

Celebrating 40 Years!

I am proud to announce that May marks our 40th anniversary. We owe our success to you – our clients, devoted staff, agents, and trade partners; the assets we value most. It has been a pleasure to grow with all of you during this journey. Your trust and support have been the foundation of our continued success. It has always been an honour to serve you, and we look forward to keep growing together as your dedicated partner in logistics.

Anders Fisker, *President & CEO*

IN REVIEW | APRIL 2023

MARINE

April 4 | “Shippers Brace for Freight Rate and BAF Increase Onslaught”

A definite end to rock-bottom freight rates could be in sight, as carriers take advantage of tight capacity management to launch rate restoration programs across their networks in the next few weeks.

Moreover, shippers can expect an increase in bunker surcharges, as the shipping lines ramp up BAFs to mitigate the impact of higher fuel costs. The ocean carriers are preparing to unleash a barrage of GRIs this spring.

Vessel space is lacking at the moment; we are seeing vessels full until the third week of April, so there are chances that carriers will try to push for further rate increases for April voyages,” a logistics source told Platts Container Freight Weekly Commentary.

Meanwhile, a big spike in oil prices, following the OPEC + coalition of oil-producing countries' surprise decision on Sunday to cut output, could result in a fresh raft of bunker surcharges for shippers.

The price of Brent Crude jumped by around \$10 yesterday to \$82 per barrel, exerting pressure on the bunker supply market, which in turn saw the cost of Rotterdam-sourced compliant low-sulphur fuel increase \$25 today, to \$595 per tonne.

Bunker prices are likely to remain higher in the coming weeks, which will trigger carrier BAF increases.

Source: The Loadstar

April 5 | “Davie Shipbuilding Partners with Canadian Government on Newbuilding Programs”

Davie Shipbuilding is now an official partner in Canada's National Shipbuilding Strategy (NSS) after an agreement including an initial minimum of US\$8.5 billion in shipbuilding programs.

As part of the NSS, the Canadian shipbuilding company Davie will be called upon to build the largest and most technologically advanced ships ever built in and for Canada.

The initial package of work includes seven icebreakers and two large hybrid-powered ferries.

A report prepared by Deloitte and made public in November 2022 said that up to 4,700 well-paid, long-term careers will be created or sustained by Davie over the next 20 years, while the agreement is expected to lead to up to \$21 billion in overall impact on the Canadian economy over the next 20 years.

"The Government of Canada is happy to welcome Chantier Davie as the third strategic partner under the National Shipbuilding Strategy (NSS). This addition to the NSS will benefit workers in the Quebec region and provide the Canadian Coast Guard with the vessels it needs to do its important work," commented, Helena Jaczek, Canada's minister of Public Services and Procurement. **Source:** *Container News*

April 13 | “Port Strikes take their Toll on Supply Chains and Seafarers”

The number of port strikes around the world has been growing over the past year, causing headaches for supply chain providers as well as distress for seafarers denied shore leave.

The number of protests and strikes affecting port operations quadrupled last year to 38 incidents, according to Crisis24, a maritime security consultancy. From trucker stoppages in South Korea to dock strikes in Britain, worker shortages have prompted shipping lines to divert or delay cargoes globally.

With the cost-of-living crisis affecting most nations, strikes at ports have proliferated in the opening months of 2023, especially across Europe.

Nick Rowe, NorthStandard's head of strike & delay, told Splash that the cost-of-living crisis had come to a head with port strikes making headlines in the US, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Finland, Israel, and Argentina already this year.

"The fundamental point is there is a global cost of living crisis," Rowe said, adding: "Inflation has outstripped wages, and it has not been so stark for many years, and there is potential for labour unrest to disrupt ports in many places."

"Cargo is already in the pipeline and therefore it will get disrupted and delayed as a consequence."

Source: *Splash 247.com*

April 19 | “European Shipper Groups Demand an end to Cargo Delays on Rhine”

Shippers have called on the EC to help ensure the movement of goods in France, which is suffering strikes that have impacted traffic on the Rhine.

