

MPW SUPPLY CHAIN - INDUSTRY UPDATE - 30TH OCTOBER 2024

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AUSTRALIA & NZ NEWS

INTERNATIONAL FORUM TALKS SFETY AND EFFICIENCY

"More than 500 delegates from 21 countries gathered in Perth on 21 and 22 October for the Safe Ships Safe Ports Forum, one of Australia's biggest maritime conferences.

Pilbara Ports Chief Executive Officer, Samuel McSkimming said the forum had been an invaluable opportunity to discuss industry regulations and new developments, training initiatives and sustainable shipping, future marine industry challenges and opportunities and advances in maritime safety." [The DCN](#)

EMIRATES RELAUNCHES DAILY ADELAIDE SERVICE

"Emirates has announced the relaunch of its daily service between Adelaide and Dubai (United Arab Emirates), which will offer passengers over 4200 weekly seats between the UAE's largest city and South Australia's capital.

The service will see a Boeing 777-200LR fly between both cities, which offers 302 seats across two cabins, and will allow more than 220,400 passengers to travel between Dubai and Adelaide per year." [The DCN](#)

SAILING INTO THE WIDE GREEN YONDER

"Leading up to the publication of its Maritime Emissions Reduction National Action Plan (MERNAP), the Australian government has put out four supporting documents accompanied by calls for input from stakeholders. These papers have covered regulations and standards, energy sources and technologies, skills and training, and green-shipping corridors and partnerships." [The DCN](#)

SUPPLY CHAIN NEWS

102M SETTLEMENT AGREED IN FIRST CASE AFTER MV DALI'S BALTIMORE BRIDGE CRASH

"The US has settled its civil case against the owner and operator of the MV Dali, which crashed into a Baltimore bridge in March. The Justice Department announced that Singapore firms Grace Ocean and Synergy Marine will pay nearly \$102m to settle the claim for costs related to damage to the Francis Scott Key Bridge." [The Loadstar](#)

COULD THIS FIVE-IN-ONE COLLAPSIBLE CONTAINER FINALLY BE THE GAME CHANGER?

"Compact Container Systems (CCS) has released its SeaFold HC 40ft, a folding container that can collapse to make a stack of five the same size as a single feu, and allow easy repositioning of empties.

"The opportunity to place five of our folded containers in the same slot as one 40ft HC standard container is a game-changer in managing box movements, maximising storage capacity and greatly reducing carbon emissions," [The Loadstar](#)

A NEW AGE OF SAIL - BUT NOT FOR DEAPSEA CONTAINERSHIPS, SAYS BOUND4BLUE

"Bound4blue has announced another sail installation on a shortsea vessel, as car carriers and general cargo vessels also prepare for a new age of sail.

But containerships remain the odd one out, missing out on huge fuel savings at time when they are sorely needed to meet incoming EU tax regimes." [The Loadstar](#)

WORLD CONTAINER INDEX (WCI) CONTINUES TO TUMBLE

"Drewry's World Container Index continued its decline this past week, dropping 4% to US\$3095 per 40-foot container on 24 October. The composite index is now 70% below the previous pandemic peak of US\$10,377 in September 2021, but 118% more than the average 2019 (pre-pandemic) of US\$1420. The average YTD composite index is US\$4036 per FEU, which is US\$1200 higher than the 10-year average of US\$2836 (inflated by the exceptional 2020-22 covid period)." [The DCN](#)

CARRIERS MAY HAVE 'OVERSHOT' ON CAPACITY AND WILL NEED TO BLANK MORE SAILINGS

"Container spot freight rates on the main export routes out of China continued to fall this week, with declines seen on both the transpacific and Asia-Europe trades.

The trend of declining spot freight rates was bucked, however, on the transatlantic, where Drewry's World Container Index (WCI) recorded a 28% week-on-week increase, to \$2,663 per 40ft, on its Rotterdam-New York leg." [The Loadstar](#)

MSC SHIP FIRST IN LINE FOR DELAYS WITH MONTREAL DOCKERS SET FOR SUNDAY STRIKE

"Strike action is set to resume at Canada's largest container gateway, Montreal, after the Maritime Employers Association (MEA) received a strike notice today from the Port of Montréal Longshoremen's Union, CUPE Local 375.

The 24-hour action will see a complete stoppage of work on port territory, including the Contrecoeur terminal, from Sunday at 7am until 6:59am the following day." [The loadstar](#)

RED SEA CRISIS PROVING 'A BOOM PERIOD' FOR FEEDER OPERATORS

"The 'new normal' of ocean shipping disruption is good news for feeder operators, which have been growing their fleets rapidly over the past year.

This week Alphaliner reported that Singapore-headquartered X-Press Feeders had expanded its fleet by an "impressive" 21.8% since last October, adding 35,000 teu. And DP World-owned Unifeeder has boosted its fleet capacity by 23,000 teu, growth of 17.9%. By comparison, the global liner fleet grew 10.9% in the same period." [The Loadstar](#)

BOEING'S TURNAROUND PLAN HITS A HURDLE AS MACHINISTS VOTE TO CONTINUE

"Boeing's travails continue as its machinists voted to continue a strike that has hobbled aircraft production and aggravated the company's financial woes since 13 September.

The strikers have rejected a 35% wage hike offer by management a few days ago. Nearly two-thirds (64%) of the 33,000 members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, districts 751 and W24, who voted rejected the proposal. [The Loadstar](#)

CARGO SOARS AT SINGAPORE

"Singapore Changi Airport handled 512,000 tonnes of airfreight in the third quarter of 2024 (July to September), up 13.5% on the same period last year.

Growth was seen across all cargo flows - exports, imports and transshipments, boosted by big improvements on the China and US trade lanes, said the airport authority. [Air Cargo News](#)

AIR WHITE WHALE UNVEILS BIGGEST UNMANNED CARGO AIRCRAFT

"Chinese aerospace firm Air White Whale has completed manufacturing an unmanned cargo aircraft with a maximum payload capacity of five tons that it said is the largest of its kind.

The "W5000" aircraft was rolled off the production line at a Changzhou-located production base on October 18, said Air White Whale in a press release.

The company said its airworthiness application has been accepted by the Civil Aviation Administration of China and the first aircraft is expected to be delivered in the second half of 2026." [Air Cargo News](#)

FINAL DEFENDANT IN POLAR AIR CARGO CASE PLEADS GUILTY BEFORE TRIAL BEGINS

"The final defendant in the Polar Air Cargo corruption case changed his plea to guilty, just days before his trial was due to begin.

Skye Xu's company, Sky X Airlines, was contracted by Polar Air Cargo between September 2020 and July 2021, at the height of the pandemic. Sky X offered Polar capacity on charter flights that Mr Xu had secured with passenger aircraft.

But Mr Xu paid kickbacks to Polar executives in order to seal a favourable deal." [The loadstar](#)