sector, Canada's economic development minister says Ottawa is considering every possible way it could respond if the Trump administration follows through on its warning. Navdeep Bains said Plan A is to continue encouraging the U.S. to back away from the tariff threat, which industry has warned would inflict significant damage on both countries' economies. But just in case they are applied, Bains said Ottawa is considering "every conceivable option." "We're taking nothing off the table at this stage," Bains said in an interview. "We're looking at every tool in our toolbox."

19. Stocks March Higher on Growing Hopes for China Trade Talks

U.S. stocks jumped August 16, 2018 as China and the U.S. said they will hold their first trade discussions in months, a potential sign of progress toward ending their trade war. China will send a trade envoy to Washington later this month in a new attempt to end the trade dispute before it causes major damage to the

global economy. The two sides haven't talked since early June. Energy and metals prices and shares of industrial companies turned higher.

20. Pipeline transportation of oil and other liquid petroleum products, June 2018

Pipelines in Canada received 20.8 million cubic metres of crude oil and equivalent products from fields and plants in June 2018, up 4.5% compared with the same month in 2017. The vast majority originated in Alberta (86.4%), followed by Saskatchewan (10.5%).

21. Survey of economists: Some Trump policies could slow growth

U.S. business economists are concerned about the risks of some of President Donald Trump's economic policies, saying they fear his tariffs and higher budget deficits could eventually slow the economy. More than 90 per cent of economists surveyed by the National Association for Business Economics in a report being released August 20, 2018 said they think the Trump administration's current and threatened tariffs will harm the economy. The administration has imposed tariffs on goods from many of America's main trading partners — from China and Europe to Mexico and Canada. Trump officials argue that the tariffs, which are taxes on imports, will help the administration gain more favourable terms of trade. But so far, U.S. trading partners have simply retaliated with tariffs of their own.

22. Auto traffic through US ports grows amid tariff pressure

Roll-on, roll-off cargo flowed smoothly through US ports during the first half of 2018, and the involved ports are moving forward with planned, needed investments. Further, the immediate years ahead look promising, provided the trade tension winds die down.

23. Ports rally against Section 301 tariffs

The American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) said it will argue against the proposed third tranche of Section 301 tariffs when it testifies before the United States Trade Representative (USTR) in Washington, D.C., on August 24, 2018. Pursuant to USTR's Section 301 investigation that was completed in March 2018, the United States on July 6 implemented a 25 percent tariff on goods from China totaling \$34 billion in annual import value. On August 23 the U.S. will issue a second tranche of 25 percent tariffs on goods from China with an annual import value of \$16 billion. The USTR is holding hearings to get comments on the proposed third tranche of Section 301 tariffs on goods from China totaling \$200 billion in annual import value. Although President Donald Trump initially wanted a 10 percent duty for the third tranche of tariffs, U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer said Aug. 1, "The president has directed that I consider increasing the proposed level of the additional duty from 10 percent to 25 percent." The USTR said on August 17, 2018, "The proposed tariffs are a supplemental action in response to China's unfair trade practices related to technology transfer, intellectual property and innovation."

24. Chinese ambassador hopes to speed trade talks with Canada amid protectionism

China's ambassador to Canada said on August 20, 2018 that he hopes to make progress on a free-trade agreement with Canada and others amid his country's rising trade tensions with the United States. "On the background of unilateralism and trade protectionism, China sincerely hopes we can speed up the relevant negotiations process of bilateral...trade agreements," Lu Shaye said, speaking through a translator, in an interview at the Apparel Textile Sourcing Canada trade show in Toronto.

25. Global automakers unite to fight tariffs

Several major automobile manufacturing and parts associations have formed a coalition with the sole purpose of opposing tariffs on the imports of vehicles and parts to the United States. The *Driving American Jobs Coalition*, which consists of eight trade associations with members across the United States and abroad, is warning that tariffs proposed by President Donald Trump pose a "significant threat" to the U.S. economy. According to the coalition, a 25 percent tariff on imported automobiles and auto parts would result in the loss of more than 700,000 American jobs; a nearly \$60 billion decline in U.S. gross domestic product; a nearly \$7,000 increase in average vehicle prices; a 2 million vehicle decline in annual sales; and as much as a 10 percent increase in the cost of repairs and replacement parts.

