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SUCAFINA

Logistics Report



IN THIS ISSUE

- USA-China Customs Tariffs Update
- USA Fees on Chinese Vessels
- Global Schedule Reliability
- Red Sea Situation
- Threats to Close Strait of Hormuz
- Market Overview
- Main Ports: Status Update

USA – CHINA CUSTOMS TARIFFS

Effective May 14, a 90-day pause was agreed on certain US-China tariffs.

US tariffs will drop from 145% to 30%, and China's tariffs will drop from 125% to 10%, per a joint White House statement.

What to expect:

- A sharp increase in cargo shipments from China to the US is anticipated due to:
 1. Delayed shipments by US importers awaiting clarity.
 2. The pause coinciding with the start of the holiday shipping season, prompting early shipments.
- Carriers are likely to reverse recent blank sailing plans, though timing depends on vessel locations, possibly leading to temporary capacity shortages and rising spot rates.
- US ports, currently experiencing low volumes, may face congestion and delays within 3–6 weeks due to the cargo surge.





INTRODUCTION OF NEW USA PORT FEES ON CHINESE VESSELS

The U.S. government has announced the introduction of **new port usage fees** targeting **commercial vessels that are Chinese-built, Chinese-owned or Chinese-operated**. This policy is scheduled to take effect on **October 14, 2025**.

Key Highlights of the New USA Port Fee Policy

- **Effective Date:** October 14, 2025
- **Fee Structure:**
 - **Initial Fee:** \$50 per net ton of cargo capacity
 - **Annual Increase:** \$30 per net ton every year
 - **Capped Fee by 2028:** \$140 per net ton
- **Scope of Application:**
 - Vessels **built in China**
 - Vessels **owned by Chinese entities**
 - Vessels **operated by Chinese shipping lines**, regardless of flag state
- **Reasoning:**
 - This is part of a broader effort by U.S. policymakers to **revitalize domestic shipbuilding** and **reduce dependency on Chinese maritime assets**.
 - The policy follows findings from a formal investigation into China's shipbuilding subsidies and alleged unfair trade practices.

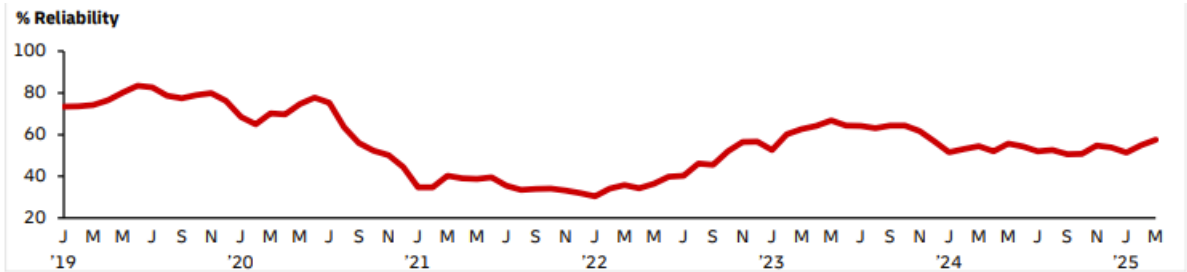


Business Implications:

1. **Potential Cost Increases:**
 - Carriers passing on these port fees to customers could result in **higher freight charges**, especially for inbound U.S. cargo routed via Chinese vessels.
2. **Carrier Selection Impact:**
 - Contracts or bookings involving Chinese-owned/operated ships may incur **additional charges or surcharges**.
3. **Operational Disruptions:**
 - Some carriers may **adjust their schedules or vessel deployment** strategies to avoid or reduce port fees.



SCHEDULE RELIABILITY



In March, schedule reliability improved by 3 points month to month to 57%, the highest since November 2023. Significant regional improvements were noted in several trades.

