



MPW Supply Chain Consultancy

Oceanfreight Airfreight Local Transport Courier Warehousing/3PL

Ph: +61 4 0850 6709; Email: mitch.williams@mpwsupplychain.com; Web: www.mpwsupplychain.com

MPW SUPPLY CHAIN – INDUSTRY UPDATE – 28th FEBRUARY 2024

AUSTRALIAN NEWS

STRIKE ACTION STILL ON AT DP WORLD

Electricians at DP World's Brisbane terminal continue not to work as they strike for a better pay deal.

A DP World spokesperson confirmed late on Monday afternoon that negotiations couldn't continue until electricians go back to work for at least 24 hours.

The Electrical Trades Union wants its workers awarded the same pay increase as the Maritime Union of Australia got for its clients earlier this month. Source - [THEDCN](#)

120-YEAR-OLD SHIPWRECK MYSTERY SOLVED

The wreck of the SS Nemesis has been discovered in waters off Port Kembla 120 years after it sank.

The SS Nemesis left Newcastle on 9 July 1904, loaded with coal, and headed to Melbourne. It was last sighted in distress in rough seas off Wollongong by another ship which was also caught in a storm.

Remote sensing company Subsea Professional Marine Services found the wreck while trying to locate cargo containers lost off the coast of Sydney. Source - [THEDCN](#)

WA UPGRADES GRIAN RAIL

Work to drive further capacity into Western Australia's farm-to-port grain supply chain is continuing with the letting of two new contracts. Rail siding upgrades through the Agricultural Supply Chain Improvements (ASCI) Program, jointly funded by the state and federal governments, are extending to Cranbrook & Konnonongoring with work to start April. Source - [THEDCN](#)

OCEANFREIGHT

OCEAN ALLIANCE GROWS STRONGER

Four founding members of the Ocean Alliance have extended their cooperation for another five years. CEOs at CMA CGM, Cosco, Evergreen, and OOCL signed a memorandum of understanding on 27 February to extend the Ocean Alliance operation co-operation until 2032.

The alliance was launched in 2017 and covers seven major east-west trades and connects Asia to northern Europe, the Mediterranean, the Middle East, and the coasts of North America. Source - [THEDCN](#)

ATTACKS DRIVE UP RED SEA WAR-RISK INSURANCE PREMIUMS 900%

War-risk premiums may have increased as much as 900% since the Houthi attacks on shipping in the Red Sea began.

This is one of the several troubling predictions in a United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) report released yesterday. Source - [theloadstar.com](#)

SHIPPERS CHEERS US FMC FINAL RULE ON 'ABUSIVE' D&D PRACTICES

Shippers have welcomed the US Federal Maritime Commissions final rule on detention and demurrage billing practices.

The Agriculture Transportation Coalition (AgTrans) said this was a "major step" towards reform of the "abusive" practices - but it warned that "there is work that remains ahead for shippers, carriers and all others in the supply chain." The final rule comes into effect on 28th May. Source - [theloadstar.com](#)

GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN NEWS

RISING INFLATION DRIVING FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN ROBBERIES

Now accounting for a third of all hijacking incidents, food is the commodity most at risk of theft in the global supply chain.

The British Standards Institution (BSI) found that last year, food theft in the supply chain increased by 29% over 2022 levels.

With the global impact of rising inflation, supply chain intelligence provider BSI suggested that thieves were increasingly targeting basic goods that experienced significant price increases. Food and beverage items now represent 22% of overall theft. Source - [theloadstar.com](#)

MELBOURNE MEN ARRESTED OVER ALLEGED IMPORTATION OF 10 MILLION ILLICIT CIGARETTES

A man allegedly linked to a well-known Melbourne crime family has been arrested as part of a police sting targeting the importation of millions of illegal cigarettes.

Hansem Zahra, also known as Antar Haddara, was amongst six people charged over the haul of 10 million cigarettes, which police allege was imported illegally from Vietnam into Victoria. The cigarettes were found on a sea cargo shipment by Border Force officials on February 3, police said.

Investigators put the value of the seizure at \$15 million, only a small fraction of the billions of dollars worth of illegal cigarettes imported into the country each year. Source - [ABC News](#)

AIRFREIGHT

UPSWING IN VOLUMES AT SEA-AIR HUBS AS A RESULT OF THE RED SEA SHIPPING CRISIS

The latest weekly figures from data analyst WorldACT show an upswing in volumes at sea-air hubs as a result of the Red Sea shipping crisis.

World ACD figures show that over the first seven weeks of the year, Dubai, Colombo, and Bangkok all saw their respective tonnages to Europe increase by more than 50% year on year. Source - [Air Cargo News](#)

TIACA SURVEY REVEALS GROWING PRESSURE ON SUSTAINABILITY IN AIR CARGO

TIACA's latest sustainability survey has revealed a growing focus on sustainability in air cargo, but also a gap between the smaller and larger organisations in terms of investment.

The survey of more than 280 air cargo professionals - produced in partnership with consultancy Change Horizon - showed that 67% of respondents felt that the pressure to be sustainable had increased compared with last year, mainly driven by demands from business partners and regulators.

Asked why sustainability is important, the top answer with 80% was customers - a two percentage point increase on a year ago. Source - [Air Cargo News](#)