

Transportation Information Update*

Editor: Joseph Monteiro**

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Associate Editor: Gerald Robertson**

AIR TRANSPORTATION

1. Air restrictions announced for Vancouver 2010 Olympics

Transport Canada announced airspace restrictions were in effect around the Vancouver International Airport and the Whistler Athletes' Village. The restrictions go into effect from January 29, 2010 to March 24, 2010.

2. Asia Pacific: Challenges and Opportunities - Intra-Asia Market Eclipses North America as World's Largest

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) said that in 2009 intra-Asia-Pacific travel had eclipsed the number of travelers in North America as the world's largest aviation market - 647 million compared to 638. The gap is expected to increase.

3. WestJet reports record January load factor of 78.8 per cent

On February 3, 2010, WestJet announced January traffic results with a record load factor of 78.8 per cent (2% higher than the same period a year ago). Revenue passenger miles (RPMs) increased 9.7 per cent year over year, and capacity, measured in available seat miles (ASMs), grew 6.9 per cent over the same period. WestJet CEO and President said "This is the sixth consecutive year that WestJet has achieved a new record load factor in January, ..."

4. Aircraft movement statistics: Small airports

In November 2009, the number of take-offs and landings at the 130 airports without air traffic control towers reached 49,986 movements. Year-over-year increases were reported by 71 of these airports.

5. More choice for Canadians travelling to Morocco

Ministers of Canada and Morocco met to discuss the recently expanded air agreement. "This agreement will expand options for air travellers between our two countries," said Minister Merrifield. "More competition on pricing and service will benefit travellers heading to and from Morocco." The expanded air transport agreement allows airlines of each country to provide scheduled air services to more destinations in the other's territory. It also makes it easier for airlines to adjust their prices to meet current market conditions. In addition, airlines may choose to offer air services using the flights of other airlines, commonly known as code-sharing services.

6. Air Canada reports 2009 fourth quarter and full year results; Liquidity strengthened, Fourth quarter operating losses narrowed, Customer satisfaction improvements achieved

Air Canada on February 10, 2010 reported a reduced operating loss of \$83 million in the fourth quarter of 2009 compared to an operating loss of \$146 million in the fourth quarter of 2008, an improvement of \$63 million. Air Canada reported a net loss of \$56 million in the fourth quarter of 2009 which included gains on foreign exchange of \$108 million. This compared to a net loss of \$727 million in the fourth quarter of 2008 which included losses on foreign exchange of \$527 million. Passenger revenues of \$2.03 billion in the fourth quarter of 2009 decreased \$152 million or 7 per cent from the fourth quarter of 2008. Air Canada reported a loss per diluted share of \$0.25 in the fourth quarter of 2009 on an unadjusted basis. On an adjusted basis, the airline reported a loss per share (diluted) in the fourth quarter of 2009 of \$0.62. Loss per share is adjusted to remove Air Canada's gains on foreign exchange of \$108 million

Current Developments in Brief

Air Transportation CANADA

1. Air restrictions announced for Vancouver 2010 Olympics, January 29, 2010, www.tc.gc.ca
2. Asia Pacific: Challenges and Opportunities - Intra-Asia Market Eclipses North America as World's Largest, February 1, 2010, www.iata.org
3. WestJet reports record January load factor of 78.8 per cent, February 3, 2010, www.westjet.ca
4. Aircraft movement statistics: Small airports, February 10, 2010, www.statcan.gc.ca
5. More choice for Canadians travelling to Morocco, February 9, 2010, www.tc.gc.ca
6. Air Canada reports 2009 fourth quarter and full year results; Liquidity strengthened, Fourth quarter operating losses narrowed, Customer satisfaction improvements achieved, February 10, 2010, www.aircanada.ca
7. Air Canada loss narrows to \$56-million, February 10, 2010, www.globeandmail.ca
8. Air Canada takes aim at Porter, February 11, 2010, www.globeandmail.ca
9. EC Sends Expeditors Anti-Competitive Claim, February 12, 2010, www.joc.com
10. Air Canada to launch the only non-stop daily flights linking Regina, Ottawa and Montreal with same plane service, February 15, 2010, www.aircanada.ca
11. WestJet announces 19th consecutive quarter of profitability, February 17, 2010, www.westjet.ca
12. WestJet announces 19th consecutive quarter of profitability, February 17, 2010, www.westjet.ca
13. WestJet closing gap with Air Canada, February 18, 2010, www.globeandmail.ca
14. Minister of State Merrifield meets with international partners to discuss civil aviation security, February 17, 2010, www.tc.gc.ca
15. Aircraft Accident Rate Drops In 2009 - Renewed Focus on Training, Data, February 18, 2010, www.iata.org
16. WestJet announces service to the City of Roses, February 18, 2010, www.westjet.com
17. Civil aviation operating statistics, February 18, 2010, www.statcan.gc.ca
18. Government of Canada announces change to benefit air travellers with connecting flights in Europe, February 19, 2010, www.tc.gc.ca
19. BAA Losses Surge, Cargo Falls 7.7 Percent, February 23, 2010, www.joc.com

