

Transportation Information Update*

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AIR TRANSPORTATION

1. WestJet wants women to soar

On March 2, 2020, in support of National Women in Aviation Week and International Women's Day, WestJet released its WestJet Women in Aviation: Committed to Change video, emphasizing the need to increase the numbers of women who have careers in aviation. "We are proud to be among those leading the field for the inclusion of women in the flight deck. But, WestJet can do better," says Ed Sims, WestJet President and CEO, who also voiced the airline's latest video. "Leaders, including myself, must pledge to listen to the voices of women who work in all areas of aviation, recognize their potential, and support their growth and development. Strong male and female advocates are necessary, and I am dedicated to helping woman soar."

2. IATA Requests Global Suspension of Slot Rules Due to Coronavirus

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) is contacting aviation regulators worldwide to request that the rules governing use of airport slots be suspended immediately and for the 2020 season, due to the impact of COVID-19 (the Coronavirus). Around 43% of all passengers depart from over 200 slot coordinated airports worldwide. At present, the rules for slot allocation mean that airlines must operate at least 80% of their allocated slots under normal circumstances. Failure to comply with this means the airline loses its right to the slot the next equivalent season. In exceptional circumstances, regulators can relax this requirement. The COVID-19 crisis has had a severe impact on air traffic. Airlines are experiencing serious declines in demand.

3. Air Canada to Launch Daily, Year-Round Flights from Vancouver to Orange County (Santa Ana), California

Air Canada on March 3, 2020 announced that it will launch non-stop service between Vancouver and Santa Ana in Orange County, California beginning June 15, 2020, subject to final airport authority approvals. Special introductory fares from Vancouver to Orange County start as low as \$187 CDN one-way, all in. Tickets are now available for purchase at aircanada.com or through travel agents until March 17, 2020 for travel between June 15, 2020 and September 30, 2020.

4. Air Cargo Demand Down 3.3% in January 2020

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for global air freight markets showing that demand, measured in cargo tonne kilometers (*CTKs), decreased by 3.3% in January 2020, compared to the same period in 2019. "January marked the tenth consecutive month of year-on-year declines in cargo volumes. The air cargo industry started the year on a weak footing. There was optimism that an easing of US-China trade tensions would give the sector a boost in 2020. But that has been overtaken by the COVID-19 outbreak, which has severely disrupted global supply chains, although it did not have a major impact on January's cargo performance. Tough times are ahead. The course of future events is unclear, but this is a sector that has proven its resilience time and again," said Alexandre de Juniac, IATA's Director General and CEO.

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Canada

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5. Cargolux celebrates 50 years of success

March 4, 2020 marks a remarkable milestone for Cargolux as the all-cargo carrier celebrates its 50th anniversary. Exactly half a century ago, Luxembourg's national carrier Luxair, Iceland's national carrier Loftleiðir, the Swedish shipping company Salén and some private investors, founded Cargolux. With a single aircraft and a handful of employees, these ambitious investors created what was to become one of the world's leading all-cargo carriers. Since its inception, Cargolux has lived up to its now famous slogan 'You name it, we fly it' – the embodiment of the Cargolux spirit. Throughout its history, the company has been a pioneer in the air freight industry. The first airline to fly the 747-400F, Cargolux was also the launch customer for the 747-8F and the first to operate both aircraft-type simulators. Even 50 years after its foundation, Cargolux remains frontrunner in its field, continuously looking for innovative and effective ways to carry out its mission. In addition to setting high standards in the industry, the airline has also contributed to the diversification of Luxembourg's economy. This year marks a remarkable achievement for Cargolux, a success that will be celebrated all year long with special events for our customers and staff worldwide.

6. Passenger growth slows as COVID-19 impacts the industry

The major highlights on passenger traffic for the month of January 2020 released by IATA were as follows: 1) Industry-wide revenue passenger kilometres (RPKs) rose by 2.4% year-on-year in January, the slowest growth outturn since April 2010. Industry-wide available seat kilometres (ASKs) expanded 1.7% annually this month. 2) January's slowdown is impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak which – starting at the end of January – has particularly affected demand in the Chinese domestic and international Asia Pacific markets. 3) Passenger demand is expected to weaken further in February and March 2020 as the virus spreads outside of China.

7. Speaking Notes for Canada's Minister of Transport, The Honourable Marc Garneau at the United States Chamber of Commerce Aviation Summit, Washington, D.C.

The Minister of Transport, the Honourable Marc Garneau, thanked the United States Chamber of Commerce, and organizers of the Aviation Summit, for the opportunity to speak to them on March 5, 2020. On behalf of the Government of Canada, he expressed our appreciation for the Chamber's support for the new U.S.-Mexico-Canada trade agreement. He indicated that the United States sells more goods to Canada than to any country – more than it sells to China, Japan, and the U.K. combined. Further, Trade and investment with Canada supports millions of U.S. jobs. This modernization of North American free trade marks an important milestone for Canada's trade relationship with the United States and Mexico. He spoke about aviation, airspace and safety and indicated that Canada will be seeking international collaboration, to improve aviation safety, and to save lives.

8. Minister of Transport outlines Safer Skies Strategy to improve aviation safety over conflict zones

The Minister of Transport, the Honourable Marc Garneau outlines the new strategy over or near air conflict zones. This new initiative aims to improve aviation safety over or near conflict zones to prevent future tragedies as the one over Ukraine. The Safer Skies Strategy builds on the important work of the Netherlands and International Civil Aviation Organization efforts following the 2014 downing of the Malaysian Airlines Flight MH-17. This new initiative seeks to establish a common set of practices for sharing information and issuing warnings and restrictions, as well as enhancing the aviation industry's risk-management practices.

the COVID-19 pandemic, March 13, 2020, www.cta-otc.gc.ca

19. WestJet eyes major cutbacks as pandemic crisis grounds most travel, March 15, 2020, www.globeandmail.ca

20. New measures for COVID- 19 response, March 13, 2020, www.tc.gc.ca

21. Capacity reduction of 50 percent in the second quarter versus the prior year's quarter, March 16, 2020, www.aircanada.ca

22. Air cargo essential to fight against COVID-19: IATA, March 16, 2020, www.americanshipper.com

23. Limited impact of coronavirus on the February passenger numbers, March 12, 2020, www.transportweekly.com

24. Transat starts suspending flights, laying off workers as virus closes borders, March 18, 2020, www.globeandmail.ca

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26. January 2020 U.S. Passenger Airline Employment Data, March 17, 2020, www.bts.gov

27. Air Canada Provides Update on Ongoing COVID-19 Response, March 18, 2020, www.aircanada.ca

28. Statement on the Closure of the U.S. – Canada Border to Non-Essential Travel, March 18, 2020, www.cacairports.ca

29. Airlines offer spare passenger aircraft as mini-freighters, March 18, 2020, www.americanshipper.com

30. Cargojet adjusts as pandemic causes volumes to rise, March 19, 2020, www.ctl.ca

31. Air Canada lays off more than 5,000 flight attendants, March 2020, www.globeandmail.ca

32. Federal financial relief needed for Canada's airports to endure through COVID-19 crisis, March 19, 2020, www.cacairports.ca

33. 2019 Traffic Data for U.S. Airlines and Foreign Airlines U.S. Flights, March 19, 2020, www.bts.gov

34. Transat lays off 3,600 employees, or 70% of its workforce, in coronavirus crisis; plans to halt all flights April 1, March 23, 2020, www.financialpost.ca

35. Airlines face \$250 billion revenue hit in 2020, IATA says, March 24, 2020, www.americanshipper.com

36. Air Canada Begins Operating Cargo-only Flights Carrying Vital Supplies, Necessary Goods, March 25, 2020, www.aircanada.ca

37. Air Canada and Air Canada Foundation Work with Second Harvest to Redistribute Onboard Fresh Food Items to Canadians in Need, March 26, 2020, www.aircanada.ca

38. Passenger airlines morph into cargo carriers, March 27, 2020, www.americanshipper.com

39. Government of Canada announces new domestic transportation measures, March 28, 2020, www.tc.gc.ca

40. 2020 air cargo volume may drop 20%, IATA says, March 20, 2020, www.americanshipper.com

9. Air Canada and WestJet waiving fees to change flights because of coronavirus

Canada's largest airlines are waiving change fees in light of concerns about the novel coronavirus. Air Canada says a one-time change is permitted for tickets purchased from the airline between March 4 and March 31 for travel within 12 months. It also applies to Aeroplan flight reward bookings and Air Canada Vacations has implemented flexible booking policies. WestJet Airlines Ltd. says the one-time change fee waiver applies to new bookings made between March 3 and March 17 for travel through June 24, 2020.

10. IATA: Coronavirus impact on airlines could reach \$113 billion

The International Air Transport Association now predicts the coronavirus will cause a much bigger loss in revenues for commercial airlines this year. IATA expects total revenue losses between \$63 billion and \$113 billion depending on the spread of the virus. The losses are much larger than the \$30 billion estimated two weeks ago when the virus was largely confined to China. No estimates are yet available for the impact on air cargo operations.

11. Air Canada Salutes Achievements of Present and Next Generation of Women in Aviation

Air Canada marked Women of Aviation Worldwide Week leading up to International Women's Day 2020 by celebrating the achievements of its women employees while also looking ahead to the next generation of women aviators as it announced four admirable winners of the inaugural Captain Judy Cameron Scholarship.

