

April 28, 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](#).
- Demand for importing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and test kits on the Trans-Pacific remains high. As air freight capacity is tight, more shippers are utilizing expedited FCL (full container load) and LCL (less than container load) services for cost savings. To learn more about these services reach out to your account rep or connect with us [here](#).
- U.S. exports of certain PPE to Canada and Mexico are [exempt](#) from export restrictions and may immediately export. However, a Letter of Attestation (LOA) is required. As exports to Canada do not require an AES filing, the driver will need to present this [letter](#) to CBP at export in order to avoid delays. For exports to Mexico, the LOA will be submitted with the export clearance by the customs broker.
- As of April 19, U.S. importers can temporarily extend deadlines for duty remittances if they are suffering significant financial hardship due to COVID-19. However, this does not apply to antidumping or countervailing duties, or to Section 301, 232 or 201 additional duties. Click [here](#) for more information.
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced a COVID-19 [Relief Imports Web Portal](#) to help with cargo inquiries related to the importation of medical supplies to fight the spread of the COVID-19 virus.
- Some U.S. states have implemented regulatory changes for trucking, including weight limit changes. Click [here](#) to review the latest updates.

Latin America (LATAM)

- Apart from Uruguay, multiple governments across LATAM have extended their stay-at-home recommendations. Logistics and transportation continue to operate throughout LATAM with some delays.
- In Argentina and Brazil, local governments are overseeing the shipments of COVID-19 test equipment and protective masks.

Asia

- As demand for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) continues, warehouses are experiencing some backlogs, primarily in Shanghai.
- Truckload has recovered since China's nationwide shutdown. FTL (full truckload) is currently operating at 101.5%, which is above last year's peak season average.
- All railway routes from China to Europe are operating as normal.
- To ship PPE via rail, full container loads (FCL) are accepted, less-than-container load (LCL) is not.

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.



- To avoid competing for export capacity for PPE supplies, some shippers have transported their freight from central or north China to Hong Kong.
- Due to China Customs' [export regulations on PPE products](#), some shipments are being delayed 5-8 days.

South Asia

- India remains under lockdown until May 3, 2020 but the government has given some partial relaxation in a few states across India.
- At this time, transportation of both essential and non-essential commodities is permitted, as well as inter-state movement. With permission, all EXIM cargo can move to and from the ports.
- Multiple ocean carriers have implemented blank sailings on all lanes due to the current situation.
- Customs staff continues to work with limited staff, clearing both inbound and outbound cargo.
- Sri Lanka is on indefinite curfew/lockdown; however, the port and airport remain operational and continues to manage commercial cargo with limited staff.

Europe

- Europe truckload continues to experience delays in cross-border shipments. View the latest crossing times [here](#).
- Demand and capacity on the Trans-Atlantic remain stable. As countries and local governments explore reopening businesses, we may see higher volumes, however it's unlikely the demand will exceed capacity.

Oceania

- New Zealand and Singapore implemented new trade initiatives to ensure trade and supply chains continue throughout COVID-19. Click [here](#) for more information.
- Tariff reductions were approved by the New Zealand government, resulting in 18 different tariffs being duty free. The below documents go into further detail –
 - [Declaration on Trade in Essential Goods for Combating the COVID-19 Pandemic 15th April 2020](#)
 - [Tariff Concession Approvals, Withdrawals and Declines Notice \(No. 14\) 2020](#)
- The New Zealand Ministry of Transport advised all essential and non-essential import cargo can now be delivered & distributed. As a reminder, New Zealand borders remain closed and international travel continues to be restricted. Air and maritime, related to cargo transportation, continue to be exempt from the travel restrictions.

Links to additional resources:

- [WHO](#) updates and [CDC](#) updates
- [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 through our [client advisories](#) and [blog posts](#). Below are direct links to recent updates:

- 4/20/2020 – [Navigating Through the Disruption – An Oceania Perspective](#)
- 4/21/2020 – [UPDATE: Coronavirus Pandemic](#)

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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