

GLOBAL FREIGHTS

- Equipment imbalances are apparent in certain origins such as exporting from Central America.
- Increasing bunker prices is causing a significant pressure on rates. The price for Very Low Sulphur Fuel Oil (VLSFO) has doubled between 2020 and 2022.
- China's ongoing lockdown remains disruptive and no end date has been set. Despite the lockdown, Shanghai port remains open. The recommendation is to use alternative ports due to inland movement issues.
- Shipping lines are stricter in releasing bookings with rigid rules in rolling over and high cancellation fees.
- Shippers are exploring chartering breakbulk vessels to absorb some tonnage.
- Transshipment ports remain congested, further increasing transit times.



NORTH AMERICA

Ports situation

- Strong influx of imports into the U.S. through Q1 2022. Q2 numbers remain to be seen with rising inflation at 40-year highs hovering at 8+%. Consumers are becoming more price-conscious. At the same time, NY/NJ market saw imports from Asia rise 30% in Q1 year on year.
- NY/NJ markets are extremely congested, carriers are starting to limit the return of empty equipment, causing capacity constraints to drayage providers. It's a perfect storm for congestion.
- West coast ports remain challenging, there is a fear of a repeat of last summer's port meltdown. Vessel discharge takes upwards of 3 weeks, with warehouse operations trying to keep up with increased imports.
- Securing spacing out of origin to USWC northwest corridor of (Seattle/Vancouver) are next to impossible.

Inland transportation

- Seeing a stabilization and slight decrease of inland over the road rates, however, this could change leading into the summer months.

Other

- Warehouse labor shortages and heavy imports still affecting service provider performance.

EUROPE

Ports situation and inland transportation

- Congestion in the North persists. This is mainly due to global supply chain disruptions originating in China and sanctioned Russian cargo remaining on board.
- Italian ports are still heavily congested – especially in Liguria (Genoa).
- Trucks are very difficult to find in the whole region, and once found, schedules are not reliable. We highly recommend to our clients to plan any warehouse loadings and book required trucks at least one week ahead regardless of the location.

Other

- Shipments to Russia are still being canceled by most shipping lines. We continue to encourage our clients with pending shipments to the area to contact our commercial team and work on an alternative. We can offer to land your cargo into one of our trusted warehouses in Europe and take care of the full coordination up until ex-works delivery.



LATIN AMERICA

BRAZIL

Container availability + vessel space

- May exports are doing quite well in terms of equipment release compared to the beginning of 2022. Overall, the situation seems to be improving month by month in terms of container availability.
- Spaces on vessels remain difficult for closer ETDs and anticipated booking requests keep being the best option.
- DRY PORT customs clearance procedure is the biggest constraint on logistics operations in Brazil and is creating huge backlogs of containers waiting for physical inspection and customs release.

COLOMBIA

Container availability + vessel space

- Overall normal situation, availability of spaces for any destination.

Other

- MSC has decided to cancel their LCL/FCL shipments out of Cartagena.

OTHER

- In Peru, the situation is getting better when it comes to availability of equipment and space.
- In Honduras, Puerto Cortes is heavily congested which poses difficulties with bookings and equipment. Freight transport workers are holding a nationwide strike and associated protests in several parts of Honduras.
- In Nicaragua, a severe lack of containers and space availability.

AFRICA

UGANDA, RWANDA and KENYA

Container availability + vessel space

- Availability of containers is better than it has been in the past couple of months in Mombasa, but we are still facing some difficulties in Rwanda.
- It's still difficult to get bookings and space with some shipping lines. Messina's schedule has been fluctuating from twice a month to once a month.
- Mombasa port congestion operating normally.

Inland transportation

- Fuel prices have been rising consistently in the region and with an increase up to 43%. We anticipate an increase in transport costs soon.
- Trucks are available despite the rising fuel prices

Other

- All Certificates of Origin are now issued by the Uganda Chamber of Commerce (Ministry of Trade).

TANZANIA

Container availability + vessel space:

- Container availability is better in Dar but vessel space remains unchanged.

Port situation

- Port operation normal and vessels are spending on average 5 days on average from ETA to berth.

ETHIOPIA

Container availability + vessel space

- Vessel schedules are unreliable with all shipping lines. There are frequent changes.
- Container availability: High shortage projected for the coming months on all shipping lines.

ASIA

VIETNAM

Ports situation

- HCM ports have been operating normally for the past few months as Government has eased a lot of restrictions on covid control.

Container availability + vessel space

- Vessel schedules remain unreliable with all shipping lines and all routes.
- Apart from CMA, empty container shortage is not a real issue in April for other carriers.

INDONESIA

Container availability + vessel space

- Space is harder to secure from Panjang compared with Belawan. This is understandable due to bigger competition/export volume from South Sumatra.

Others

- Indonesia, the world largest producer of crude palm oil, has applied a complete ban on palm oil exports from 28 April 2022, which led to a huge impact on global food prices.

CHINA

Ports situation

- It is still a big question when China will end the lockdown. Shanghai export volumes are heavily impacted with a drop of as much as 40% and China's overall container throughput is down by at least 10% compared with same year on year period.
- Exporters from neighboring countries as well as importers in major destinations in US and Europe may be enjoying some temporary relief due to lower volumes shipped from China. However, they need to anticipate the coming pressure and have proper planning when China is back.

OTHERS

- To improve the operation efficiency of Port Klang (Malaysia) and reduce port congestion, all imported container goods from 1 May 2022 must be customs cleared within 3 days from arrival date at this port following new requirement from Ministry of Transport.

OTHER NEWS

Please be advised that from April 27 onwards, all RFA/UTZ/RA 2020 volumes will be reported on the new MULTITRACE platform following the Rainforest Alliance guidance.

SUCAFINA LOGISTICS VOICES

Hear from our Global Logistics team! In “Logistics Voices”, our team members reflect on the major challenges and opportunities we see in our day-to-day.

Today, Michel Beylouni, our Client Support Coordinator based in Beirut, speaks about his experience with Sucafina’s response to the many disruptions the logistics world has seen in the past year, which is summed in one of our core values: Adaptability.



“I have been working with Sucafina for more than a year now, and it has been a great experience. How I was able to learn so much about the coffee industry in this short period of time is amazing.

Day by day I’m facing new challenges, and with new challenges comes new experience, and this is the Sucafina life: continuous learning and improving skills. There is no dull day – each day is packed with new information. There is always something new to learn, from a new software to be used to adapting to a new global regulation and clients’ different requests.

We are changing and adapting to new action plans and strategies every day to comply with the changes and obstacles we are facing from Covid lockdowns, scarce resources and rising freight rates and all other disruptions we’ve seen lately. That is why Adaptability is one of my favorite core values of Sucafina. Seeing how Sucafina staff from all around the world is living by this core value is inspiring. I am happy and proud to be part of this amazing family.”