

March 27, 2020

## UPDATE: Coronavirus Pandemic

Dear Valued Customer,

We continue to monitor Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) globally. We remain fully operational, continuing to service all global and domestic transportation while adhering to government and health regulations. All our locations have business continuity plans and strategies in place to allow our employees to work remotely as the need arises and ensure our customers and carriers receive uninterrupted service. We continue to work closely with our customers on production planning and forecasting as the situation remains fluid.

Here are the most recent updates by region:

*Newest updates are at the top of each section; older updates that are still relevant are slightly grayed out*

### North America

- For more detailed updates regarding sourcing and North America surface transportation – including truckload, intermodal and less-than-truckload – click [here](#).
- All U.S. ports remain operational. Ocean vessels are moving as planned, but some carriers are cancelling sailings due to low demand.
- We will likely see a spike in demand on the U.S. west coast around the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of April when vessels arrive in the U.S. from China. This is typical volumes for the ports, so challenges are not likely.
- On March 26, the FDA provided an update to [CSMS message 42124872](#) for instructions to the import community regarding the submission of entry information for personal protective equipment and certain other devices.
- Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued [CSMS# 42161666](#) additional guidance for Entry Summary Payments impacted by COVID-19. CBP is no longer accepting requests for duty deferral. All duty payments that were deferred and not paid between March 20 – March 26 need to be initiated to CBP by today, March 27.
- It's important to note, New York's self-quarantine guidance for travelers does not apply to truck drivers entering and leaving the state. Learn more [here](#). States around the U.S. and provinces in Canada continue to include transportation, logistics and ports as essential when "Shelter in Place" orders are put in place. We continue to monitor the status on a state by state/province by province basis and will report any exceptions.
- Warehousing space is getting tight due to lack of outbound activity from warehouses compared to inbound. We continue to watch this closely and work with our customers on space and inventory management through the volatile market.
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) New York Field Office released a [memo](#) stating importers or their agents are encouraged to provide advance notification to CBP when they are expecting shipments of pandemic relief materials in order to expedite the shipment.

### Asia

- Ports and airports remain operational. Demand for essential commodities related to COVID-19 continues to increase. Resulting in demand surpassing available capacity in Asia. We continue to work closely with our customers to accommodate their supply chain needs in the fluid environment – including offering expedited FCL and LCL programs from Asia.

*Our information is compiled from a number of sources that to the best of our knowledge are accurate and correct. It is always the intent of our company to present accurate information. C.H. Robinson accepts no liability or responsibility for the information published herein.*



## South Asia

- The lockdown is starting to have a material impact on flow of goods. Ocean carriers are in discussion for capacity removal to cope with lack of demand.
- As of March 25, 2020, India issued a lockdown for 21 days to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Essential services and goods, which includes transportation and logistics, are an exception and will continue to operate.
- Although international and domestic flights have been grounded, the lockdown does not apply to cargo planes. Additionally, some passenger airlines plan to convert their aircrafts to operate as a cargo plane. Currently, enough capacity is available for the demand.
- Ports and Customs in India and Sri Lanka will remain open with limited personnel.
- Many ocean carriers have activated their Business Continuity Plans and will announce any rotations they need to make in order to comply with the mandatory quarantine of 14-days for all vessels and crews.
- Blank sailings are expected in the days to come as shippers are not able to pick up containers due to the lockdown and labor shortages.
- Empty yards in many regions are closed to comply with government regulations.
- Central Warehousing Corporation in New Delhi announced the temporary closure of their warehouse until the situation returns to normal.

## Europe

- Market remains highly volatile as many non-essential businesses close and production on essential products related to COVID-19 take priority. We continue to work closely with our customers to accommodate their supply chain needs in the fluid environment – including offering air charter services and expedited FCL and LCL programs from Europe.
- Europe truckload continues to experience delays in cross-border shipments. View the latest crossing times [here](#).

## Oceania

- As the working landscape is constantly evolving during COVID-19, the border restrictions for interstate travel within Australia now vary state-by-state. The implementation of border restrictions and increased screening and security measures may, for some customers, cause a delay in arrival time for goods entering Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland and Tasmania.
- The New Zealand government has implemented additional precautions to prevent the further spread of COVID-19 moving the country to a level 4 restriction with non-essential business closures for 4 weeks from March 25, 2020. However, at this point, no restrictions have been placed on freight, logistics for essential services during this time.

## Latin America (LATAM)

- Multiple countries have issued official quarantines to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Logistics and transportation are considered an essential service; therefore, ports, airports and truckload services continue to operate as normal with some delays or exceptions which are outlined below -
- In Argentina, Customs is only clearing essential products. Additionally, trucking is operating with some limitations due to regional lockdown. Cross-border trucking may be delayed.
- In Miami, U.S, Customs is currently closed due to lack of volume. Warehousing space is tight due to a decrease in outbound activity.
- In Peru, commerce and cargo transportation will continue for necessity products and industries with special permits.

### Links to additional resources:

- [WHO](#) updates and [CDC](#) updates

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- [CBS News](#) update and [BBC News](#) update
- [COVID-19:Implications for business](#) (McKinsey & Company)
- [Global Cases](#) (Johns Hopkins CSSE)

We will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as needed. For previous advisories, please visit our [Client Advisory page](#) on our website. Here is a direct link to the most recent update:

3/25/2020 – [UPDATE: Coronavirus Outbreak](#)

Thank you for being our Valued Customer. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your C.H. Robinson commercial representative for further information.

Sincerely,  
C.H. Robinson

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