



TOMAX
NEWS

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PLUS:

MARKET SUMMARY

- Ocean freight rates are beginning to drop further on the southbound trade-lanes ex: Asia as we move into the yearly slack season period, coupled with the effects of the global economic slump. Lines remain buoyant about keeping freight rates in positive territory, but if demand slackens much further that may prove difficult for them.
- Transport, terminal and liner rate increase continue with more and more announcements every week such as increases to shipping line documentation fees, terminal infrastructure levies, delivery prices, and container detention prices. The pain for importers and exporters continues in a difficult operating environment.
- Please note due to the Labour Day Public Holiday on Monday 11th March, the Tomax Clayton Office, Hoppers Crossing Warehouse and Dandenong Warehouse will be closed. We will resume as per usual on Tuesday 12th March. Thank you!

TARIFF CONCESSIONS GAZETTE (TC)

Tariff Concession Orders (TCOs) are an Australian Government revenue concession that exists where there are no known Australian manufacturers of goods that are substitutable for imported goods. The weekly Tomax Client Newsletter will contain a link to the latest Gazette document so that you can stay updated.

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RECORD GROWTH: GLOBAL AIR CARGO SURGES

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has announced a remarkable surge in global air cargo demand, marking the most significant annual growth since mid-2021. In January 2024, the demand for air cargo, measured in cargo tonne-kilometres, soared by 18.4% compared to the same period last year. Concurrently, capacity also rose, registering a 14.6% increase compared to January 2023.

This surge has been primarily attributed to the expansion of international belly capacity, which saw a robust 25.8% year-on-year increase, buoyed by the resilience of passenger markets. Willie Walsh, the Director General of IATA, believes these latest figures are indicative of a strong start to the year. He particularly emphasised the pivotal role played by the thriving e-commerce sector in driving air cargo demand, surpassing the growth rates of both trade and production since the final quarter of 2023.

However, amidst this positive outlook, concerns linger over the uncertain trajectory of China's economic slowdown. This concern will likely dominate discussions among air cargo executives gathering in Hong Kong for the upcoming IATA World Cargo Symposium. The agenda for this symposium is set to focus on digitalisation, efficiency, and sustainability.

IATA's observations reveal that air cargo growth has outpaced both trade and production, with global cross-border trade experiencing a mere 1% increase in December compared to the preceding month. In January 2024, Asia-Pacific airlines witnessed a substantial surge in air cargo volumes, soaring by 24.6% compared to January 2023.

This impressive performance was further underscored by an 18.5% increase compared to the previous month, attributed to sustained growth in international cargo tonne-kilometres across key trade lanes.

The availability of capacity for Asia-Pacific carriers expanded by 25% compared to January 2023, primarily due to the integration of additional belly capacity from the passenger segment. Conversely, North American carriers displayed the weakest performance in January, with a 9.3% year-on-year increase in cargo volumes. However, this represented an improvement compared to the previous month, with capacity increasing by 3.8% compared to January 2023.

European carriers recorded a notable uptick in air cargo volumes, rising by 16.4% in January 2024 compared to the same period in 2023, with capacity increasing by 12.5% during the same timeframe. Meanwhile, Middle Eastern carriers exhibited the most robust performance in January 2024, with a staggering 25.9% year-on-year increase in cargo volumes and a 17.1% rise in capacity compared to January 2023.

Latin American carriers experienced a respectable 13.4% increase in cargo volumes in January 2024, coupled with a 6.6% rise in capacity compared to January 2023. African airlines also witnessed significant growth, with air cargo volumes increasing by 17% in January 2024, while capacity surged by 19.4% compared to January 2023 levels.

Williams, A. (2024). AIR CARGO DEMAND OUTPACES TRADE IN JANUARY. Retrieved from <https://www.thedcn.com.au/region/australia/air-cargo-demand-outpaces-trade-in-january/> on 7th March, 2024.

