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AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND NEWS

WA GOVT CALLS ON STATE INDUSTRY TO DESIGN NEW FERRIES

The WA government has called on state industry to design a new fleet of modern vessels as part of its plans to expand Perth's ferry services on the Swan River.

An expression of interest process has begun, with the state government inviting Western Australian industry to put forward designs, as the Government prepares a business case for the expanded services. [The DCN](#)

MSC ON THE WALLABY

MSC has relaunched its Wallaby service with the Saturday sailing from Hong Kong of the 5048 TEU MSC Eleni.

The latest iteration of the service comes after the line's shock announcement on 25 July that it was abandoning its two South Est Asia-Australia/NZ services, Capricorn and Kiwi Express. Simultaneously MSC announced the advent of the new Wallaby, as well as a revision of its Noumea Shuttle to include NZ calls for improved feeder links. [The DCN](#)

EARLIEST KNOWN SWAN RIVER SHIPWRECK CONFIRMED

A Shipwreck found in September last year has been confirmed by the Western Australian Museum as the earliest known shipwreck discovered in the Swan River.

The wreck is a barge that was lost in a storm in 1882 whilst carrying limestone from Fremantle to Perth. The barge was reportedly owned by one Mr Dearden. The shipwreck was initially discovered by Maritime Archaeology Association of Western Australia president Patrick Morrison and his colleagues Jess Green and Ian McCann. [The DCN](#)

SUPPLY CHAIN NEWS

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT STEPS IN TO END RAIL STRIKE AND FORCE ARBITRATION

The Canadian government has stepped in to end the rail strike that only started yesterday.

Amid concerns over the effect on the wider North American economies of the rail freight network standstill, carriers Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) and Canadian National (CN) have been ordered to resume operations. [The Loadstar](#)

US-CHINA 'TARIFF WAR' TOUGH ON IMPORTERS AS SUPPLY CHAIN COSTS ROCKET

Attempts by businesses to reduce their dependence on Chinese imports are becoming more difficult as the US-China tariff war intensifies.

In May, US president Joe Biden announced a 100% border tax on Chinese-made electric vehicles, to protect domestic manufacturers, while other products such as lithium batteries, solar panels and semiconductors were also subjected to tariff hikes. [The Loadstar](#)

RIVAL BIDDERS DSV AND CVC SAID TO BE OFFERING €14BN FOR DB SCHENKER

Two rival bids have landed for DB Schenker, reports emerging this morning that Danish forwarder DSV and a consortium led by CVC Capital Partners had made binding offers in the region of €14bn (\$15.6bn). [The Loadstar](#)

THE CHALLENGES FOR CONTAINERSHIPS BRAVING THE WATERS AROUND THE CAPE

Sailing around the Cape of Good Hope was regarded as foolhardy in the days of tall ships and wooden hulls. But even for the sophisticated vessels of today, there are dangers.

Two recent high-profile container-loss incidents – the *CMA CGM Benjamin Franklin* lost 44 boxes with damage to another 30 in July, and 99 containers were lost this month from *CMA CGM Belem* – have reduced confidence in the suitability of massive containerships for tougher ocean conditions. [The Loadstar](#)

HMM TIGHTENS RULES FOR SHIPPING LITHIUM BATTERIES AFTER DEADLY FACTORY BLAZE

HMM will no longer carry lithium-ion batteries manufactured by its compatriot manufacturer Aricell and contained in electronic devices or packed with electronic equipment. The firm's factory suffered a massive fire in June.

The ban was announced in an advisory to customers following a clampdown by the carrier on dangerous goods transported on its ships. [The Loadstar](#)

IDLE BOX SHIP FLEET AT RECORD LOWS AS CARRIERS DRAIN CHARTER MARKET OF TONNAGE

Despite more than two million teu of newbuild container vessels joining the global fleet so far this year, the pool of open tonnage remains at a record low.

This presents a significant challenge to carrier ship managers looking to compensate for schedule delays and essential dry-docking by tapping into the charter market.

According to a survey by Alphaliner, there were only 67 vessels, with a capacity of 195,159 teu, recorded as commercially idle on 12 August, representing just 0.6% of the world's 30m teu global fleet capacity. [The Loadstar](#)

'TOXIC' BOXES TAKEN OFF MAERSK-CHARTERED SHIPS FOR RETURN TO ORIGIN

More than 100 containers onboard two Maersk-chartered ships will be offloaded in Singapore and returned to their point of origin in Albania, after allegations they contain hazardous industrial waste bound for Thailand. Affected are 61 containers on the 15,413 teu Maersk Candor and 41 on the Maersk Campton, both ships chartered from interests linked to international ship management company Zodiac Maritime. [The Loadstar](#)

QANTAS INTRODUCES NEW FREIGHTER SERVICES TO MEET DEMAND

"Qantas is introducing new freighter services and increased capacity in order to meet demand.

The Australian airline announced that, from 26 August 2024, it will launch new freighter services from Australia to Hong Kong, as well as to New Zealand, using its A321P2F and A332P2F aircraft.

Two return services will run from Sydney to Hong Kong per week, complemented by a weekly Perth-Hong Kong-Sydney service. These services will be operated by Qantas' widebody A332P2F. [The DCN](#)

AIRASIA INDONESIA FLIGHT ARRIVES IN CAIRNS FOR FIRST TIME

"Airasia Indonesia has touched down in Cairns for the first time ever, opening the door for the far north to receive more tourists and profit.

The first AirAsia service from Bali arrived in Cairns yesterday (15 August), opening the door to affordable, one stop connections between Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, and other Indonesian hubs like Jakarta and Surabaya.

The flights will operate three times a week and are expected to bring over 63 000 seats into the Cairns market over three years, including 15000 international visitors [The DCN](#)

UK ADVERTISING REGULATOR RAPS VIRGIN OVER DESCRIPTION OF PIONEERING 100% SAF FLIGHT

"The Bangladesh air cargo market continues to report delays to shipments following weeks of protests but the situation is beginning to ease.

At the height of the protests, cargo was taking around 10 days to be exported out of Dhaka Airport to the US and Europe.

Maruf Khan, the chief operating officer of Bengal Airlift's freight division, said the situation had eased over the past week.

He said origin processing times at the airport were now down to around five days, although yesterday there were around 200 trucks waiting in line at the airport. [Air Cargo News](#)