Inland waterway transport has been restricted on the Rhine and on French waters, causing delays. Blockades at locks are also resulting in additional costs, said the European Shippers Council (ESC) and European Barge Union (EBU). Actions by the Rhine Commission towards the French authorities so far

only had limited results. Also, a number of vessels on the Rhone are prevented from sailing between two lock complexes.

The strikes have at times brought Rhine River traffic to a standstill, with Germany and Switzerland also affected. Police have cleared blockades at locks, but there have still been delays, with Germany's Waterways and Shipping Administration noting last month that "the whole international Rhine navigation is practically interrupted." *Source: The Loadstar*

AIR

April 3 | "WestJet Pilots Set to Launch Strike Authorization Vote as Negotiations Fizzle"

The union representing WestJet pilots will launch a strike authorization vote today as contract talks with management drag on, the Air Line Pilots Association said Friday.

Bernard Lewall, who heads ALPA Canada's WestJet contingent, said its 1,600-person membership is "frustrated" after six months of bargaining with a company he claims has failed to seriously engage with it. [article from CBC News](#) *Source: CIFFA*

April 25 | "Mystery Surrounds \$15-Million Valuables Theft at Toronto Airport"

A cargo container with more than \$15 million of gold and other valuables has disappeared at Toronto Pearson International Airport after being offloaded from an aircraft. The theft took place on April 17 after the shipment was transferred to a cargo facility, according to the Peel Regional Police.

Authorities say they have no suspects and are still trying to track down the shipment. Read more in an [article from FreightWaves](#). *Source: CIFFA*

ROAD / RAIL

April 17 | "Canadian Pacific (CP) and Kansas City Southern Combine to Create CPKC"

Canadian Pacific and Kansas City Southern on Friday combined to create Canadian Pacific Kansas City, as authorized by the U.S. Surface Transportation Board's March 15, 2023, final decision, creating the first single-line railway connecting Canada, the U.S. and Mexico.

With its global headquarters in Calgary, CPKC is the only railway connecting North America and has port access on coasts around the continent, from Vancouver to Atlantic Canada to the Gulf of Mexico to Lázaro Cárdenas on Mexico's Pacific coast. Full integration of CP and KCS is expected to take place over the next three years, unlocking the benefits of the combination. Read more in a [press release from CPKC](#) and [article from CBC News](#) *Source: CIFFA*

April 19 | "CN: Forecast Weather Impacts and Operational Challenges in Some Parts of the Network"

CN anticipates some possible challenging operating conditions in part of its network and asks that customers be aware of changing local conditions and how they may impact the movement of goods.

Until Friday, April 21, a winter storm may impact operations in Central Canada, Manitoba through Northern Ontario. This storm could bring heavy snowfall, high winds and blizzard conditions in the Southern Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Northern Ontario, and Northern Wisconsin areas. *Source: CIFFA*

CUSTOMS

April 4 | “Customs Notice 23-08: Single Plastics Prohibition Regulations”

The purpose of this notice is to advise the importing community that certain parts of the [Single-use Plastics Prohibition Regulations](#), made pursuant to the [Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999](#), came into force on December 20, 2022.

The Regulations prohibit the manufacture, import and sale of the following six categories of single-use plastics products, with phased implementation of specific prohibitions starting Dec 20, 2022:

- Checkout bags
- Cutlery
- Foodservice ware containing expanded or extruded polystyrene foam, polyvinyl chloride, oxo-degradable plastic or black plastic made with carbon black
- Ring carriers
- Stir sticks
- Straws (with some exceptions for single-use plastic flexible straws to ensure accessibility for those who need them)

For more information regarding requirements under the new Regulations, please refer to the [Single-use Plastics Prohibition Regulations - Technical guidelines](#). Any questions regarding requirements of the Regulations should be directed to:

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
Plastics Regulatory Affairs Division,
9th floor,
351 Saint-Joseph Boulevard,
Gatineau, QC K1A 0H3
Email to: plastiquesuu-suplastics@ec.gc.ca

Source: CBSA

April 13 | “CARM Public Sector Webinars”

At a CARM Public Sector webinar held on January 18th, 2023, the CBSA committed to hosting targeted CARM webinars for the public sector. The dates and links to join the webinars are listed below and should be distributed to all public sector organizations that require additional information to register on the CARM Client Portal and delegate authority.