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

International Women's Day is a day of collective global activism and celebration that belongs to all those committed to forging women's equality. This year, the campaign theme is "Inspire Inclusion" which inspires all to forge a more inclusive world for women to instil a sense of belonging, relevance, and empowerment.

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) is recognising the significant contribution women make to Australia's transport and logistics sector. NHVR CEO, Sal Petrocitto, said women are an integral part of the heavy vehicle industry, breaking barriers and paving the way for future generations. Despite the challenges women still face in the trucking industry, the regulator committed to promoting an inclusive environment.

"It's fantastic to see more women behind the wheel, with their dedication, skill and unwavering commitment to driving the industry forward pivotal in creating a stronger workforce," Mr Petrocitto said, "while road transport has traditionally been a male-dominated industry, this is changing as we see an increase in the number of females driving. We expect the number of female truck drivers to continue to rise, as the projected growth of the heavy vehicle industry is over 1 per cent by 2026, equating to around 2000 additional jobs. The NHVR recognises the many outstanding accomplishments of women in trucking and will continue advocating for gender equality in the workforce," he added, "in line with this year's International Women's Day theme, Inspire Inclusion, we want to acknowledge all women working in the transport and logistics industry - from drivers to executives - who

are challenging gender stereotypes and promoting inclusivity. Through our Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative, the NHVR is proud to support initiatives such as the Women in Trucking Association's (WiTA) Foot in Door program. As a female heavy vehicle driver training and recruitment initiative, this program is removing barriers and providing employment opportunities for women seeking to establish a career as a truckie."

Lyndal Denny, WiTA CEO, said through collaborative efforts with the NHVR and the Foot in Door program, the association strives to smash the glass 'bull bar'.

"Female truckies as wives, partners and primary caregivers, face daily challenges managing work and family life from behind the wheel, often they are unseen and unheard in the workplace," Ms Denny said, "many are taken for granted or overlooked for the enormous sacrifices they make to earn a living and support their families. WiTA was established to empower these women, to capture their authenticity, strength and diversity and to shine a light on the work being done out there on the nation's roads in the hope that their inspiring stories will encourage more Australian women to consider trucking as the viable and rewarding career path it is. In the spirit of continuing to honour and recognise these exceptional women, WiTA wishes every woman a happy International Women's Day."



Mirage News. (2024). International Women's Day Honors Female Change-Drivers. Retrieved from https://www.miragenews.com/international-womens-day-honors-female-change-1190402/#google_vignette on 8th March, 2024.





HEAVY VEHICLES AND LEVEL CROSSING COLLISIONS

A study conducted on 49 level-crossing collisions determined that obstructed views or failure to detect oncoming trains were the highest contributors to heavy vehicle accidents. The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) study identified several themes from the collisions which took place between July 2014 and August 2022. In at least 12 of the collisions, the heavy-vehicle driver was found to be a regular user of the level crossing. In at least 14 of the incidents, the driver's view of the track or level crossing protection equipment was obscured by the design of the heavy vehicle cab, vegetation, sun glare and poor crossing lighting. Furthermore, in at least 14 of the accidents, the driver intentionally entered the level crossing in a manner contrary to road rules. At passively controlled crossings (i.e crossings with no flashing lights or boom gates), most accidents occurred due to the heavy-vehicle driver not detecting the train or detecting the train too late.

Angus Mitchell, ATSB chief commissioner, said, "safety at passive crossings relies on motor vehicle drivers looking for and identifying trains. The collisions analysed in our study primarily resulted from the presence of trains not being detected, being detected late or being perceived incorrectly. We know that humans are inherently susceptible to unintentional errors. And so long as passively controlled level crossing safety systems rely on road vehicle drivers always detecting the presence of trains, it is certain that this will fail from time to time and result in accidents in future." He added that the use of additional engineering controls to notify road users when

to stop would enhance the level of safety at level crossings, stating, "safety improvements would be made by reducing the reliance on road vehicle drivers detecting the presence of trains."