* The CTRF is not responsible for the information provided in this Update. ** The information provided is from the Authors and neither the Competition Bureau or Industry Canada is responsible for it.

and a loss on assets of \$25 million in the fourth quarter of 2009.

For fiscal 2009, Air Canada reported an operating loss of \$316 million compared to an operating loss (before the provision for cargo investigations and proceedings) of \$39 million in 2008. Operating expenses of \$10.06 billion decreased \$1.07 billion or 10 per cent, including a fuel expense decrease of \$971 million or 28 per cent, from 2008. For fiscal 2009, Air Canada recorded a net loss of \$24 million or \$0.18 per diluted share compared to a net loss of \$1.03 billion or \$10.25 per diluted share in 2008. The net loss in 2009 included gains on foreign exchange of \$657 million while the net loss in 2008 included losses on foreign exchange of \$655 million and a provision for cargo investigations and proceedings of \$125 million.

7. Air Canada loss narrows to \$56-million

Air Canada reported a \$56-million net loss in the fourth quarter of 2009, a dramatic improvement from the same period of 2008. The latest quarterly net loss amounted to 25 cents per diluted share, compared with a loss of \$7.27 per share in the fourth quarter of 2008.

8. Air Canada takes aim at Porter

Air Canada began legal proceedings on February 10, 2010, accusing Porter of having an "improper anti-competitive advantage" at Toronto's downtown island airport. The defendants are Porter and the Toronto Port Authority (TPA), a federal agency that oversees the Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport. The issue is around Porter's monopoly at the island airport and how slots will be divided in the future. Of the 92 slots to be divided, 46 will go to Porter. The remaining 46 will be divided between Air Canada and other competitors. Air Canada claims it needs 72 slots and that it, is making submissions to have its new case heard, it said it is seeking "an injunction to prevent the TPA from proceeding" with its strategy to allocate slots in a manner that still heavily favours Porter and allegedly abuses guidelines under the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

9. EC Sends Expeditors Anti-Competitive Claim

The European Commission is charging forwarder Expeditors International of Washington with engaging in anti-competitive actions in air freight shipping from South China and Kong to Europe. The Seattle-based forwarder joined Swiss logistics operators Panalpina and Kuehne+Nagel in an apparent expansion of an investigation into possible antitrust violations that has resulted in hundreds of millions of dollars in penalties and criminal actions against airlines. The announcement of allegations this week suggest European investigators now are taking that probe into the forwarding arena.

10. Air Canada to launch the only non-stop daily flights linking Regina, Ottawa and Montreal with same plane service

Air Canada on May 15, 2010 announced that beginning May 17, 2010, it will launch the only non-stop daily flights linking Regina and Ottawa with same plane service to/from Montreal.

11. . WestJet announces 19th consecutive quarter of profitability

On February 17, 2010, Westjet announced its fourth quarter and full-year results for 2009. The airline reported fourth quarter net earnings of \$20.2 million and full-year net earnings of \$98.2 million. Excluding a non-recurring net future income tax reduction during 2009, WestJet reported adjusted fourth quarter net earnings of \$15.1 million and adjusted full-year net earnings of \$93.1 million. Its CEO, Sean Durfy, said "We are pleased to report that WestJet finished 2009 with its 19th consecutive quarter of profitability..." Commenting on the fourth quarter and the full year, he said "we were once again one of the top performers in the North American airline industry...Throughout the year, we strengthened our balance sheet, tightened our cost controls and laid the foundation for continued growth. We also focussed on key

initiatives including the expansion of WestJet Vacations and the implementation of our new reservation system. Thank you to our exceptional WestJetters for their many accomplishments and ongoing commitment to our airline's success.