If you are a public sector organization, we encourage you to register for one of the below webinars to ensure that your organization is prepared for CARM Release 2 in October 2023.

For any questions, please contact CARM Engagement at:
[CBSA.CARM Engagement-Engagement de la GCRA.ASFC@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](mailto:CBSA.CARM_Engagement-Engagement_de_la_GCRA.ASFC@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca)

Source: CBSA

Webinar Registration – CARM Webinar for Provincial Government Organizations / GCRA – Webinaire à l'intention des organisations gouvernementales provinciales			
English	Wednesday, May 10, 2023	1:00pm – 2:30pm EST	Register
French	Wednesday, May 10, 2023	3:00pm - 4:30pm EST	Register
Webinar Registration – CARM Webinar for Municipal Organizations / GCRA – Webinaire à l'intention des organisations municipales			
English	Thursday, May 11, 2023	1:00pm – 2:30pm EST	Register
French	Thursday, May 11, 2023	3:00pm - 4:30pm EST	Register
Webinar Registration – CARM Webinar for Hospitals / GCRA – Webinaire à l'intention des hôpitaux			
English	Wednesday, May 17, 2023	1:00pm – 2:30pm EST	Register
French	Wednesday, May 17, 2023	3:00pm - 4:30pm EST	Register
Webinar Registration – CARM Webinar for School Boards / GCRA – Webinaire à l'intention des commissions scolaires			
English	Thursday, May 18, 2023	1:00pm – 2:30pm EST	Register
French	Thursday, May 18, 2023	3:00pm - 4:30pm EST	Register

Additional information on CARM can be found [on the CARM Website](#).

April 25 | “CARM FAQ on Transition Plan of Mandated Importer RPP (Financial Security)”

The CBSA has published the first iteration of a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document related to the Release Prior to Payment (RPP) Transition Plan, which is ready to view on the CARM Google Drive, in both English and French at the link below. This document aims to provide importers with more information on the RPP Transition Plan.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1GiNfPEnYINY9AFrOzUU4unRZzOIMVesO>.

It's important for importers to understand the new requirement and systematic change, for establishing financial security directly with CBSA. Currently, 95% of importers rely on their customs broker(s) to meet “RPP requirements”, enabling release of goods prior to payment during customs clearance processing. Prior to CARM Release 2 (R2), importers will be required to register in CARM, establish financial security for future commercial importations and connect with their customs broker(s) and trade advisor(s) in the CARM Client Portal (CCP). The timing of advance registration in the current version of CARM (R1) is essential, for an importer to qualify for a six-month grace period, where CBSA will allow some additional time to establish direct financial security and benefit from RPP program on commercial importations.



Source: CBSA

April 26 | “Sanctions Update – Belarus and Russia”

The following was published in the [Canada Gazette, Part II, Volume 157, Number 9](#) on April 26, 2023:

- [Special Economic Measures \(Belarus\) Regulations — Regulations Amending the Special Economic Measures Act](#)
- [Special Economic Measures \(Russia\) Regulations — Regulations Amending the Special Economic Measures Act](#)

Source: CBSA

April 27 | “Updated to CFIA Guidance on Safe Food for Canadians Regulations”

The CFIA has made minor updates to the following guidance:

- [Safe Food for Canadians Regulations: Glossary of key terms](#)
 - Clarifications have been made to the definitions of “Alcoholic beverage” and “Preserve”
- [Food business activities that require a licence under the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations](#)
 - Clarifications have been made in section “5.7 Alcoholic beverages”

Source: CBSA

For inquiries about Customs News Articles contact:
Christina Fisker, VP Customs & Compliance: christina@fisker.ca

You are receiving this newsletter as a client of FCL Fisker. To manage your subscription, please reply to sylvia@fisker.ca