



Shipping Line Schedule Reliability

As we approach the end of the year, it's crucial to note that carrier schedule reliability currently stands at 54.4%, which is 9.8% lower than the same period last year. Additionally, the average delay for vessels has now increased to 5.19 days.

From August 26th to September 29th, 8% of sailings have been cancelled, reflecting ongoing disruptions in global shipping operations. The supply and demand for containers remain heavily influenced by the ongoing conflict in the Red Sea. This has resulted in vessels continuing to reroute around the Cape of Good Hope and has caused widespread congestion across major ports.



BMSB Season Reminder

Quick reminder that BMSB season is now in full swing!

Please refer to our suggested [Packing Guidelines](#) and [BMSB Seasonal Measures](#) for more details.

Peak Season Surcharges and Rate Restorations

As the true peak season commences, we are witnessing a continued increase in rates, with shipping lines implementing Peak Season Surcharges (PSS) and Rate Restorations on cargo entering Australia. These adjustments reflect the heightened demand and operational challenges during this busy period. Whilst GRI's have been indicated, we are seeing shipping lines adjust and cancel these last minute.

Our team will keep you updated with current pricing.

Upcoming Holiday Periods

As Golden Week approaches, starting on October 1st, we urge you to submit all upcoming orders and any commercial documents required for customs clearance to our customer service and operations teams respectively. Please ensure this is done before the week commences to avoid any delays in shipments arriving into Australia from China.

South East Asia and China will also have time off on the 16th and 17th of September.

USA Potential Port Strikes

As highlighted in our June newsletter, the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA), which represents dockworkers along the US East and Gulf Coasts, is on the brink of a strike potentially starting October 1st, 2024. This action hinges on whether a new agreement can be reached before the current contract expires on September 30th. This would impact 60% of the USA's container volumes.

What This Means for Our Clients: If the strike goes ahead, significant disruptions are expected across US ports. Key impacts include:

- **Surcharges on Exports:** Exporters from the USA may face additional fees, increasing the cost of overseas shipping.
- **Delays and Rerouting:** Imports into the USA could encounter prolonged processing times or need to be rerouted, leading to operational delays.
- **Increased Costs for Importers:** These delays and reroutings are likely to escalate costs for US importers, affecting bottom lines.

Analyst Insights: Experts in the field are concerned about the long-term ramifications of even a short strike. A one-week stoppage could cause backlogs that might not clear until mid-November, while a two-week strike could disrupt operations well into 2025.

Preparing for Impact: We urge our clients to anticipate these potential disruptions and plan accordingly. Consider adjusting order and inventory levels to mitigate supply chain interruptions. Our team is on hand to assist with strategic planning and to provide updates as the situation develops.

Australian Port Disruptions

Australian ports are grappling with the overflow from the conflict in the Red Sea, leading to congestion at ports nationwide. This issue is particularly acute in Western Australia, where it has been exacerbated by adverse weather conditions.

For our clients, this means potential delays in delivery as we prioritize wharf collections to avoid hefty penalties. We are working with all clients to maintain flexibility in deliveries on an ad hoc basis and will provide updates should there be any changes to agreed delivery times.