20 Government of Canada enhances air traveller security, February 25, 2010, www.tc.gc.ca
21. Air travellers face extra security fees, February 25, 2010, www.globeandmail.ca

US

1. DOT Tentatively Grants Delta/US Airways Slot Waiver, February 9, 2010, www.dot.gov
2. EU serves forwarders on price fixing probe, February 11, 2010, www.americanshipper.com
3. DOT Proposes Approval of Oneworld Antitrust Immunity Application, February 13, 2010, www.dot.gov
4. Airline On-Time Performance Improves in 2009 as Rate of Mishandled Baggage Decreases, February 12, 2010, www.dot.gov
5. November 2009 Airline Traffic Data: System Traffic Up 1.6 Percent from November 2008, February 16, 2010, www.dot.gov
6. December 2009 [US] Passenger Airline Employment Down 3.3 Percent from December 2008, www.dot.gov

12. WestJet announces 19th consecutive quarter of profitability

On February 17, 2010, Westjet announced its fourth quarter results for 2009. For the fourth quarter, revenue, available seat miles, revenue passenger miles and load factor were: 570 million, 4.423billion, 3.361billion and 78.4%. These were 7.4% down, 2.9% up, 4% up and 0.8 pts up compared to the fourth quarter of 2008. Net earnings were \$20.2 million down 51.9%.

13. WestJet closing gap with Air Canada

WestJet CEO believes that the gap between WestJet and Air Canada is narrowing. At the end of December 2010, it had a domestic market share of 38% and it expects that this will be about equalized by 2014. It is estimated that Air Canada's share was 55% at the end of December and WestJet is gaining 1% to 2% every year. Versant Partners Inc. analyst in Cameron Doerksen said it is realistic for WestJet to set its sights on Air Canada's No. 1 position domestically. WestJet will benefit from international partnerships, attracting connecting passengers, through some pacts.

14. Minister of State Merrifield meets with international partners to discuss civil aviation security

The Honourable Rob Merrifield, Minister of State (Transport), met on February 18, 2010 with international partners (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Panama and the United States) to address the challenges, threats and opportunities in civil aviation security.

15. Aircraft Accident Rate Drops In 2009 - Renewed Focus on Training, Data

On February 18, 2010, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced the aviation safety performance for 2009. The 2009 global accident rate (measured in hull losses per million flights of Western-built jet aircraft) was 0.71. That is equal to one accident for every 1.4 million flights. This is a significant improvement of the 0.81 rate recorded in 2008 (one accident for 1.2 million flights). The 2009 rate was the second lowest in aviation history, just above the 2006 rate of 0.65. Compared to 10 years ago, the accident rate has been cut 36% from the rate recorded in 2000.

16. WestJet announces service to the City of Roses

WestJet will fly between Windsor and Calgary once a day from May 31 to October 30, 2010.

17. Civil aviation operating statistics

Civil operation statistics are now available for December 2010 from Statistics Canada.

18. Government of Canada announces change to benefit air travellers with connecting flights in Europe

Canada's Transport Minister John Baird announced on February 19, 2010 a new change that will benefit passengers flying outbound from Canada whose connecting flights are through European Union (EU) airports. Effective immediately, passengers can carry **duty-free** purchases of liquids, aerosols and gels over 100 millilitres with them through an EU airport en route to a final destination. Two airports in Canada will install screening devices for such products in the Spring of 2010. **19. BAA Losses Surge, Cargo Falls 7.7 Percent**

BAA, the owner of London Heathrow airport, reported pre-tax losses surged to \$1.27 billion in 2009, more than 150 percent greater than a year ago, mainly due to the loss of the sale of London Gatwick airport and charges for pension fund deficits. BAA was ordered to dispose of London's second largest airport by the UK's Competition Commission.

20. Government of Canada enhances air traveller security

Canada's Transport Minister John Baird announced on February 25, 2010 new dedicated funds (\$1.5 billion over five years) that will help to strengthen Canada's air transportation system against terrorist attacks, enhance the protection of air travellers and better align the aviation system with international security requirements.

21. Air travellers face extra security fees

Transport Minister John Baird said the new security fees will increase by \$2.50 to \$8.91, on top of the current fees that range from \$5 to \$16 a passenger each way in air traveller security charges, depending on the destination. The new fees will be used as part of a \$1.5-billion boost in security spending. The new charges are expected to generate hundreds of millions of dollars in new revenue. The security charge, which was introduced in 2001, now generates annual revenues of more than \$350-million.

