

JUL 14, 2025



INDUSTRY UPDATES

FREIGHT FORWARDING

SEA-INTELLIGENCE: TRANSPACIFIC CAPACITY REVERSAL

Sea-Intelligence reports that carriers injected ~770,000 TEU of extra capacity into Transpacific routes during the 90-day U.S. tariff pause. But as demand cooled and rates fell, carriers quickly pulled back 23–24% of that capacity by early July.

This reflects the market's growing agility in balancing supply against demand fluctuations.

ROBERTS BANK TERMINAL 2 PROCUREMENT PHASE BEGINS

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority has launched the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the wharf and landmass phase of the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 project.

The project is expected to:

- Add \$3 billion/year to Canada's GDP
- Support over \$100 billion in annual trade
- Create 18,000+ jobs

This marks a major step in expanding West Coast container handling capacity for North America

CMA CGM ADDS ZEEBRUGGE CALL TO IRISH SEA EXPRESS

CMA CGM will enhance its short-sea Irish Sea Express (ISX) service by adding a Zeebrugge call starting Week 30 (mid-July).

This update will:

- Improve links between Ireland, UK, and Central Europe
- Strengthen access to Far East and Baltic feeder networks
- Support CMA CGM's regional short-sea logistics strategy

HIGHLIGHT

**TRANSPACIFIC
CAPACITY CUT
BACK**

**CANADA OPENS
TERMINAL 2 BIDS**

**CMA CGM ADDS
ZEEBRUGGE CALL**

**IMO ALERTS ON
RED SEA
THREATS**

**CSTAR STARTS
CHINA-RED SEA
LOOP**

**OBS
NEWSLETTER
QUICK
TAKEAWAYS**

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IMO WARNS OF RENEWED RED SEA ATTACKS

The IMO Secretary-General has called for constructive diplomatic dialogue following a renewed wave of attacks on shipping in the Red Sea.

Since late 2023, 69 incidents have been recorded, impacting vessels transiting key global trade lanes such as the Bab el-Mandeb and Suez Canal.

Operators are urged to review risk assessments and routing plans amid heightened regional tension.

CSTAR LINE LAUNCHES CHINA-RED SEA SERVICE

CStar Line will launch a new China-Red Sea loop (FRS1) offering twice-monthly sailings.

The route connects Ningbo, Shanghai, and Guangzhou to Jeddah, Aqaba, and Sokhna, using four vessels (1,600–2,000 TEU).

This direct service strengthens China-Middle East connectivity and adds alternative options for East-West trades amid Suez-related disruptions.

QUICK TAKEAWAYS

 Transpacific Capacity Reversal

:Carriers are acting fast to adjust supply—expect more dynamic rate swings and capacity reshuffles in Q3.

 Roberts Bank Terminal 2 RFQ

:Canada's investment signals long-term confidence in trans-Pacific trade; potential for new service opportunities.

 CMA CGM Adds Zeebrugge to ISX

:Short-sea routes continue to strengthen—valuable for eCommerce and regional consolidation strategies.

 IMO Red Sea Warning

:Security risks remain high—shippers should stay agile with routing and risk mitigation planning.

 CStar Launches China-Red Sea Loop

: New East-Middle East link offers alternative routing amid Suez instability—watch for capacity shifts.