12. COVID 19 threatens Canadian aerospace companies as global air travel plummets

The novel coronavirus is wreaking havoc on the global airline sector, rippling outward to aerospace companies in Canada. "The spread of the COVID-19 virus has already had a severe impact on demand for global air travel and the global airline industry and represents a clear threat to the sustainability of the current aerospace cycle," National Bank analyst Cameron Doerksen said in a research note. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) trade group forecasts that global passenger revenue could decline by US\$113 billion or 13.5 per cent this year due to COVID-19, which has caused at least 3,200 deaths and spread to more than 100,000 people across some 90 countries as governments ramp up containment measures.

13. Air Canada Named One of Canada's Best Diversity Employers for The Fifth Consecutive Year

Air Canada has been named one of Canada's Best Diversity Employers for the fifth consecutive year. In selecting Air Canada, Mediacorp Canada Inc. cited the airline's continuing work to foster inclusiveness through numerous partnerships, its success outreaching directly to diverse communities when recruiting and other initiatives.

14. Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Transport commemorate the fatal crash of Ethiopian Airlines Flight ET302

The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, on March 9, 2020 issued the following statement: "A year ago, on March 10, Ethiopian Airlines flight ET302 crashed near Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, claiming the lives of 157 people, including 18 Canadians. "On this solemn day, we will join the international community in commemorating the loss of all those who died in the crash and offer our sincerest condolences to those who lost loved ones.

15. Minister of Transport advocates for Safer Skies at ICAO Council to improve aviation safety near or over conflict zones

On March 11, 2020, at the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Council meeting, the Minister of Transport, the Honourable Marc Garneau, presented a working paper which supports the Government of Canada's *Safer Skies Strategy*. The working paper, co-sponsored by nine other Council States (Costa Rica, Finland, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Spain, the United States and the United Kingdom), calls for more action by ICAO, with a proposal to further mitigate risks to civil aviation operations near or over conflict zones.

16. December 2019 U.S. Airline Traffic Data

U.S. airlines carried 79.0 million systemwide (domestic and international) scheduled service passengers in December 2019, reaching a new seasonally-adjusted all-time high, up 0.9% from November 2019. U.S. airlines carried 69.3 million domestic passengers and 9.70 million international passengers on flights in December.

17. IATA Reacts to Latest US Travel Restrictions

International Air Transport Association (IATA) and its members continue to support governments in their efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19. At this time of extreme pressure on the industry, IATA urged governments to: 1) Prepare for the broad economic consequences of these actions; 2) Respond quickly to the financial frailty of airlines, and 3) Follow WHO (World Health Organization) recommendations. These calls come in response to the US government's banning of non-US citizens, and individuals who are not legal permanent residents of the US, who have been in the Schengen Area in the past 14 days from entry into the United States. "These are extraordinary times and governments are taking unprecedented measures. Safety—including public health—is always a top priority. Airlines are complying with these requirements. Governments must also recognize that airlines—employing some 2.7 million people—are under extreme financial and operational pressures. They need support," said Alexandre de Juniac, IATA's Director General and CEO.

18. Canadian Transportation Agency issues temporary exemptions to certain Air Passenger Protection Regulations provisions to address the COVID-19 pandemic

The Canadian Transportation Agency (CTA) on March 13, 2020 took steps to address the major impacts that the COVID-19 pandemic is having on the airline industry. The Air Passenger Protection Regulations (APPR) set air carriers' obligations to passengers that vary depending on whether the situation is 'within the air carrier's control', 'within the air carrier's control but required for safety', or 'outside the air carrier's control'. APPR also provide a list of situations considered 'outside the air carrier's control', including medical emergencies and orders or instructions from state officials. The CTA has identified a number of situations related to this pandemic that are considered 'outside of the air carrier's control'. These include flight disruptions to locations that are covered by a government advisory against travel or unnecessary travel due to COVID-19. In these situations, air carriers would not be required to provide standards of treatment or compensation for inconvenience. However, they would have to make sure the passenger completes their itinerary.

19. WestJet eyes major cutbacks as pandemic crisis grounds most travel

WestJet Airlines is set to cut its international seat capacity by 60 per cent and reduce domestic flights by at least 40 per cent amid government actions to limit travel to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. Calgary-based WestJet has halted capital projects and asked vendors for price cuts, but did not say how many layoffs are in store for the company's 12,000 flight attendants, pilots and others employees.

20. New measures for COVID - 19 response

New measures pertaining to COVID - 19 for transport were announced on March 13, 2020 are as follows: 1) Preventing symptomatic passengers from boarding a plane to Canada; 2) Strengthening medical procedures in-flight and medical screening immediately upon landing, with enhanced cleaning and disinfection at airports; 3) Consolidating international inbound flights to four major hubs only; 4) Supporting impacted Canadians Abroad; 5) Self-isolating for 14-day for all arrivals except for essential work; and 6) Banning entry of foreign nationals by air travel from all countries except the U.S.

21. Capacity reduction of 50 percent in the second quarter versus the prior year's quarter

Air Canada, along with the rest of the global airline industry is facing a severe drop in traffic and a corresponding decline in revenue as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and travel restrictions imposed in many countries around the world, including Canada and the United States. Although the company expects this disruption to be temporary, as the full impact and duration of the outbreak is unknown, Air Canada is withdrawing its previously announced first quarter and full year 2020 guidance as well as its full year 2021 guidance (including its free cash flow guidance for the 2019-2021 period) while it takes steps to mitigate the financial impact on its business.

22. Air cargo essential to fight against COVID-19: IATA

According to the International Air Transport Association (IATA), air cargo is instrumental in transporting food and other products purchased online in support of quarantine and social distancing policies implanted by states. "IATA and its members continue to support governments in their efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19," said the organization in a statement. "Since the crisis began, air cargo has been a vital partner in delivering much-needed medicines, medical equipment (including spare parts/repair components), and in keeping global supply chains functioning for the most time-sensitive materials. This has been done through dedicated cargo freighter operations, utilization of cargo capacity in passenger aircraft and with relief flights to affected areas. The dramatic travel restrictions and collapse of passenger demand have severely limited cargo capacity and IATA is calling on governments to take urgent measures to ensure that air cargo will be available to support the global fight against COVID-19.

23. Limited impact of coronavirus on the February passenger numbers

In February 2020, Brussels Airport welcomed over 1.7 passengers, up 6% rise on February 2019. However, this result should be put in perspective, in amongst other things because of the shift of the mid-term break and the leap year. Without this, growth would have been negative. The next few months will show a bigger impact, in particular due to the cancellation of numerous flights to Italy. Against this background, Brussels Airport is ramping up its efforts to inform, sensitise and prepare all of the airport's stakeholders, in keeping with the directives issued by the FPS Public Health.

24. Transat starts suspending flights, laying off workers as virus closes borders

Leisure carrier Air Transat is gradually suspending flights until April 30, 2020 and laying off employees, as countries close borders and travelers stay home amid the COVID-19 epidemic. Montreal-based Transat said on March 18, 2020 that it will operate repatriation flights to bring its customers back to Canada over the next two weeks.

25. Air Travel Consumer Report: January 2020 Numbers

The U.S. Department of Transportation on March 18, 2020 released its March 2020 Air Travel Consumer Report (ATCR) on reporting marketing and operating air carrier data compiled for the month of January 2020. In January 2020, reporting marketing carriers posted an on-time arrival rate of 84.6%, up from both the 78.2% on-time rate in December 2019 and 78.4% in January 2019. In January 2020, reporting marketing carriers cancelled 1.3% of their

scheduled domestic flights, a higher rate than 1.1% in December 2019 but lower than 3.1% in January 2019. In January 2020, airlines reported four tarmac delays of more than three hours on domestic flights, fewer than the 24 such tarmac delays reported in December 2019 and more than the 10 domestic flight tarmac delays reported in January 2019. In January 2020, the reporting marketing carriers posted a mishandled baggage rate of 5.48 mishandled bags per 1,000 checked bags, a lower rate than the December 2019 rate of 6.61 per 1,000 checked bags and more than the January 2019 rate of 6.08 per 1,000 checked bags.

26. January 2020 U.S. Passenger Airline Employment Data

The 21 U.S. scheduled passenger airlines employed 2.5% more workers in January 2020 than in January 2019.

27. Air Canada Provides Update on Ongoing COVID-19 Response

Air Canada said on March 18, 2020 that it will gradually suspend the majority of its international and U.S. transborder flights by March 31, 2020 in response to decisions by national governments, including Canada and the United States, to close borders and restrict commercial aviation as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. Subject to further government restrictions, the airline intends to continue to serve a small number of international and U.S. trans-border destinations from select Canadian cities after April 1, 2020. The airline also intends to continue serving all provinces and territories of Canada after that date, albeit with a significantly reduced network.

28. Statement on the Closure of the U.S. – Canada Border to Non-Essential Travel

Airports Council International – North America (ACI-NA), the trade association representing commercial service airports in the United States and Canada, on March 18, 2020 issued the following statement on the announced closure of the U.S.-Canada border to all but essential travel: Given the close relationship between the United States and Canada, and amount of traffic and commerce we share, we commend both Prime Minister Trudeau and President Trump for their leadership in making the difficult but correct decision to protect the health and safety of citizens of both countries as a priority. We are pleased the border will remain open for cargo trade.