WATER TRANSPORTATION

1. Reefers in a Squeeze

Reefer space and equipment are likely to be in short supply. Demand from certain developing countries has kept up but vessel carriers have reduced capacity in light of the economic downturn. To add to the shortage, there has been a rise in fuel prices and demand for refrigerated products has fallen marginally.

2. 2009 sees growth in grain and liquid bulk but overall throughput declines

Port Metro Vancouver's 2009 year-end cargo statistics report significant growth in grain, specialty crops and petroleum products, a modest increase in export laden container volume, and a decrease in total container count. In addition, the number of cruise passengers increased by 5%. Finally, the last two quarters saw an overall improvement suggesting a more positive outlook for 2010 though overall, the Port's 2009 total tonnage declined 11 per cent compared to 2008.

3. Domestic and international shipping

Statistics Canada has released data on domestic and international shipping for January to June 2008.

4. Heightened security to restrict access surrounding Port terminals February 12 to 26

The Prince Rupert Port Authority in collaboration with the Prince Rupert Terminal partners has adopted heightened security during the winter Olympics in Vancouver.

5. Port of Montreal - Cumulative containerized traffic summary January to December 2009

Containerized traffic moving through the Port of Montreal in TEUs fell 15.3% in 2009 to 1,247,690 from 1,473,914 in 2008. Inbound traffic (TEUs) fell 13% and outbound traffic fell 17.5%. In metric tonnes, the decline for the year was 15.4%, with inbound falling 17.8% and outbound falling 13.7%

6. Port of Montreal - Cruise data

The number of cruising passenger fell to 38,770 in 2009 from 39,636 in 2008 (i.e., a fall of 2.18%). The number of calls by cruising vessels fell to 41 from 43 for 2009.

7. Trucking firm fears B.C. Ferries rate increase

On Apr. 1, 2010, B.C. Ferries will increase the rate-per-foot for commercial vehicles by 20 cents/foot to \$5.25/foot on well-travelled routes. This will cause trucking companies to downsize and lay off drivers, one Victoria-based fleet manager told local media.

8. Davie shipyard seeks creditor protection

For 185 years, the Davie shipyard has built sailing ships, destroyers, vessels and rigs for the offshore oil and gas industry. It is Canada's biggest ship builder but Norwegian owned. It will temporarily lay off 1,590 employees while it tries to contain ballooning project costs. For some time grants enabled it to overcome some of its financial problems. It began production too fast only to be hit by the recessions and other growing troubles.

Water Transportation

Canada

1. Reefers in a Squeeze, February 1, 2010, www.joc.com
2. 2009 sees growth in grain and liquid bulk but overall throughput declines, February 1, 2010, www.portmetrovancover.com
3. Domestic and international shipping, February 10, 2010, www.statcan.gc.ca
4. Heightened security to restrict access surrounding Port terminals February 12 to 26, February 9, 2010, www.rupertport.com
5. Port of Montreal - Cumulative containerized traffic summary January to December 2009, February 11, 2010, www.portofmontreal.ca
6. Port of Montreal - Cruise data, February 11, 2010, www.portofmontreal.ca
7. Trucking firm fears B.C. Ferries rate increase, February 24, 2010, www.ctl.ca
8. Davie shipyard seeks creditor protection, February 26, 2010, www.globeandmail.ca

US

1. FMC reorganizes, February 3, 2010, www.americanshipper.com
2. American Bar Association Endorses Rotterdam Rules, February 9, 2010, www.joc.com

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

1. Majority of shippers unhappy with CN, CP rail service: survey

A recent survey conducted by NRG Research Group, has found that the majority of shippers are dissatisfied with the rail freight service they receive from Canada's Class 1 railways, CN and CP. Survey respondents indicated that their level of satisfaction could be increased if railways improved their communication with customers by providing easy access to a customer service representative, greater consistency in transit times and more accurate forecasts in order to meet demand.

2. STB issues rail study update

The US Surface Transportation Board (STB) study indicates that rail rates have gone up from 2004 to 2008. The increase was the result of fuel and other costs but did not reflect exercise of market power. In 2009 rates went down.