As a result of this study, Standards Australia has committed to reviewing the standard AS1742.7 to determine whether additional design guidance for the installation of level crossing protection equipment can be provided to manage risks associated with curved road approaches to level crossings.

The report also analysed the severity of level crossing collisions involving heavy road vehicles versus light vehicles and confirmed that heavy road vehicle collisions are more common and dangerous. Mr Mitchell added, "level crossing collisions involving heavy vehicles were more likely to lead to injuries to the occupants of rail vehicles, damage rail vehicles and track and cause derailment of rail vehicles."

Currently, ATSB is investigating two heavy vehicle crossing collisions in Katherine NT and Cutana SA where the train drivers were fatally injured. The study was released ahead of the national rail level crossing safety roundtable in Brisbane on Wednesday 6th March. Mr Mitchell said, "I urge industry and government to review the findings of our new safety study, and look forward to working with stakeholders at Wednesday's roundtable in Brisbane."

Williams, A. (2024). ATSB STUDY FLAGS THEME IN LEVEL-CROSSING COLLISIONS. Retrieved from <https://www.thedcn.com.au/news/atsb-study-flags-theme-in-level-crossing-collisions/> on 5th March, 2024.

PATRICK TERMINAL SHUTDOWN NOTICE

Please note the following notice regarding a shutdown at Patrick Terminals QLD.

Issue: Terminal Shutdown Tuesday 12th March

Short Description: Please be advised that the Patrick, Fisherman Islands Terminal QLD, will cease all ship and yard operations between 0700 - 2300 on Tuesday 12th of March 2024 to conduct yard infrastructure and system maintenance.

Duration of Delay: 0 days 16 hrs 0 min.

Issue Commencement: 12/03/2024 07:00

Expected Resolution: 12/03/2024 23:00

Resolution Action: Slot drops will be as per normal with no slots available for Tuesday 12th March.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT



MEET EWAN PETERSON COURIER DRIVER TOMAX TRANSPORT QLD

What is your role at Tomax?

My role at Tomax is a delivery driver.

How do you spend your free time?

I spend my free time taking my dog and partner out on camping trips and going on motorbike rides. I love being out in nature and exploring the world!

Do you have any goals you wish to achieve?

My goal is to buy an 80 series Land Cruiser by the end of this year so I can travel to further destinations.

Which genre/s of music do you listen to?

I mainly listen to Rap but I appreciate all genres of music depending on my mood.



Do you own any pets, if so what are their names and breeds?

I own a puppy named Reggie who is an English Blue Staffy.

Your favourite place to visit?

My favourite place to visit via motorbike is Cedar Creek. It's a great short ride that is not too far from our Tomax Yatala Warehouse!

If you could meet any celebrity alive or dead, who would it be and why?

If I could meet any celebrity it would be Shia Labeouf as I have incredible respect for him and how far he has travelled in life through thick and thin. I also enjoy the movie 'The Peanut Butter Falcon' which he stars in.



FRIDAY FUNNIES

We hope these jokes can put
a smile on your face as we
welcome the weekend!

What's a tree's favorite condiment?
Branch dressing.

What's orange and sounds like a parrot?
A carrot.

Did you hear about the actor who fell
through the floorboards?
He was going through a stage.

I just ordered the personal number plate
BAA BAA.
Should look cool on my black jeep.

I used to hate facial hair.
But now it's grown on me.

What do you call a chicken staring at a
pile of lettuce?
A Chicken Caesar Salad.

Did you know French fries aren't actually
cooked in France?
They are cooked in Greece.

What do you get when you cross a
chicken with a fox?
A Fox.

Did you know you can hear the blood in
your veins?
You just have to listen varicosely.

What's a programmer's favorite dance?
The algo-rhythm.

My dog used to chase people on
a bike a lot.
It got so bad I had to take his bike away.

What's the best way to avoid
office burnout?
Don't light a fire in the first place.

Why don't skeletons fight each other?
They don't have the guts!