29. Airlines offer spare passenger aircraft as mini-freighters

North American and international airlines are offering their planes for cargo-only service in the midst of a coronavirus pandemic that has wiped out the vast majority of international traffic, leaving companies with limited options for moving high-value and critical goods. Only using the lower cargo hold wouldn't make financial sense in normal times, but favorable cost parameters and airfreight rates that are skyrocketing because of freighter scarcity means the product could be an attractive option on certain mid-range routes, experts say. "Something's got to give if this is going to go on for a period of time," said Brandon Fried, executive director of the Airforwards Association. "There simply are not going to be enough freighters to take on that 50% or 60% of the trans-Atlantic [trade] volume" that normally flies below passengers' feet.

30. Cargojet adjusts as pandemic causes volumes to rise

Cargojet announced a set of measures to help customers manage higher volumes and keep the flow of goods moving within Canada and North America. "Cargojet is experiencing significantly higher demand and volumes from e-commerce and health care and essential supplies. We are taking several significant steps to ensure that we can continue to play an important role in fulfilling this increased overall demand," read a statement from the company.

31. Air Canada lays off more than 5,000 flight attendants

A union official says Air Canada is laying off more than 5,000 flight attendants as the country's largest airline cuts routes and parks planes due to the coronavirus. Wesley Lesosky, who heads the Air Canada component of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), says the carrier is laying off about 3,600 mainline employees as well as all of Air Canada Rouge's 1,549 flight attendants. The layoffs, which Lesosky says will take effect by April 2020, affect roughly 60 per cent of flight attendants at the two segments.

32. Federal financial relief needed for Canada's airports to endure through COVID-19 crisis

As Canada's airports continue their work with public health agencies to facilitate the safe passage of hundreds of thousands of people to their homes in Canada and abroad, they are looking ahead to what they need to endure, and remain open through the weeks and months ahead with COVID-19. With passenger volumes expected to decline by more than 50 per cent between March and June 2020, and a currently projected revenue loss of \$1.3 billion or more in 2020 because of the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) on travel, Canada's airports are urging the federal government to provide both short-term rent relief and a longer-term stimulus package as part of the nation's overall economic recovery.

33. 2019 Traffic Data for U.S. Airlines and Foreign Airlines U.S. Flights

U.S. airlines and foreign airlines serving the U.S. carried an all-time high of 1.1 billion systemwide (domestic and international) scheduled service passengers in 2019, 3.9% more than the previous annual record high of 1.0 billion reached in 2018. Of the total, 811 million passengers, were domestic up 4.3% from 2018 (778M); and 241 million passengers, were international up 2.4% from 2018 (236M).

34. Transat lays off 3,600 employees, or 70% of its workforce, in Covid-19 crisis; plans to halt all flights April 1

Vacation travel operator Transat A.T. has temporarily laid off 3,600 employees making up 70 per cent of its Canadian workforce as travel restrictions due to COVID-19 erase demand for flights and hotels. The Montreal-based airline said on March 23, 2020 that it will ground all flights between April 1 and April 30, but will operate select flights until then in order to repatriate customers to their home countries. Transat had 65,000 customers abroad in sunny or European destinations and returned about 40,000 to Canada. Transat joins Air Canada and WestJet in announcing drastic layoffs in response to the travel bans. Air Canada plans to axe more than 5,000 jobs and WestJet has said it could cut more than 50 per cent of its staff. Global airlines are forecast to lose more than \$113 billion.

35. Airlines face \$250 billion revenue hit in 2020, IATA says

Airlines stand to lose \$252 billion if severe travel restrictions are in place for three months, more than double the International Air Transport Association's projection from earlier this month and 44% below 2019's top-line, the trade group said on March 24, 2020. The economic analysis assumes there will be a global recession during, and after, the COVID-19 pandemic and that travel demand will be slow to recover later this year. Airlines have stopped flying all but a few international routes and have scaled back domestic networks as well, grounding thousands of planes.

36. Air Canada Begins Operating Cargo-only Flights Carrying Vital Supplies, Necessary Goods

Air Canada said on March 25, 2020 that through its Air Canada Cargo division it has begun using its aircraft to operate cargo-only flights to Europe, with other flights planned for Latin America and South America. The aircraft on these flights carry no passengers but move time-sensitive shipments, including medical supplies to combat COVID-19, and goods to support the global economy. "Air Canada Cargo has long served as a vital link in global supply chains and with the disruption arising from the COVID-19 pandemic our capabilities are more important than ever. Although we have announced very significant temporary capacity reductions and our passenger flights are largely dedicated to bringing Canadians home, Air Canada's aircraft and our expertise in handling cargo are valuable assets that we can use to move medical supplies and other essential goods to keep the world economy going. We have already begun flights to Europe, and we are planning to expand this program to Latin America and South America, as well as within Canada, including remote communities using Air Canada Express aircraft. In addition to providing a much-needed service, these cargo-only flights are also supporting jobs at Air Canada," said Tim Strauss, Vice President of Cargo, at Air Canada.

37. Air Canada and Air Canada Foundation Work with Second Harvest to Redistribute Onboard Fresh Food Items to Canadians in Need

Air Canada and the Air Canada Foundation are working with Canadian food rescue organization Second Harvest's FoodRescue.ca to redistribute fresh food items from Air Canada's in-flight kitchens as the airline begins suspending the majority of its international and U.S. transborder flights as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. Over 2,330 kg of fresh food from 7 cities across Canada have been redistributed to date. This includes fresh veggies, salads, sandwich wraps, muffins, milk, with more to be distributed.

38. Passenger airlines morph into cargo carriers

More passenger airlines are helping fill the severe shortage in freight capacity by turning their aircraft into cargo-only airplanes to haul critical medical supplies, foodstuffs and other economically essential goods. The rapid implosion of air travel as countries closed borders to contain the coronavirus outbreak forced airlines to ground most of their fleets, especially widebody planes used in intercontinental service. Lower-deck space in passenger planes represents about half the worldwide capacity for moving goods – and even more between North America and Europe.

39. Government of Canada announces new domestic transportation measures

In view of Covid- 19, the Government of Canada announced the following measures effective March 30, 2020. **In Air:** 1) A requirement for all air operators to conduct a health check of travellers before they board a flight within Canada or departing from Canada, based on guidance from the Public Health Agency of Canada. 2) A requirement for air operators to refuse boarding to a passenger that presents COVID-19 symptoms. 3) A requirement for air operators to notify travellers that they may be subject to provincial or territorial measures at their final destination. **In Rail :** 1) A requirement for intercity passenger rail companies to do a health check to screen passengers for COVID-19 symptoms before they board a train, based on guidance from the Public Health Agency of Canada. 2) A requirement for intercity passenger rail companies to refuse boarding to a passenger that presents COVID-19 symptoms. 3) These measures do not apply to commuter trains.

40. 2020 air cargo volume may drop 20%, IATA says

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) in the first week of April 2020 will release data showing airfreight traffic fell 10% in February 2020 and is on track to be 15%-20% lower for the entire year than in 2019, Glyn Hughes, the global head of cargo, said in a briefing with reporters. Most of the decline involved traffic to and from China, where massive quarantines shut down manufacturing and economic activity as authorities tried to contain the spread of the new coronavirus that has now reached pandemic proportions. For the global numbers to drop 10% suggests a much larger dive in air cargo volume for the Chinese market itself, Hughes said on March 25, 2020.

WATER TRANSPORTATION

1. PSA and its subsidiaries announce results for the year ended 31 December 2019

PSA International Pte Ltd (PSA) handled 85.20 million Twenty-foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) for the year ended 31 December 2019, representing an increase of 5.2% from the previous year. PSA Singapore contributed 36.89 million TEUs, increasing 1.6% over 2018. PSA terminals outside Singapore delivered a total throughput of 48.32 million TEUs, increasing 8.1% over 2018. PSA Group revenue was lower by 0.2% partly due to de-consolidation of a subsidiary. On a like-for-like basis, revenue would have increased 3.5%. Profit from operations grew by 1.6% from the previous year, while overall net profit for the year was 3.4% higher at S\$1.25 billion. PSA's balance sheet remains strong with a gross debt equity ratio of 0.57 times at the close of 2019.

2. Montreal, Halifax ports returning to normal following blockades

The ports of Halifax and Montreal are looking to resume normal operations following the removal of indigenous protest blockades that halted Canadian National Railway service into the East Coast gateways.

3. Shipping companies eager to deal with rail backlog but high water levels delay St. Lawrence seaway opening

The commission wants to keep the dam open to drain Lake Ontario, which has been at record high levels, but that creates a problem for ships. With protests stalling Canada's railways and shipping companies, the St. Lawrence Seaway say they're ready to help move vital goods, but high water levels, controlled by a major dam, are keeping them at the dock. The St. Lawrence Seaway corporation has decided to delay the opening of the system until April 1, 2020 even though the river is largely ice free and could open as early as March 20, 2020. Bruce Burrows, president of the Marine Chamber of Commerce, said demand is 40 per cent higher than normal and they would like to be out on the water. "We have over 100 ship transits ready to go, record volumes ready to move," he said.

4. DP World acquires Fraser Surrey Docks near Vancouver

Dubai-based port operator DP World says it has completed the acquisition of Fraser Surrey Docks in British Columbia from Macquarie Infrastructure Partners alongside its partner Caisse de depot et placement du Quebec. The purchase price has not been disclosed. DP World said in a press release that said the acquisition complements its terminal operations in Vancouver, Nanaimo, Prince Rupert and St John's, reported New York's Maritime Logistics Professional.