3. Staggering Reform

Senator Jay Rockefeller says that the proposed reform to the rail regulation advocating sweeping changes was the result of tough negotiations. Only in the last few weeks of December 2009 was any progress made. He says the task was even tougher than the Health Care bill in which he is involved.

4. CN announces new \$100-million Calgary Logistics Park

CN announced it plans to establish a new \$100-million CN Calgary Logistics Park in Conrich, located in Rocky View County north east of Calgary. The park is planned to include a state-of-the-art intermodal terminal with room for customers to co-locate with CN and custom build their facility in place.

5. It's Official: BNSF Is Part of Berkshire

BNSF Railway officially became part of Berkshire Hathaway Feb. 12, 2010 as Berkshire announced that BNSF stockholders approved the transaction in a special meeting on Feb. 11, 2010 in Fort Worth, Texas. This makes BNSF the only one of the largest class of seven major carriers to no longer be a standalone, public company.

6. New CN marketing team focussed on delivering high-quality service to meet customer needs and drive top-line growth

CN's executive vice-president and chief marketing officer announced on February 16, 2010, the appointment of his marketing team – another key step in CN's drive to reach the next level of business performance. "CN's new marketing team reflects the significant synergies and the depth of talent among our sales, marketing and supply chain transportation professionals." The new marketing team is composed of six senior officers.

7. Railway carloadings (December 2009 - Preliminary)

Total freight traffic originating in Canada and received from the United States decreased to 21.5 million metric tones in December 2009, down 0.2% from December 2008. The latter (US) was the cause for the decrease (down 14.6%). Intermodal freight loadings, transported through containers and trailers loaded onto flat cars, increased 4.5%. Non-intermodal freight loadings, which are typically carried in bulk or loaded in box cars, rose 1.2%

8. VIA train derails near Quebec City

A Via Rail passenger train derailed on February 25, 2010 at St. Charles de Bellechasse, Que., just across the river from Quebec City. About 10 passengers suffered minor injuries in the mishap, according to media reports.

9. Canadian Pacific Railway Limited declares dividend

The Board of Directors of Canadian Pacific Railway Limited declared a quarterly dividend of twenty four and three quarter cents (\$0.2475) Canadian per share on the outstanding Common shares payable on April 26, 2010.

Rail Transportation

Canada

- 1 Majority of shippers unhappy with CN, CP rail service: survey, January 29, 2010, www.ctl.ca
2. STB issues rail study update, February 3, 2010, www.americanshipper.com
3. Staggering Reform, February 3, 2010, www.americanshipper.com
4. CN announces new \$100-million Calgary Logistics Park, February 4, 2010, www.cn.ca
5. It's Official: BNSF Is Part of Berkshire, February 12, 2010, www.joc.com
6. New CN marketing team focussed on delivering high-quality service to meet customer needs and drive top-line growth, February 16, 2010, www.cn.ca
7. Railway carloadings (December 2009 - Preliminary), February 25, 2010, www.statcan.gc.ca
8. VIA train derails near Quebec City, February 25, 2010, www.nationalpost.ca
- 9 Canadian Pacific Railway Limited declares dividend, February 23, 2010, www.cpr.ca

US

1. STB Rate Decision Disturbs Railroad, Shippers, February 4, 2010, www.joc.com
2. NIT League Supports Rail Bill, February 16, 2010, www.americanshipper.com

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION

1. Time to get tough with Ontario with cell-texting ban

The 'soft' enforcement period is over for the ban on cell-texting when driving in Ontario. Individuals caught texting while driving could face fines up to \$500.

2. CTA Partners with Government to Advance Research on Renewable Diesel

CTA has partnered with the Government of Canada and several energy and transportation organizations to advance research on the storage and use of heating and transportation fuel containing biodiesel.

3. Carriers showing renewed optimism for the economy

The latest survey by the Ontario Trucking Association (OTA) shows that carriers are cautiously optimistic. Out of the 73 respondents to the survey, 52% of the industry carriers said they were optimistic about the industry's overall prospects over the next three months. It's the first time, a majority of carriers have felt optimistic since OTA began its quarterly surveys in the 3rd quarter of 2008.

4. Western provinces harmonize LCV sizes

Changes to Saskatchewan's Energy Efficient Motor Vehicles agreement will bring the dimensions of the province's long combination vehicles (LCV) in line with their neighbours. Changes include minor adjustments to speed limit, abolishment of the requirement for carriers to monitor speeds through tacographs and other instruments, and an increase in the B-train configuration GVW by 1,000 kg.