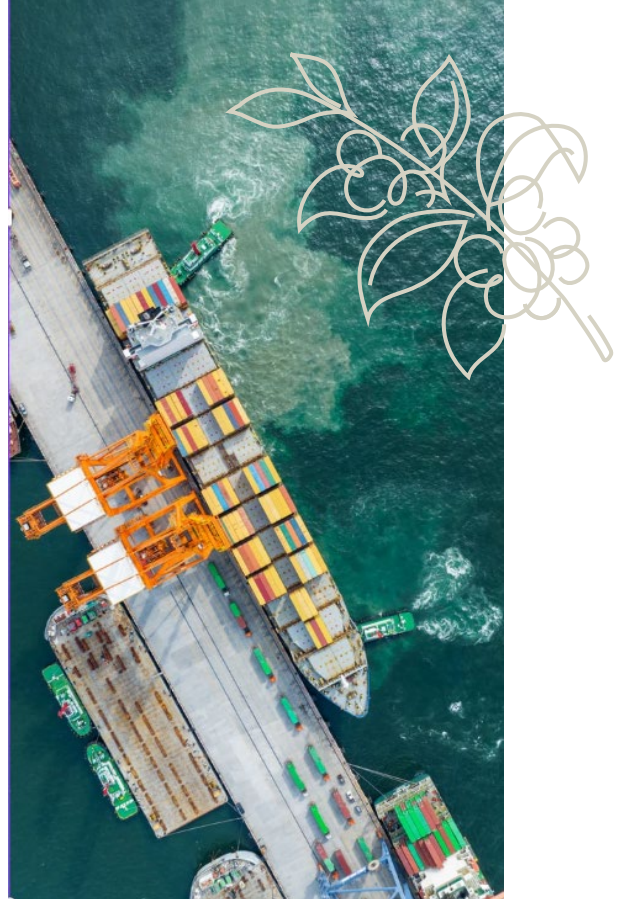
RED SEA SITUATION & IMPACT ON GLOBAL SHIPPING

Ongoing Threats to Maritime Shipping

- **Houthi Attacks Persist:** Despite a ceasefire between the U.S. and Yemen's Houthi rebels, the Houthis have launched over 250 attacks on military and commercial vessels in the Red Sea as of late April 2025.

Ongoing Impact on Global Shipping

- **Decline in Maritime Traffic:** Maritime traffic through the Red Sea has decreased by 60% since late 2023, as shipping companies reroute vessels to avoid the high-risk area.
- **Increased Costs and Delays:** The rerouting of ships around the Cape of Good Hope has led to longer transit times and higher shipping costs, affecting global supply chains.





RECENT GEOPOLITICAL TENSIONS AND THREATS TO CLOSE STRAIT OF HORMUZ

The Strait of Hormuz is one of the world's most vital energy chokepoints, with around 20% of global petroleum passing through it daily. Over the weekend of June 21-22 (2025), Iranian lawmakers threatened to close the strait, raising global alarm.

Major Gulf nations – including Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Iraq, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait and Iran – depend on this passage for both imports and exports. A closure, whether due to conflict, blockade, or attacks would severely disrupt global energy markets, spike prices and destabilize geopolitical dynamics.

Shipping routes would be forced to divert, adding hundreds of thousands of dollars in costs per vessel and leading to supply shortages across the region. The resulting economic and political pressure would deeply affect not only governments but also the millions of people living in and around the Gulf.



Image Source: Wikimedia Commons



MARKET OVERVIEW

TRADE LANE	COMMENTS
APAC > Global	• Capacity is tight, especially after reduction on tariffs • Increase in SPOT rates • Congestion at some major ports remains an issue
INDIA > Global	• Capacity is loosened • Rates have stabilized with a slight upwards trend
Brazil > Global	• Capacity is getting better • Port congestion and gate windows still critical • 1-2 roll overs still expected for some cases
CAM > Global	• Capacity is tight • Container shortages in 20s and 40s from Honduras/Nicaragua • 1-2 roll overs with most carriers
EA > Global	• Capacity is good • Containers available except Ethiopia • Port Congestion is manageable





ADVICE TO CUSTOMERS: A SHORT “CHECKLIST” TO PREVENT SUPPLY CHAIN DISRUPTION

REVIEW

Assess your inventory, identify critical items and specify volumes per key trade lane.

→ Use structured internal processes and systems.

CHECK

Analyze your logistics flows and prioritize demand based on urgency and business needs.

→ Engage with local customer support or supply chain teams.

SECURE

Ensure availability of space and equipment for essential goods and high-priority items.

→ Consider long-term contracts and risk-sharing pledges.

MAP

Improve reliability and flexibility through diverse sailing schedules and routing options.

→ Leverage a broad network of carriers and routes.

PLAN

Boost supply chain visibility through data transparency and digital tools.