5. Port of LA taking 'substantial' hit from coronavirus

Executive Director Gene Seroka expects year-over-year cargo volume at the Port of Los Angeles to plunge 15% in the first quarter as a result of the coronavirus. "Forty vessel sailings have been canceled from Asia, mainly China, to the Port of Los Angeles from Feb. 11 through April 1. Those 40 vessel cancellations would represent nearly 25% of our normal traffic at the Port of Los Angeles," Seroka said on February 29, 2020 on "Mottek on Money" on radio station KNX 1070. "There are a number of revenue streams that are floating here: the goods themselves, the ocean freight, the business on the docks, truck and warehouse communities. This will be substantial and I've given guidance to the marketplace that for the first quarter of 2020, the Port of Los Angeles volume will be down 15% year-on-year," he said. Seroka said empty containers and nonperishable exports are piling up across the country, not just at coastal ports.

WATER TRANSPORTATION Canada

1. PSA and its subsidiaries announce results for the year ended 31 December 2019, February 28, 2020, www.transportweekly.com
2. Montreal, Halifax ports returning to normal following blockades, February 28, 2020, www.joc.com
3. Shipping companies eager to deal with rail backlog but high water levels delay St. Lawrence seaway opening, March 1, 2020, www.nationalpost.ca
4. DP World acquires Fraser Surrey Docks near Vancouver, March 2, 2020, www.transportweekly.com
5. Port of LA taking 'substantial' hit from coronavirus, March 3, 2020, www.americanshipper.com
6. Coronavirus to cost container shipping industry US\$1.7bn in lost revenue, March 5, 2020, www.transportweekly.com
7. Top 15 container ports in Europe in 2019: TEU volumes and growth rates, Port Economics, February 2020, www.porteconomics.eu
8. China port operations returning to normal, March 9, 2020, www.americanshipper.com
9. Non compliance of IMO 2020 leads to hefty fines at major ports, March 9, 2020, www.transportweekly.com
10. U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao Formally Announces More Than \$39 Million for Improvement & Expansion of Two Texas Ports, March 10, 2020, www.dot.gov
11. Commentary: Walking the tightrope of antitrust immunity, March 11, 2020, www.americanshipper.com
12. Warning bells sound for US economy as virus squeezes ports, March 10, 2020, www.ajot.com
13. Port of Long Beach blames coronavirus for 17.9% drop in imports, March 12, 2020, www.americanshipper.com
14. Government of Canada announces intention to defer the start of cruise ship season in Canada as COVID-19 response measure, March 13, 2020, www.tc.gc.ca
15. Autonomous Ship: Maiden China?, March 16, 2020, www.inboundlogistics.com
16. Low cargo volumes drive PortMiami terminals to suspend operations, March 19, 2020, www.americanshipper.com
17. Montreal expects 13 percent cargo decline in 2020 on COVID-19, March 20, 2020, www.joc.com
18. Port of Halifax receives largest vessel to date, March 21, 2020, www.portofhalifax.ca
19. Port of Montreal: Total traffic movement for January 2020, March 23, 2020, www.portofmontreal.ca
20. Port of Prince Rupert: Total traffic movement for January 2020, March 23, 2020, www.rupertport.com
21. Port of Metro Vancouver: Accumulated

6. Coronavirus to cost container shipping industry US\$1.7bn in lost revenue

The global shipping industry risks losing an estimated US\$1.7 billion revenue on account of the coronavirus. The most affected being international shipping lines, as findings show that Maersk Line could face the worst revenue shortfall since China represents 30 per cent of its annual shipping volume. Sea-Intelligence said the impact of the coronavirus outbreak on the shipping industry is continuing to increase in scope, and the ripple effects are continuing to show up, reported *Hellenic Shipping News*. Hapag-Lloyd can also face a weak first quarter because China operations account for 25 per cent of the group's total revenue.

7. Top 15 container ports in Europe in 2019: TEU volumes and growth rates

In 2019, the top 15 ports recorded a growth of 2.8%. This is almost 2 percentage points lower than the 4.7% growth in 2018 and 4.6% in 2017. In 2015 the top 15 ports saw a small traffic decline of 1.6% compared to 2014. In 2016 they recorded a modest growth of 2.1%. The top 15 ports combined saw a 29% increase in container traffic compared to pre-crisis year 2007. Three of the 15 ports still recorded container volumes in 2019 below the 2007 figures. 2019 brought another double digit growth in Piraeus. The Greek port continues to climb the rankings by gaining two places to occupy the 4th position in 2019. Piraeus was not even in the top 15 in 2007. The position of the top three European container ports (i.e. Rotterdam, Antwerp and Hamburg) remains undisputed. Both Rotterdam and Antwerp stay on the growth paths of the past years, although Rotterdam's growth slowed down to reach 2.1% while Antwerp's box traffic rose by an impressive 6.8%. Hamburg was lagging behind in the past years but showed a healthy growth of 6.1% in 2019.

8. China port operations returning to normal

Major ocean container lines are reporting their operations in mainland China are returning to normal in most locations. CMA-CGM said on Monday 9, 2020 that employees in its North China offices, however, would continue to operate "in alternating split groups from home or from office." And employees in Wuhan, Yichang and Yangtze will continue to work remotely. CMA-CGM said the recovery of manufacturing and logistics activities in mainland China following the coronavirus pandemic "is gaining momentum."

9. Non compliance of IMO 2020 leads to hefty fines at major ports

Port enforcement agencies in the US and around the world have stepped up their oversight of the IMO 2020 low sulphur fuel regulation on March 1, 2020 to include detaining and fining ships found to be carrying noncompliant fuel. Starting March 1, 2020 ships found merely storing - not just burning - high sulphur, noncompliant fuel will be in violation of the regulation. Ships outfitted with a scrubber system that can clean higher sulphur fuel exhaust gas after it's burned in the engine are exempt, reported *American Shipper*. "Since the introduction of IMO 2020 on 1st January, ships have been given a 'grace period' while the industry transitions to low-sulphur fuel," London-based International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) secretary general Guy Platten said in a statement. "As of March 1 this will no longer be the case. Any ship found in non-compliance faces the prospect of serious fines and even detention."

10. U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao Formally Announces More Than \$39 Million for Improvement & Expansion of Two Texas Ports

U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine L. Chao on March 10, 2020 joined Port Houston officials at Port Houston to formally award more than \$39 million in grant funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration (MARAD) to two Texas ports. This funding comes by way of nearly \$280 million in discretionary grant funding awarded under the Department's Port Infrastructure Development Program, which aims to improve port facilities at or near coastal seaports across America. U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao said "Ports are gateways to the world and port infrastructure investments will improve the regional economy, increase productivity and economic competitiveness, and create more jobs."

11. Commentary: Walking the tightrope of antitrust immunity

There is nothing quite like it in the world - antitrust immunity granted to international containership lines. The European Commission (EC), through its Director General of Competition, proposed allowing consortia of containership lines to retain their exemption from European Union (EU) competition law. While this has been in place since 2009, the exemption was set to expire in April 2020. The proposal is for a four-year renewal. In this setting, containership lines may form consortia (i.e., strategic alliances or discussion agreements) without fear of running up against charges of antitrust activity leading to excessive market control. The EC's assessment of current market conditions led it to recommend a block exemption regulation (BER). At this stage of the debate, the demand side (which believes that covert price fixing results in increased pricing) is simply hoping for some amendments to the BER since outright

container traffic YTD (January and February 2020), March 23, 2020, www.metroportvancouver.com

22. Licence and permit processing disruptions during Covid-19 crisis, March 23, 2020, www.todaystrucking.com

23. Europe renews carrier exemption from competition laws, March 24, 2020, www.joc.com

24. Wallenius Wilhelmsen shrinks fleet on coronavirus demand dip, March 23, 2020, www.joc.com

25. Seaway's navigation season opens amid COVID-19 crisis, March 24, 2020, www.ctl.ca

26. 'Extraordinary uncertainty surrounds 2020': Hapag-Lloyd, March 27, 2020, www.ctl.ca

abolition is not the EC's position. One suggestion from the European Shippers Council is to change the BER from a 30% threshold of trade lane activity to 25% in order to trigger an investigation by the EC into market dominance. Of course, the threshold had been reduced from 35% to 30% when the switch from conference to consortia BERs took place over 2008-2009. Even the United States offers limited antitrust immunity to international containership lines by allowing discussion agreements among the carriers. With increased concentration among shipping lines, the largest five belonging to the three alliances which control 80% of the industry raises some concern. At the same time the industry is characterized by overcapacity and super large liners. Unless the EU and the U.S. have the stomach for regulating international containership lines like public utilities, the current model of limited antitrust immunity may be the only way to stabilize an inherently unstable mode of international transportation. It is quite the regulatory balancing act.

12. Warning bells sound for US economy as virus squeezes ports

"Savannah continues to boom as a port of entry and export, but this situation with China with most factories being shut down has curtailed cargo coming in," said Powers, chief executive of TradePort Logistics LLC, which operates two warehouses at the Georgia seaport. Such is the situation at some of the biggest ports in the U.S. and across the world as the virus outbreak cancels dozens of cargo sailings, and some dock and warehouse workers are being sent home. U.S. seaports could see a slowdown of as much as 20% in February, March and much of April, according to the American Association of Port Authorities. The biggest port in Europe, in Rotterdam, has already seen that level of decline in sailings from Asia recently. While the global economy is reeling from the spreading virus, seaports are a bellwether for trade because they handle a hefty 90% of all world shipping. The squeeze on ports like Los Angeles, the biggest in the U.S. for container traffic, illustrates the vast potential for economic harm from a virus-induced slowdown. Clothing, cars and an array of consumer goods from Asia are offloaded in Los Angeles and nearby Long Beach—a crucial web that stitches together trucks, railroads, distribution centers and showrooms.