5. Grant Money Assists Trucking Industry in Meeting Environmental Goals

The US Department of Energy (DOE) awarded \$115 million in grants to truck and engine manufacturers to fund cutting-edge research that will help the trucking industry reduce its carbon footprint in the near term. Cummins, Daimler Trucks North America and Navistar received the bulk of the grant money (\$40 million each). The Canadian Trucking Association has been advocating for some time that Canadian governments at both the federal and provincial levels should work with the industry to make similar investments

6. Truckers press for green incentives

David Bradley, President of the Ontario Trucking Association told provincial leaders to incorporate policies into the budget that would help trucking companies invest in new, greener technologies and equipment.

7. Saskatchewan gives LCV operators greater flexibility

Saskatchewan has made regulatory changes to long combination vehicles (LCVs). Effective Feb. 1, 2010, turnpike doubles, triple-trailers and Queen City Triples can be operated at 100 km/h, up from 90 km/h, on designated four-lane highways. LCV operators no longer need to monitor speeds using tacographs or other devices. Trucking companies are still required to make a "reasonable effort" to monitor adverse weather along transport routes. Later this year, B-train gross vehicle weights will be increased to 63,500 kgs from their current cap of 62,500 kgs.

8. Freight costs stabilized

According to the Canadian General Freight Index, after months of steady decline, the cost of ground transportation for Canadian shippers in November 2009 remained virtually unchanged from October 2009. Base rates fell while fuel surcharges rose keeping the index unchanged.

9. Ambassador Bridge amenities to be destroyed

A U.S. Judge has ordered the demolition of a newly constructed duty free store and gas pumps that were illegally built on city owned property of Ambassador Bridge (owned by Matty Moroun) on the Detroit side. The International Bridge Company (which was involved in plans to build a competitive bridge) has not decided whether or not they will appeal the decision.

Highway Transportation

Canada

1. Time to get tough with Ontario with cell-texting ban, February 1, 2010, www.todaystruckin.com
2. Partners with Government to Advance Research on Renewable Diesel, January 29, 2010, www.cantruck.ca
3. Carriers showing renewed optimism for the economy, February 3, 2010, www.todaystruckin.com
4. Western provinces harmonize LCV sizes, February 3, 2010, www.todaystruckin.com
5. Grant Money Assists Trucking Industry in Meeting Environmental Goals, February 4 2010, www.cantruck.ca
6. Truckers press for green incentives, February 4, 2010, www.todaystruckin.com
7. Saskatchewan gives LCV operators greater flexibility, February 9, 2010, www.ctl.ca
8. Freight costs stabilized, February 8, 2010, www.todaystruckin.com
9. Ambassador Bridge amenities to be destroyed, February 8, 2010, www.todaystruckin.com
10. Feds considered buying Ambassador Bridge: report, February 9, 2010, www.todaystruckin.com
11. New Ont. transport boss says challenges 'immense', February 16, 2010, www.todaystruckin.com
12. RTL-Westcan acquires ECL Transportation, February 18, 2010, www.ctl.ca
13. Clearing contracts awarded in preparation of construction on Route 1, February 18, 2010, www.tc.gc.ca
14. Merger time in the Maritimes, www.todaystruckin.com
15. Government partnership unveils new transit bus for Quispamsis residents, February 23, 2010, www.tc.gc.ca
16. Large urban transit, February 23, 2010, www.stastcan.gc.ca
17. Truck Pricing in Canada Seen Stabilizing, February 25, 2010, www.joc.com
18. Revenue drops in 2009 for former income trusts, February 26, 2010, www.todaystruckin.com
19. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, February 26, 2010, www.statcan.gc.ca

10. Feds considered buying Ambassador Bridge: report

Transport Canada is investigating the possibility of buying the Ambassador Bridge, according to the National Post, even though Ottawa has firmly backed the 10-year plan to build a separate, public-private crossing a few kilometers down the Detroit River.

11. New Ont. transport boss says challenges 'immense'

Kathleen Wynne, Ontario's new transportation minister, says she is committed to improving the flow of people and goods through the province – particularly through the busiest parts of Toronto.