26. Few support more tariffs

The vast majority of companies and associations argued against a proposed \$200 billion worth of tariffs in 2017 import value on products from China during testimony before an interagency government panel on August 21 and 22, 2018. But a handful of manufacturers, including several in the metals sector, advocated for the Trump administration to either maintain or expand the proposed Section 301 tariffs list, which would be the third tranche of Section 301 tariffs on Chinese origin goods.

27. Mexico, U.S. poised to resolve NAFTA differences as soon as Monday, sources say

The United States and Mexico are poised to resolve their bilateral trade differences as soon as August 27, 2018, creating an opening for Canada to rejoin NAFTA talks covering US\$1.2-trillion in annual trade.

Significant breakthroughs between Mexico and the United States came during the past several days on the contentious issues of automobiles and energy, according to three people familiar with the process who asked not to be named discussing private talks. Along with Canada, they've been negotiating for a year to overhaul the 24-year-old accord at the insistence of Donald Trump. The U.S. President says the North American free-trade agreement has led to hundreds of thousands of lost U.S. jobs, and he promised to either change it to be more favourable to the United States or withdraw.

28. National Travel Survey, first quarter 2018

Residents of Canada made 65.8 million trips in Canada and abroad in the first quarter of 2018, spending \$19.1 billion. While 85.6% of these trips took place within Canada, Canadians actually spent the majority of their travel dollars on trips abroad (56.9%). Canadian residents made 56.3 million trips to destinations in Canada in the first three months of 2018, 69.5% of which were same-day trips. Canadian residents made 6.2 million trips to the United States in the 2018 first quarter, spending \$5.3 billion. Accommodation was the largest single expense item, accounting for 38.3% of total travel expenditures. When it comes to overseas travel by Canadians, the first quarter of the year is traditionally the busiest as many residents head south to escape winter. During the first quarter of 2018, Canadian residents made 3.3 million trips to overseas countries (countries other than the United States).

29. U.S., Mexico reach trade 'understanding' to overhaul NAFTA: Trump

Donald Trump said on August 27, 2018 that the United States and Mexico have reached a bilateral trade "understanding" that could lead to an overhaul — or perhaps the termination — of the three-country North American Free Trade Agreement. The U.S. president also invited Canada to rejoin trade negotiations with its NAFTA partners — while also threatening Ottawa that if it can't reach a deal then he will impose devastating tariffs on automotive imports. "We'll start negotiating with Canada relatively soon, they want to negotiate very badly," Trump said in the Oval Office, with Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto joining by speaker phone. "But one way or the other, we have a deal with Canada. It will either be a tariff on cars, or it will be a negotiated deal; and frankly a tariff on cars is a much easier way to go, but perhaps the other would be much better for Canada."

30. Threat to exclude Canada from U.S. Mexico trade deal may not be legal: experts

Donald Trump's administration is giving Canada until August 31, 2018 to sign onto a bilateral trade deal between the U.S. and Mexico or be treated as "a real outsider" against whom punishing tariffs on autos will be imposed. But trade experts are dismissing the take-it-or-leave-it threat as political theatre aimed at pressuring Canada to acquiesce, with some even questioning whether the president has the legal authority to pursue a deal that doesn't include Canada. And even if he does, some doubt Congress would accept an agreement that excludes the United States' largest trading partner.

31. Britain and China pave way for post-Brexit free trade agreement talks

Britain and China have agreed to look at the possibility of signing a free trade agreement after Britain leaves the European Union in 2019. The announcement followed talks between British Secretary of State for International Trade Liam Fox and Chinese Commerce Minister Zhong Shan at the British Ambassador's residence in Beijing. In a statement released after talks on August 24, 2018, China's Commerce Ministry said they had discussed how to boost two-way investment and expand trade in services, reported Reuters.

32. Friday NAFTA deadline not firm; no deal better than bad one, says Trudeau

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is signalling that Canada won't be rushed into a bad deal just to meet Donald Trump's Friday's, August 31, 2018 deadline for preserving the North American Free Trade Agreement. "We recognize there is a possibility of getting there by August 31, 2018, but it is only a possibility because it will hinge on whether or not there is ultimately a good deal for Canada, a good deal for Canadians," Trudeau said at an event in northern Ontario on August 29, 2018. "I've said from the beginning no NAFTA deal is better than a bad NAFTA deal. And we are going to remain firm on that principle because Canadians expect us to stand up for them."