13. Port of Long Beach blames coronavirus for 17.9% drop in imports

Fewer ship calls in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic as well as lingering effects from the United States' trade war with China resulted in a 17.9% year-over-year drop in imports at the Port of Long Beach in February 2020. The port noted that although the United States and China signed a Phase One trade agreement in January 2020, about \$370 billion in Chinese goods remain under increased tariffs. The coronavirus has further disrupted the supply chain, with an increase in cancelled sailings and a reduction in cargo moving through the nation's second-busiest port. The port reported terminal operators and dockworkers moved 538,428 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) last month, down 9.8% compared to February 2019. Imports dropped 17.9% to 248,592 TEUs, while exports increased 19.3% to 125,559 TEUs. Empty containers sent overseas decreased 12.8% to 164,277 TEUs.

14. Government of Canada announces intention to defer the start of cruise ship season in Canada as COVID-19 response measure

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has announced a comprehensive \$1 billion COVID-19 Response Fund in response to the pandemic. The Fund will help put in place the plans, infrastructure, and resources needed to protect the health and safety of all Canadians. To further complement these measures, on March 13, 2020 the Minister of Transport, the Honourable Marc Garneau, announced the implementation of new measures pertaining to cruise ships in Canadian waters. As a response to COVID-19, the Government of Canada will defer the start of the cruise ship season in Canada, from April 2, 2020, to July 1, 2020, at the earliest. This deferral will apply to cruise ships capable of carrying more than 500 passengers and crew members.

15. Autonomous Ship: Maiden China?

China's first unmanned cargo ship completed its test voyage in December 2019, marking a significant milestone in autonomous shipping. The ship, Jin Dou Yun 0 Hao, successfully delivered cargo from Dong Ao Island in Zhuhai to the No. 1 pier of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge.

16. Low cargo volumes drive PortMiami terminals to suspend operations

The South Florida Container Terminal (SFCT) gate at PortMiami will be closed March 20, 2020. "We have only had one blanked sailing and the closure is only due to low import volume in the terminal," Mark J. Baker, the terminal director, said in an email. The Port of Miami Terminal Operating Co. (POMTOC) announced on its website that it will be closed March 23 and 24 "due to extremely low import volumes caused by blanked vessel sailings."

17. Montreal expects 13 percent cargo decline in 2020 on COVID-19

A preliminary assessment by the Port of Montreal predicts cargo volumes could fall as much as 13 percent in 2020, in a sign of how the Chinese slowdown continues to disrupt supply chains even as ports prepare for a drop in cargo due to Europe's economic slump.

18. Port of Halifax receives largest vessel to date

The Port of Halifax has received its largest vessel call to date. The CMA CGM T. Jefferson, 366 metres length, 48 metres beam and 14,414 TEU capacity, arrived at PSA Halifax at approximately 5:00 p.m. ADT. The CMA CGM T. Jefferson sails in the weekly AWE3 service operated by the Ocean Alliance, from South Asia to the East Coast of

America. With a terminal area of 32 ha, a quay length of 1,045m and a depth of 16.5m, PSA Halifax is the only Canadian port in Eastern Canada that can accommodate ultra-class vessels.

19. Port of Montreal: Total traffic movement for January 2020

The total traffic movement for the Port of Montreal in terms of TEUs for the month of January 2020 increased 2.749% compared to the same month a year ago. Total TEUs were 136,589 compared to 132,935.

20. Port of Prince Rupert: Total traffic movement for January 2020

The total traffic movement for the Port of Prince Rupert in terms of TEUs for the month of January 2020 decreased 19% compared to the same month a year ago. Total TEUs were 81,487.00 compared to 100,868. Total imports decreased to 49,147.50 TEUs compared 54,486.25 TEUs, i.e. 10%. Total exports decreased to 32,340.25 TEUs compared to 46,383.00 TEUs, i.e. 30%.

21. Port of Metro Vancouver: Accumulated container traffic YTD (January and February 2020)

The total traffic movement for the Port of Metro Vancouver in terms of TEUs for the first two months of 2020 is down 13.3%, to 497,159 TEUs from 573,358. Total imports were 267,658 TEUs for the period from 304,815 TEUs for the same period a year ago, down 12.2%. Total exports were 229,500 TEUs for the period from 268,543 TEUs for the same period a year ago, down 14.5%.

22. Licence and permit processing disruptions during Covid-19 crisis

The Covid-19 crisis has forced several delays and suspensions with licensing and permit processes in the trucking industry, including the closure of the B.C. Trucking Association's (BCTA) Port Pass office. Effective at noon on March 22, 2020, all in-person traffic was closed at the office, and the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (VFPA) implemented its own procedures to ensure ongoing supply chain activity within the Port of Vancouver. Based on guidance from Transport Canada, all Port pass-related operations by the VFPA and other publishers will be suspended.

23. Europe renews carrier exemption from competition laws

The European Commission had already indicated it was planning to extend the carrier antitrust block exemption, but the decision to renew the regulation without any changes will have taken carrier customers by surprise.

24. Wallenius Wilhelmsen shrinks fleet on coronavirus demand dip

Global car and roll-on, roll-off (ro-ro) carrier Wallenius Wilhelmsen Group is laying up ships and sending others to the scrap yard to preserve cash and liquidity as the spread of coronavirus causes automotive production to shut down worldwide.

25. Seaway's navigation season opens amid COVID-19 crisis

In another example of the transportation industry's importance to the supply chain during the COVID-19 crisis, the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC) announced the opening of the Seaway's 62nd navigation season March 24, with the transit of the NACC Argonaut through Lock 8 on the Welland Canal.

26. 'Extraordinary uncertainty surrounds 2020': Hapag-Lloyd

The effects of the COVID-19 crisis on global container traffic in the coming months are expected to be significant, according to Hapag-Lloyd's CEO "So far, the crisis has had only limited impact on our business, but we expect a significant effect of the virus on global container traffic in the months to come, and if this happens we will have to make some adjustments to the network," said Rolf Habben Jansen in a statement.

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

1. Mergers and acquisitions still likely for Class I railroads

Mergers and acquisitions could happen among the Class I railroads within the next decade if regulatory and economic factors drive railroads to see mergers as a path to greater efficiency and expanded capacity, according to industry observers. "I just feel it's inevitable at some point. It's a natural evolution if capacity is going to be limited. And it is. It's limited when you have two separate networks," said Canadian Pacific CEO Keith Creel at the Barclays investor conference Feb. 19. "When you create one bigger network, you create more capacity. And for the railroads to handle the growth that's going to come...we have to have more capacity."

2. Canadian Pacific announces US\$500 million debt offering

Canadian Pacific Railway Limited announces that its wholly-owned

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

Canada

1. Mergers and acquisitions still likely for Class I railroads, March 1, 2020, www.americanshipper.com
2. Canadian Pacific announces US\$500 million debt offering, March 3, 2020, www.cpr.ca
3. Coronavirus restricting flow of consumer goods into Canada, says CN CEO, March 3, 2020, www.ctl.ca
4. CN: Ready for Recovery, March 3, 2020, www.cn.ca
5. CN: Ready for Recovery, March 3, 2020, www.cn.ca

subsidiary, Canadian Pacific Railway Company, is issuing US\$500 million of 2.050% Notes due 2030. The transaction is expected to close on March 5, 2020, subject to the satisfaction of customary closing conditions. The net proceeds from this offering will be used primarily for the reduction and refinancing of outstanding indebtedness and for general corporate purposes. Until utilized for such purposes, the net proceeds may be invested in short term investment grade securities or bank deposits.

3. Coronavirus restricting flow of consumer goods into Canada, says CN CEO

The deep slump in Chinese production due to the novel coronavirus is narrowing the flow of consumer goods into Canada, hurting business at the country's largest railway. "In the last 20 days we saw a steady decline. And this week we'll see a low, and next week we'll see a low again," Canadian National Railway Co. chief executive JJ Ruest said in an interview, referring to container shipments that contain products ranging from spatulas to spare parts.

4. CN: Ready for Recovery

CN announced on March 3, 2020 that, in the absence of significant illegal blockades on its network over the last four days, it has started calling back most of the temporarily laid off employees based in Eastern Canada. Over 1,400 trains, including passenger trains, were delayed or cancelled because of the blockades, causing shutdowns of parts of CN's network as freight is parked across the network, ready to be moved. "As the situation is stabilizing, we have started calling back most of the temporarily laid off employees based in Eastern Canada to move our customers' goods as we continue to focus on a safe and progressive recovery," said JJ Ruest, president and chief executive officer at CN.

5. CN: Ready for Recovery

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6. AAR: Blame Coal for Low Carloads

The Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported U.S. rail traffic for the week ended Feb. 29, 2020, as well as volumes for February 2020. The numbers are in line with recent trends, but AAR feels that some figures are misleading—with one culprit to blame. "Total U.S. rail carloads in February were down 7.3% driven almost entirely by coal," said AAR Senior Vice President John Gray. "Excluding coal, carloads in February were down just 0.8%, their best showing in a year. In February, 10 of the 20 commodity categories we track saw year-over-year carload gains, the most in more than a year." Total U.S. carload traffic for the first two months of 2020 was 2,092,817 carloads, down 6.5%, or 146,168 carloads, from the same period last year; and 2,242,763 intermodal units, down 7%, or 167,978 containers and trailers, from last year. Total combined U.S. traffic for the first nine weeks of 2020 was 4,335,580 carloads and intermodal units, a decrease of 6.8% compared to last year. Canadian railroads reported 80,166 carloads for the week, up 3.9%, and 58,116 intermodal units, down 14.4% compared with the same week in 2019. For the first nine weeks of 2020, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 1,259,604 carloads, containers and trailers, down 2%.