12. RTL-Westcan acquires ECL Transportation

RTL-Westcan Group of Companies has acquired the business and transportation assets of Calgary-based ECL Transportation Ltd. ECL has more than 60 years experience delivering bulk commodities and freight throughout North America. The two organizations are expected to bring together two very complementary organizations.

13. Clearing contracts awarded in preparation of construction on Route 1

On February 18, 2010, 11 contracts awarded to clear land for a new highway corridor were awarded by government officials of New Brunswick. The work will prepare for the construction of a new four-lane highway between Waweig and Lepreau planned as part of the Route 1 Gateway Project.

14. Merger time in the Maritimes

According to the Atlantic Canada Trucking Association there are too many small carriers in that region. The reason is that rates have dropped to unprofitable level in the competitive struggle. Warren Transport merged with D.D. Transport of Mount Pearl Newfoundland of Mount Pearl, Nfld., to form Atlantica Diversified Transportation Systems while Irving Transportation System announced that its subsidiary Sunbury Transport would be combined with sister carrier RST Transport. Esson noted that the consolidation trend is a North-American wide phenomenon, but he expects mergers to accelerate in Atlantic Canada specifically so companies can leverage economies of scale in this challenging market.

15. Government partnership unveils new transit bus for Quispamsis residents

On February 23, 2010, government officials unveiled a new articulated bus for the residents of Quispamsis, New Brunswick. The Government of Canada, through the federal Public Transit Capital Trust, provided the Saint John Transit Commission with funding of \$1.3 million to purchase two buses through the New Brunswick Department of Transportation's Rural to Urban Commuter Program.

16. Large urban transit (December 2009 - Preliminary)

Statistics Canada reported that total operating revenue (excluding subsidies) for 10 of Canada's largest urban transit properties rose 6.3% to \$219.7 million in December 2009 from December 2008. Ridership levels rose to 123.3 million passenger trips in December, also a 6.3% increase from the same month a year earlier.

17. Truck Pricing in Canada Seen Stabilizing

Nulogx, a transportation management company that processes more than \$750 million in freight transactions a year publishes a General Freight Index on truck rates (LTL and TL). This index indicates that overall freight costs rose 0.2 percent in December 2009. The level is 10 percent lower than last year

18. Revenue drops in 2009 for former income trusts

Revenue for a three major Canadian carriers dropped in 2009 from 2008, Mullen Group's income decreased 25.6%; TransForce income decreased 18% and Contrans income decreased 52.1%. But executives at Mullen, Transforce and Contrans are keeping a positive outlook for 2010. Attempts were also made to cut workers, adjust fleets, etc.

19. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index increased 0.1% in January 2010 compared with December 2009. The courier portion rose 0.2%, while the local messengers component was down 0.7%.

US

1. UPS sees Q4 profit triple, February 4, 2010, www.americanshipper.com
2. Trucking companies showing cautious optimism for first quarter, February 3, 2010, www.ontruck.ca
3. [US] Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI) Unchanged in December from November, February 18, 2010, www.dot.gov

GENERAL

1. Travel between Canada and other countries

For 2009, travel between Canada and the United States was lower than it was in 2008. All categories of travel between the two countries fell, with same day car travel dropping the most. American residents made 9.2% fewer trips to Canada with same-day car travel decreasing 13.9%. Similarly, Canadian residents made 10.0% fewer trips to the United States as same day car trips dropped 13.3%. Travel to Canada from residents of countries other than the United States was down 12.5% while the number of trips by Canadian residents to overseas countries increased by 1.3%. This was the only major travel category to have an increase in 2009.

2. Travel between Canada and other countries (December 2009)

Travel to Canada by foreign residents increased 0.9% between November 2010 and December 2010 to 2.0 million trips. Canadian residents made 4.3 million trips outside of the country in December 2010, up 2.6% from the previous month. Of this total 710,000 trips were made to overseas destinations.

General

Canada

1. Travel between Canada and other countries, February 16, 2010, www.statcan.gc.ca
2. Travel between Canada and other countries, February 16, 2010, www.statcan.gc.ca

Publications

1. Pocket Guide 2010, significant accomplishments 2009, January 29, 2010, www.bts.gov

Please Register for the Upcoming Event of Next Year

CTRF Conference May 30-June 2, 2010

Transportation and Logistics Trends and Policies: Success and Failures

Courtyard by Marriott Downtown Toronto, 475 Yonge Street,
Toronto, Ontario, www.ctrf.ca