

Suez Canal

Vessel Ever Green which was jammed diagonally, has been re-floated and is sailing north. There is damage and vessel will be inspected

Canal authorities say regular navigation will resume soon. Backlog expected to clear within 4 four days. Shipping lanes impacted – Asia and East Africa to Europe and North America.

Some carriers have re-routed vessels via South Africa.


ASIA**Thailand**

Container shortage is disrupting the supply chain as carriers are said to prioritize neighboring countries such as China or Vietnam. The country faced a shortage of roughly 1.5 mil containers in 2020 and government has promised to subsidize import fees for empty boxes for up to 6 months in 2021.

Indonesia

Jakarta-Bandung, being the first South-east Asia's high speed rail project, connecting the capital city of Jakarta to the textile hub of Bandung, was said completed by 64% and is expected to start operation in 2021.

China

China's manufacturing activity weakened for a second consecutive month in January, following outbreaks of new domestic COVID-19 cases.

The number of China-Europe freight trains hit 1,165 in January, up 66 percent year on year, data from the China State Railway Group Co., Ltd. showed. This was the ninth straight month that China-Europe freight train trips exceeded 1,000, according to the company.

India

18,000 new Covid cases were detected on 6th & 7th March, which raised worries for a fresh wave in India after it reached the lowest number in Feb.

Vietnam

Exporters are still struggling with space & container shortage, vessel delays, rollovers and cancellations. However, despite above + ongoing pandemic, total Vietnam's export revenue of Jan + Feb has increased by 25% compared with last year.

For the first time in Vietnam, steel maker Hoa Phat decided to invest in 2 factories manufacturing shipping containers, with total capacity of 500k TEU/year. Production is expected to start from 2nd quarter of 2022. This company believes they are able to compete with China producers, who have been controlling 90% of the world's containers and who have cut output by 40% during the last 2 years.

First Covid-19 vaccine batch arrived Vietnam on 24 Feb and the frontline people will receive the first doses on Monday 8 Mar.



SOUTH AMERICA

Brazil

Exporters are having difficulties with Phytosanitary certificates in Vitoria/ES and Santos/SP, leading to constraints with different buyers. NPPO Brazil claims that one of the reasons is due to COVID 19 situation that has impacted their routine drastically.

Currently cargo is flowing smoothly for the past two months. Rumors of 20 TEU containers shortage in the upcoming months. Lack of southbound containers are expected to impact northbound movement.

One of the biggest cities in Brazil, São Paulo Estate with almost 40 million people, has declared lockdown again in order to combat virus spread. Essential services including foreign trade (supply chain and logistics operation) will not be affected. Vaccine operation has started in Brazil. More than 4 million people are vaccinated; half of them are on their 2nd dosage.

Colombia

Shipping lines are facing lack of spaces for March sailings vessels in Buenaventura: Carriers are only offering spaces for first week of April onwards

No rumors of empty containers shortage so far.

We have been notified about some delays in the imports to Colombia due "operative issues" with MSC in Cristobal, Panama. Until the moment only 2 shipments have been affected.

AFRICA

Uganda

There has been on-going congestion at Port of Mombasa. The situation is causing major delays in port operations, vessel schedules and movement of vessels in / out.

The vessel departure delays have also impacted on planned connection at transshipment port, causing long transit and negatively affecting arrival date at Port of Discharge.

Traffic Jams are also being experienced at Mombasa port resulting to restriction in number of trucks accessing port, to move out import cargo and allow export cargo in.

Shipping line containers shortage due to the slow clearance from Mombasa port, delay at Malaba border; this in return affecting availability and turn-around of trucks movement.

SUCAFINA COVID-19 UPDATES

Sucafina has regular updates all centralized on our dedicated website:
www.covid19.sucafina.com