7. CN Rail says petroleum coke spilled into creek after freight cars derail in B.C.

Canadian National Railway says 27 cars of a freight train derailed on May 5, 2020, spilling some of its freight into a creek in northern British Columbia. Jonathan Abecassis of CN Rail says "a small amount" of petroleum coke spilled into a creek in Giscome, northeast of Prince George. He says in an email statement that no one was hurt and environmental experts and regulatory officials are overseeing the cleanup.

8. CN Again Ranked Among Best Diversity Employers

CN—which is celebrating its centennial anniversary this year—was also recently honoured as one of Canada's Top 100 Employers for 2020 and one of Montreal's Top Employers for 2020. CN was recognized as one of Canada's Best Diversity Employers for the fourth consecutive year. The Canada's Top 100 Employers competition is an editorial

6. AAR: Blame Coal for Low Carloads, March 4, 2020, www.railwayage.com
7. CN Rail says petroleum coke spilled into creek after freight cars derail in B.C., March 6, 2020, www.ctl.ca
8. CN Again Ranked Among Best Diversity Employers, March 6, 2020, www.railwayage.com
9. Canadian National Railway braces for 'significant' hit from rail blockades, March 3, 2020, www.financialpost.ca
10. G&W to Implement PST Solutions, March 9, 2020, www.railwayage.com
11. AAR: "Railroads Beginning to Feel an Impact", March 11, 2020, www.railwayage.com
12. More Municipalities will Benefit from Transit Funding, On March 12, 2020, www.mto.gov.on
13. VIA rail is enforcing special measures for covid-19, March 12, 2020, www.viarail.ca
14. U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao Announces \$248.5 Million in Grants to Support Railroad Infrastructure, March 12, 2020, www.dot.gov
15. Minimal hit to economic growth from rail blockades, PBO says in new report, March 13, 2020, www.ctl.ca
16. AAR: "Intermodal Likely to See Earliest Coronavirus Impacts", March 18, 2020, www.railwayage.com
17. Railway carloadings, January 2020, March 25, 2020, www.statcan.gc.ca
18. AAR: "We May Have Seen the Worst of COVID-19's Impacts on Asian Trade", March 26, 2020, www.railwayage.com
19. Rail groups pleased with coronavirus stimulus package, March 27, 2020, www.americanshipper.com
20. Ottawa LRT Earns National Recognition Award, March 27, 2020, www.railwayage.com

project that has been recognizing exceptional employers for the past 20 years. CN is featured with other 2020 winners in an online profile that showcases the reasons for which it was selected, as well as in a special magazine published in the *Globe and Mail*.

9. Canadian National Railway braces for ‘significant’ hit from rail blockades

Canadian National Railway will take a significant financial hit from the rail blockades that choked train traffic in Eastern Canada for most of February 2020, but chief executive JJ Ruest is “cautiously optimistic” the disruption is behind the railroad as it turns its focus to potential impacts from the coronavirus outbreak. “It definitely is significant,” Ruest said in an interview on March 3, 2020 regarding the financial impact from the blockades that cropped up on tracks nationwide in support of the Wet’suwet’en hereditary chiefs’ opposition to a natural gas pipeline through their traditional territory in B.C. CN was forced to stop about 460 freight trains during the blockades.

10. G&W to Implement PST Solutions

PS Technology (PST) announced that Genesee & Wyoming Inc. (G&W) will implement CrewPro Short Line™, a cloud-hosted, subscription-based railroad crew management and Hours-of-Service (HOS) system, and QualPro™, a qualification and training management solution, across its U.S. freight railroads. CrewPro Short Line aims to automate much of the crew calling process while simultaneously tracking HOS and preventing inadvertent violations of FRA regulations. The system is a cloud-based single source for all ops worker information, scheduling and recordkeeping. Workers can check their status at any time with a mobile device. The QualPro qualification system is a collection of tools, which aims to dynamically track all employees’ qualifications and push that information to the CrewPro scheduling system—ensuring only qualified employees are presented as options to select from. Additionally, the mobile-enabled Field Training Exercise (FTX) tool allows testing, and recording is kept on-site for engineers and non-ops personnel. G&W owns or leases 116 freight railroads with 7,300 employees serving 3,000 customers. PST’s crew management and timekeeping solutions have been used to manage the day-to-day operations of more than 100,000 employees that run, maintain and support rail operations across more than 120,000 miles of rail.

11. AAR: “Railroads Beginning to Feel an Impact”

AAR reported U.S. rail traffic for the week ended March 7, 2020, and, for this week, total U.S. weekly rail traffic was 462,303 carloads and intermodal units, down 9.1% compared with the same week last year. Total carloads for the week ended March 7 were 229,742 carloads, down 3.5% compared with the same week in 2019, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 232,561 containers and trailers, down 14.1% compared to 2019. Canadian railroads reported 83,886 carloads for the week, up 10.8%, and 64,025 intermodal units, down 5.3% compared with the same week in 2019. For the first 10 weeks of 2020, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 1,407,515 carloads, containers and trailers, down 1.5%.

12. More Municipalities will Benefit from Transit Funding

On March 12, 2020, Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation, announced Ontario is investing \$365.3 million to expand and improve local transportation across the province. Minister Mulroney said “Investing in public transit is part of our plan to get Ontario moving. From transit investment in the Greater Golden Horseshoe to adding more service in rural and northern communities - our government is committed to improving transit in every corner of the province...”

13. VIA rail is enforcing special measures for covid-19

In response to the COVID-19 (also known as Coronavirus disease) outbreak around the world and in Canada, VIA Rail Canada’s (VIA Rail) is enforcing special health and safety measures for its passengers and employees. For the moment, the Public Health Agency of Canada has assessed the public health risk associated with COVID-19 as low for the general population in Canada, but it could change rapidly. Therefore, at the moment, all of our trains are operating normally coast to coast, but this could change as the situation evolves. Cynthia Garneau, President and CEO declared “The health and safety measures of our passengers and employees is our top priority and we are focusing our efforts accordingly. At this point, all hands are on deck. All employees, whether in train stations, on board, in maintenance or call centres, are trained and informed on what they have to do to for safety and prevention. The situation requires us to remain vigilant and to ensure we minimize the risk of contamination to the best of our ability. VIA Rail is deploying additional preventive and reactive measures to its corporate Illness Control Plan”.

14. U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao Announces \$248.5 Million in Grants to Support Railroad Infrastructure

U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao on March 12, 2020 announced the recipients of \$248.5 million in grant funds under the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program, for a wide variety of state and local railroad infrastructure projects. The grants will fund 32 projects in 27 states, and will be administered by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao said “This \$248.5 million federal investment will upgrade rail infrastructure and enhance safety on the tracks and at railroad crossings in rural and urban communities across America.”

15. Minimal hit to economic growth from rail blockades, PBO says in new report

Parliament's spending watchdog says a series of rail blockades last month will leave a minimal dent in the pace of economic growth. The report on March 13, 2020 estimates the blockades will shave two-tenths of a percentage point off economic growth for the first quarter, with the effects dissipating through the rest of 2020.

16. AAR: "Intermodal Likely to See Earliest Coronavirus Impacts"

"Intermodal, rather than other rail sectors, is likely to see the earliest impacts from the coronavirus because large amounts of intermodal traffic go to or come from ports—roughly half of U.S. intermodal is exports or imports," said AAR Senior Vice President John T. Gray. "Unfortunately, extensive flooding and harsh winter weather last year at this time complicate comparisons between this year and last year. "That said, the fact that overall intermodal originations last week were the lowest for the same week since 2013 is strong evidence that the coronavirus is impacting intermodal volumes. This is emphasized by the fact four of the five carriers of intermodal traffic from west coast ports, the principal gateways serving the Chinese trade, saw declines in their intermodal business handled. Similar declines in the East also suggest that the problem has begun to spread to other regions of the supply chain."

17. Railway carloadings, January 2020

Canadian railways transported 30.6 million tonnes of freight in January 2020, down 5.5% from January 2019. This marked the fifth consecutive month of year-over-year declines. Non-intermodal loadings declined 7.5% to 24.1 million tonnes compared with the same period in 2019. Intermodal freight traffic decreased 1.5% from the same period in 2019 to 3.0 million tonnes. Freight traffic coming from US rail connections rose by 5.7% in January 2020 to 3.5 million tonnes.

18. AAR: "We May Have Seen the Worst of COVID-19's Impacts on Asian Trade"

The Association of American Railroads (AAR) released U.S. rail traffic for the week ended March 21, 2020, and it contained some much-needed good news: The worst of the coronavirus' effects on Asian trade may be over. For the week ended March 21, total U.S. weekly rail traffic was 459,966 carloads and intermodal units, down 8.6% compared with the same week last year. Total carloads for this week were 224,048 carloads, down 5.4% compared with the same week in 2019, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 235,918 containers and trailers, down 11.4% compared to 2019. Canadian railroads reported 83,954 carloads for the week, up 1.4%, and 61,041 intermodal units, down 14.1% compared with the same week in 2019. For the first 12 weeks of 2020, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 1,698,008 carloads, containers and trailers, down 2%.