→ Use dashboards and digital supply chain platforms.

MONITOR

Track port congestion, vessel reliability and schedule changes in real time.

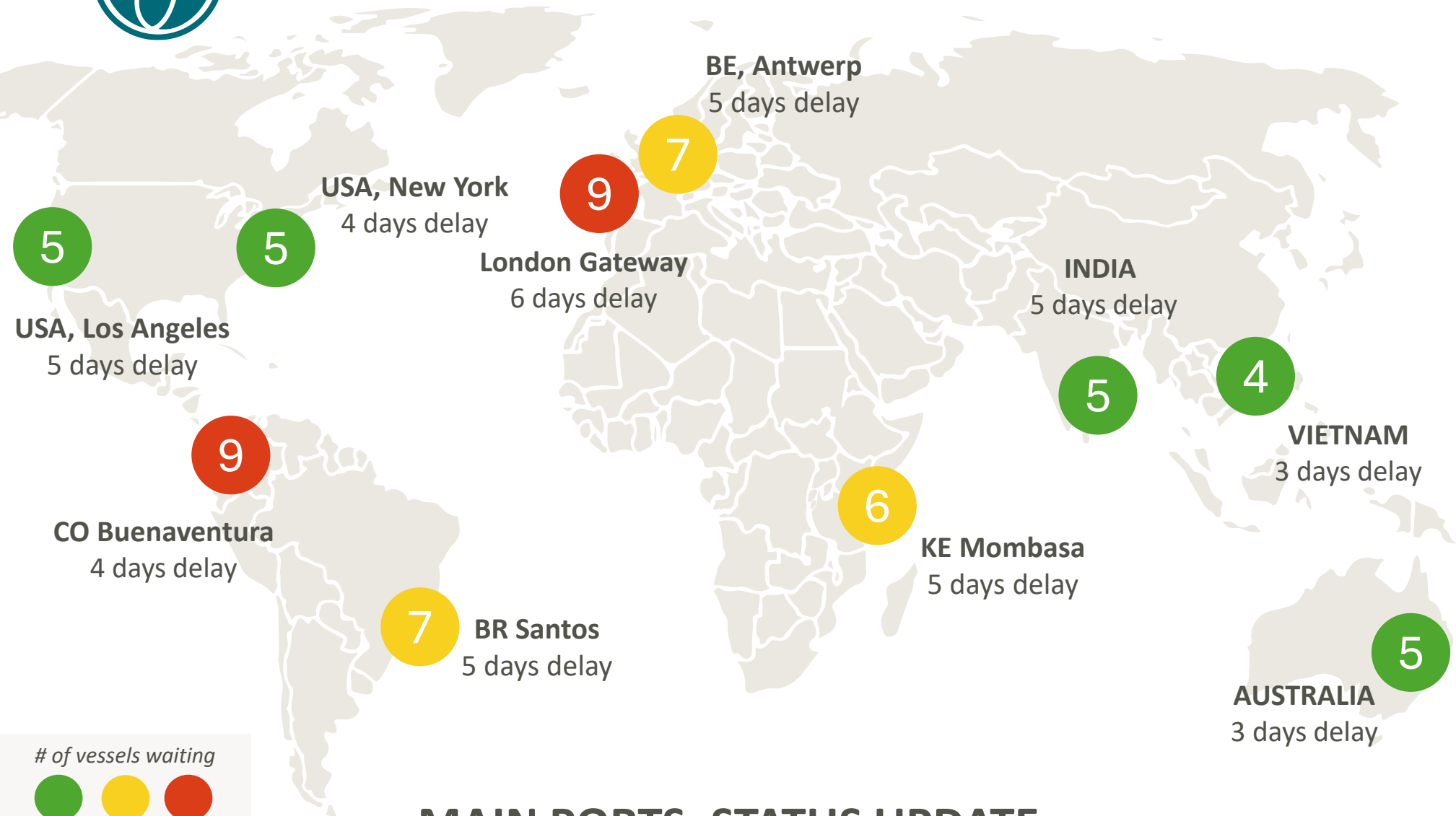
→ Use digital tools to receive live updates and alerts.

AVOID

Avoid procurement decisions that could cause misalignment and unrealistic expectations.

→ Focus on integrated trade lane and demand planning.





of vessels waiting

low medium severe

MAIN PORTS: STATUS UPDATE