19. Rail groups pleased with coronavirus stimulus package

The Association of American Railroads (AAR), the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRRA), the Transportation Trades Department (TTD) of the AFL-CIO, and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (BLET) said they are pleased that Congress and President Donald Trump have approved a \$2 trillion stimulus package that includes provisions for rail workers' access to unemployment and sickness benefits amid the coronavirus pandemic.

20. Ottawa LRT Earns National Recognition Award

The joint venture of STV, AECOM, Morrison Hershfield and McMillen Jabobs Associates, of Ottawa, has earned a National Recognition Award for exemplary engineering achievement in the American Council of Engineering Companies' (ACEC) 53rd annual Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) for designing Stage 1 of the OTranspo Confederation Line. The Confederation Line runs 12.5 kilometers and connects Ottawa's Tunney's Pasture and Blair Stations. The project consists of 13 stations—three of which are located within a 2.5-kilometer twin-track tunnel under downtown Ottawa—..." Initial ridership forecasts showed that the Confederation Line would serve upwards of 10,700 passengers per hour in each direction during peak travel times.

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION

1. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, January 2020

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index (CMSPI) increased 2.4% in January 2020, following a 0.5% rise in December 2019. The couriers component rose 2.8%, while the local messengers and local delivery component increased 0.5%. Year-over-year the CMSPI rose 4.3% in January 2020 from the same month in 2019. Both the couriers (+4.9%) and the local messengers and local delivery (+1.4%) components increased.

2. TFI buys courier services business as it polishes US logistics 'diamond'

TFI International has acquired the courier services business of R.R. Donnelley & Sons Co. as the Canadian transportation company looks to grow and squeeze more profits from its logistics business in the United States. TFI announced the deal on March 2, 2020 without disclosing the price. That follows 2020 February's U.S. initial public offering, which raised \$230 million that the company said would help it pursue acquisitions. R.R. Donnelley's courier business joins TForce Logistics U.S. The Montreal-based company said the deal will help build its market share for same-day parcel deliveries and network density in the Southeastern and Midwestern U.S. "The combination with our existing TForce Logistics network builds our strategic mass and density while adding new geographies and an impressive customer base," CEO Alain Bedard said in a statement.

3. Polaris Transportation Group acquires PRI Logistics

Polaris Transportation Group announced it has acquired PRI Logistics, a 3PL brokerage based in Vaughan, Ontario offering a full array of transportation services. "Our two companies have known each other for over a decade," said Dave Cox, president of Polaris Transportation Group. "They bring us valuable market intelligence and excellent insights into the industry. This is an opportunity to partner our resources, develop synergies and strategically grow our services." According to the company, it handles over 300,000 orders across the Canada-United States border every year.

4. 2019 North American Transborder Freight Numbers

Transborder freight between the U.S. and other North American countries (Canada and Mexico) in 2019 was as follows: 1) Total Transborder Freight was \$1.2 trillion moved by all modes of transportation, down 0.2% from 2018; 2) Truck was the most-used mode moving \$772 billion of freight, virtually unchanged compared to 2018; 3) Rail was the second most-used mode moving \$179 billion of freight, down 0.2% compared to 2018. U.S.-Canada (both directions) freight by various modes was as follows: 1) Truck: \$343b; 2) Rail: \$96b; 3) Pipeline: \$67b; 4) Air: \$33b; and 5) Vessel: \$31b.

5. UPS to test autonomous-enabled EV's to move trailers

UPS said it has begun testing the suitability and durability of Gaussin electric vehicles, which also have autonomous driving capability, to move semi-trailers and containers on the grounds of UPS's advanced-technology London Hub. During the initial phase of the test, UPS will operate the vehicles – known in the logistics industry as "shifTERS" – with drivers in the cabs to evaluate vehicle operations and the efficiencies they generate. Later this year, UPS will progress to the next phase of operation, initiating autonomous driving operations.

6. January 2020 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI)

The Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI), which is based on the amount of freight carried by the for-hire transportation industry, was unchanged in January 2020 from December 2019, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS). From January 2019 to January 2020, the index fell 1.0% compared to a rise of 5.5% from January 2018 to January 2019 and a rise of 6.0% from January 2017 to January 2018.

7. Canada short 25,000 truck drivers by 2023: report

Canada is expected to be short 25,000 truck drivers as early as 2023, representing a 25% increase over the unfilled vacancies in 2019, *Trucking HR Canada* reports. Unfilled jobs in 2018 are also estimated to have cost the trucking

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION Canada

1. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, January 2020, February 28, 2020, www.statcan.gc.ca
2. TFI buys courier services business as it polishes US logistics 'diamond', March 2, 2020, www.americanshipper.com
3. Polaris Transportation Group acquires PRI Logistics, March 2, 2020, www.ctl.ca
4. 2019 North American Transborder Freight Numbers, March 6, 2020, www.bts.gov
5. UPS to test autonomous-enabled EV's to move trailers, March 11, 2020, www.ctl.ca
6. January 2020 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI), March 11, 2020, www.bts.gov
7. Canada short 25,000 truck drivers by 2023: report, March 11, 2020, www.todaystrucking.com
8. Ontario's Increased Speed Limit Pilot Finds Wide Public Support, March 11, 2020, www.mto.on.ca
9. Coronavirus impact on imports expected to be larger and longer than previously expected: NRF, March 11, 2020, www.ctl.ca
10. Wellington Group expands into U.S. market, March 16, 2020, www.todaystrucking.com
11. Trucking escapes new border restrictions in Covid-19 fight, March 16, 2020, www.todaystrucking.com
12. FedEx posts lower but in-line EPS in fiscal third quarter; net, operating income, margins down, March 17, 2020, www.americanshipper.com
13. Important Notice from Canadian Trucking Alliance on Essential Travel as Defined by the US Homeland Security, March 20, 2020, www.contruc.ca
14. Transport Canada, Provinces & Territories Introduce Potential Supply Chain Flexibility During Fight Against COVID-19, March 24, www.ontruck.ca
15. January 2020 North American Transborder Freight Numbers, March 25, 2020, www.bts.com
16. ITF launches web overview of Covid-19-related measures for passenger and road transport in Europe, March 25, 2020, www.itf-oecd.org
17. Closure of Drive Test Centres In Response to COVID-19, March 26, 2020, www.mto.gov.on.ca

industry about \$3.1 billion in lost revenues, slowing planned expansions by 4.7%. The findings — outlined in *The Road Ahead: Addressing Canada's trucking and logistics industry labor shortage*, a study produced in a partnership with the Conference Board of Canada — are particularly troubling when compared to other business sectors. “Canada is facing a serious shortage of truck drivers,” says Kristelle Audet, principal economist with the Conference Board of Canada. Since 2016 alone, the number of truck driver vacancies has more than doubled.

8. Ontario's Increased Speed Limit Pilot Finds Wide Public Support

On March 11, 2020, the Ontario government announced that its pilot project to increase speed limits to 110km/h on three sections of 400-series highways in Southern Ontario is getting wide support.

9. Coronavirus impact on imports expected to be larger and longer than previously expected: NRF

The coronavirus outbreak is expected to have a longer and larger impact on imports at major U.S. retail container ports than previously believed as factory shutdowns and travel restrictions in China continue to affect production, according to the *Global Port Tracker* report released by the National Retail Federation and Hackett Associates.

10. Wellington Group expands into U.S. market

A fast-growing Ontario freight hauler has expanded into the U.S. and says it isn't yet done expanding. Wellington Group of Companies recently announced the acquisition of Hudson, Wisc.-based Trucking Proz, adding 25 tractors and 42 trailers to its growing fleet. Wellington is a relatively new name to the M&A landscape, but has made two purchases since its formation less than six years ago. It didn't even have an asset-based fleet until 2018, when its brokerage struggled to find capacity.

11. Trucking escapes new border restrictions in Covid-19 fight

The Canada-U.S. border has been tightened in the fight against the Covid-19 virus, but remains open for the business of trucking between the two countries. “Travel restrictions announced today will not apply to commerce,” stressed Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who has been in self-isolation since his wife tested positive for Covid-19. “At this point, we are closing our borders to all non-Canadians or non-permanent residents of Canada. We are recognizing for the moment that measure does not apply to U.S. citizens.” But the new measures are far-reaching. Among them, airlines are being mandated to keep travelers who display symptoms from boarding planes, and international travelers will be routed through four specific airports. Canadians are also being encouraged to avoid non-essential travel outside the country until further notice.

12. FedEx posts lower but in-line EPS in fiscal third quarter; net, operating income, margins down

FedEx Corp. on March 17, 2020 reported \$1.41 in diluted and adjusted earnings per share for its fiscal 2020 third quarter, down from \$3.03 per share reported in the same period a year ago. The company pointed to demand weakness stemming from the global coronavirus pandemic added to challenges the company faced before the virus was detected in December 2019. Operating income and margins were halved year-over-year, while net income fell to \$371 million, a \$426 million year-over-year drop. Revenue rose by \$500 million to \$17.5 billion. The figures included adjustments for a fiscal third quarter 2019 \$90 million tax benefit, equal to \$0.34 per share, from recognizing certain loss carry forwards, the company said. That was partially offset by a \$50 million tax expense, or \$0.19 per share, last year related to low tax rates in the Netherlands that were applied to deferred tax balances, the company said. The earnings per-share figure came in roughly around analysts' consensus. FedEx's quarter ended on February 29, 2020.

13. Important Notice from Canadian Trucking Alliance on Essential Travel as Defined by the US Homeland Security

Effective midnight March 20, 2020 only essential traffic will be allowed to cross the Canada-US border. The US has defined essential travel as “*For the purposes of temporary alternation in certain designated ports of entry operations authorized under 19 U.S.C 13 18 (b) (1) (c) and (b)(2) travel through the land ports of entry and ferry terminals along with the United States-Canada border shall be limited to “essential travel,” which includes, but is not limited to: Individuals engaged in lawful cross-border trade (e.g. truck drivers supporting the movement of cargo between the United States and Canada)*”. Essential services includes truck drivers involved in cross border lawful cargo movement. Further, there are no commodity restrictions — all commodities on north-south bound trucks are deemed essential (it excludes anything that is normally considered unlawful cargo).

14. Transport Canada, Provinces & Territories Introduce Potential Supply Chain Flexibility During Fight Against COVID-19

Transport Canada, the Provinces and Territories, through the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators (CCMTA), have approved an hours of service exemption for federally regulated carriers related to the fight against COVID-19. Termed the Essential Freight Transport Exemption, the hours of service exemption is designed solely to assist federally regulated motor carriers (known as extra-provincial carriers) and their drivers engaged in the transport of essential supplies and equipment in direct assistance to the emergency relief efforts during the response to COVID-19 in Canada. Exemption proposals for provincially regulated carriers may also be forthcoming from the provinces. The exemption for federally regulated carriers provides temporary relief from the scheduling provisions contained in the

hours of service regulations. All other elements of the hours of service regulations remain in place, including the requirements for fatigue management and monitoring, as well as the need to complete daily logbooks and maintain records. The exemption will be available until April 30 or before if it is no longer deemed necessary by Transport Canada.

15. January 2020 North American Transborder Freight Numbers

Transborder freight between the U.S. and other North American countries (Canada and Mexico) in January 2020 was released by the BTS on March 25, 2020. Total Transborder Freight was \$97.1 billion moved by all modes of transportation, up 1.5% compared to January 2019. Total Transborder Freight between U.S.-Canada (both directions) was as follows: Truck \$26.1b. ; Rail: \$7.4 b; Pipeline: \$6.0b.; Vessel: \$2.9b.; and Air: \$2.6b.

16. ITF launches web overview of Covid-19-related measures for passenger and road transport in Europe

A new webpage presenting an overview of Covid-19-related measures for passenger and road transport in Europe has been launched by the International Transport Forum. The page can be found at: <https://www.itf-oecd.org/covid-19-road-group>

17. Closure of Drive Test Centres In Response to COVID-19

Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation issued the following statement on March 26, 2020 regarding the status of Drive Test Centres and Travel Point locations: "Based on the advice of Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, all full-time DriveTest Centres and part-time Travel Point locations will be closed. The closures will take effect March 23, 2020 until further notice. The decision to close was the result of a mutual agreement between the government and service provider."

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION

Canada

1. Brexit Was Tough. The Next 10 Months Look No Easier

Think four years of political noise over Brexit will subside now that the European Union and Britain are set at last to kick-off negotiations on their future trade relationship? Think again. Politics will be at the forefront of the EU-U.K. talks due to begin on March 2, 2020 in Brussels. As a result, businesses must take seriously the risk of tariffs and quotas on two-way trade re-emerging as of January 2021, when the post-Brexit transition that maintains the economic status quo is due to end. Traditionally, the politicians spend months, even years, grandstanding and promising the electorate prosperity from their proposed policies, then hand things off to the technocrats to toil away in obscurity on hundreds of pages of minutia contained in your average trade deal.

2. Minister Garneau celebrates International Women's Day

The Minister of Transport, the Honourable Marc Garneau, issued this statement on March 8, 2020 to mark International Women's Day: "To the women working in all transportation modes, and to all the women working at Transport Canada, today I celebrate you, and commend your efforts to help shape the future of transportation in our country." Transport Canada is proud to support women and girls in the transportation sector and to ensure gender issues are prioritized by removing barriers and broadening the employment base. The full and equal participation of women and other underrepresented groups in the transportation sector is also essential to ensuring that our industries, economies and communities are sustainable and vibrant.

3. Ware launches drone-based inventory automation for \$1.9 trillion warehousing industry

Ware, a San Francisco-based technology company, has launched the first warehouse inventory automation system built on Skydio 2, the world's smartest drone. Tracking and counting inventory cost-effectively is one of the \$1.9 trillion warehousing industry's greatest challenges. Ware's product was designed specifically to address this, helping customers increase the accuracy and frequency of their inventory tracking, while simultaneously reducing its cost. "The extreme

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION

Canada

1. Brexit Was Tough. The Next 10 Months Look No Easier, February 28, 2020, www.ajot.com
2. Minister Garneau celebrates International Women's Day, March 8, 2020, www.tc.gc.ca
3. Ware launches drone-based inventory automation for \$1.9 trillion warehousing industry, March 9, 2020, www.ajot.com
4. USMCA legislation approved in Commons amid concerns about Canada U.S. border, March 13, 2020, www.ctl.ca
5. How coronavirus could affect supply chain and freight shipping, March 16, 2020, www.americanshipper.com
6. Ontario declares state of emergency, March 17, 2020, www.ctl.ca
7. Conference Board says Canada to avoid technical recession despite hit, March 18, 2020, www.ctl.ca
8. ITF and World Business Council on Sustainable Transport to collaborate on emerging mobility trends and Mobility as a Service, March 19, 2020, www.itf-oecd.org
9. Coronavirus spurring new inventory replenishment strategies, March 19, 2020, www.joc.com
10. Eliminating Extra Costs From Double, Triple Orders, March 25, 2020, www.inboundlogistics.com
11. ITF launches web overview of Covid-19-related measures for passenger and road transport in Europe, March 26, 2020, www.itf.oecd.org
12. Bank of Canada cuts key interest rate target while Libs up wage subsidy, March 27, 2020, www.ctl.ca

growth of e-commerce has caused warehousing to expand rapidly over the past two decades,” says Ian Smith, CEO and co-founder of Ware. “That, combined with the historically-low unemployment rate in the U.S., means that demand for the warehouse workforce has outstripped the supply. Warehouses are increasingly looking towards automation and robotics as solutions to fill these gaps in their inventory departments. That’s why we created Ware.”

4. USMCA legislation approved in Commons amid concerns about Canada U.S. border

The leader of the government in the House of Commons says MPs have passed legislation to ratify the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, and the Senate is expected to follow suit later on March 13, 2020.

5. How coronavirus could affect supply chain and freight shipping

Here are five likely possibilities: 1. It could hinder global movement; 2. It may hurt employment; 3. It could impact future production; 4. It may curb spending; and 5. It exposes supply chain vulnerabilities.

6. Ontario declares state of emergency

Ontario Premier Doug Ford declared a state of emergency on March 17, 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ordering the closure of bars, restaurants, theatres, libraries and banning public events with over 50 people. “We’re facing an unprecedented time in our history,” Ford said. “This was a decision that was not made lightly.” The declaration’s intent is to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus and avoid overwhelming the health-care system, Ford said.

7. Conference Board says Canada to avoid technical recession despite hit

Canada will avoid a technical recession even as the COVID-19 pandemic curtails consumer and business spending, and oil prices have cratered, the Conference Board of Canada said on March 18, 2020. After slowing to end the year, economic growth has been weak in the first quarter and is expected to contract in the second quarter to 2.7 per cent. “However, growth should resume in the third quarter, allowing the economy to avoid a technical recession,” said the Conference Board’s spring outlook report.

8. ITF and World Business Council on Sustainable Transport to collaborate on emerging mobility trends and Mobility as a Service

The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) this week signed a letter of voluntary contribution with the International Transport Forum (ITF), to facilitate the co-production of a case-specific policy analysis study that will map emerging trends across transport modes and help navigate the new mobility landscape. This ambitious piece of work will further investigate the latest research and best practice on Mobility as a Service (MaaS), as well as formulate policy recommendations for its implementation towards more sustainable mobility in cities.

9. Coronavirus spurring new inventory replenishment strategies

A trio of prominent logistics technology CEOs told shippers that navigating the coronavirus crisis comes down to decentralizing inventory and avoiding investment in fixed assets.

10. Eliminating Extra Costs From Double, Triple Orders

Multiple orders moving the same day to the same customer but on different bills of lading add up costs for shippers. The solution is to consolidate them. Today the only real solution is to operate a transportation management system that can receive all the orders each day and each hour and automatically consolidate them onto one bill of lading for the carrier. This works even if the carrier does an AM and PM pick up on the same day, since it is a paper marriage of freight and not a physical consolidation. There are many such systems on the market today and we would suggest they be contacted to provide such consolidation. And for the record, we also have such a system available and would be happy to show its functionality and ability to interface with your ERP.

11. ITF launches web overview of Covid-19-related measures for passenger and road transport in Europe

A new webpage presenting an overview of Covid-19-related measures for passenger and road transport in Europe has been launched by the International Transport Forum. The page can be found at: <https://www.itf-oecd.org/covid-19-road-group>. The webpage lists the restrictions imposed on road freight and passenger transport in connection with the Covid-19 pandemic as well as temporary exceptions and derogations to existing rules. The aim is to provide member country authorities and transport companies with up-to-date information to facilitate essential transport services during this period.

12. Bank of Canada cuts key interest rate target while Libs up wage subsidy

Canada’s central bank made yet another unscheduled rate cut on March 27, 2020 to bring its key interest target down to a crisis-level low, and the federal government upped its financial lifeline to businesses in a two-pronged effort to further combat the economic shock from COVID-19.