

INTERNATIONAL MONTHLY MARKET UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2024



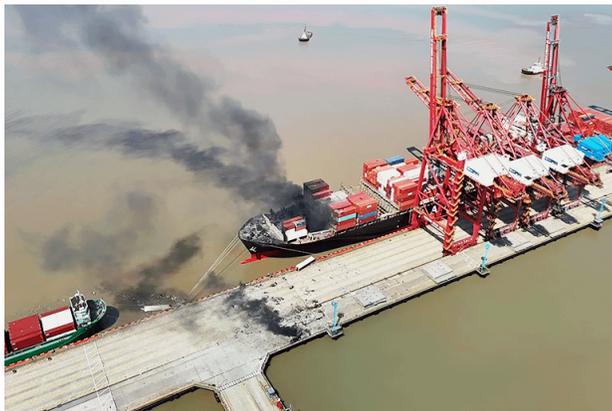
Seasonal measures for the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) are now in effect. From September 1, 2024, through April 30, 2025, all cargo destined for Australia and New Zealand must undergo fumigation. Shippers must submit a signed BMSB declaration before the documentation cut-off with carriers. Failure to comply will lead to shipment delays. For detailed information on the requirements and the reasons for mandatory fumigation, please refer to the [Australian Government's Department of Agriculture, Water, and Environment](#).



As September approaches, concerns about a potential strike by the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) are intensifying. The ILA has scheduled meetings on September 4th and 5th to address their current demands, but negotiations have stalled since June. The union's demands primarily center around pay increases that surpass the current contract of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union on the West Coast. Additionally, the ILA strongly opposes any incremental automation that would streamline the union's workforce.

What happens if a new contract isn't reached? The ILA may follow through on their threat to strike on October 1. Under the Taft-Hartley Act, President Biden could request a court order to impose an 80-day cooling-off period. This act allows the government to compel unions back to work if a work stoppage poses a national emergency.

China Update



(Photo: Explosion on YM Mobility / Source: [ShipsGo blog](#))

On August 9, a massive explosion occurred on the vessel *YM Mobility* while docked at the Ningbo terminal. Local footage initially showed a

significant amount of smoke emanating from the ship, followed by a powerful blast that ignited a fire. The explosion was traced to a hazardous container holding 5.2 type peroxide in a reefer container, which had been substituted for a dry container and was not connected to a power source. This vessel services routes between the Far East and the Middle East Gulf regions. The terminal was shut down for several days, and Yang Ming has declared General Average, meaning all stakeholders will be required to share the costs of the incident.

Port News

Effective September 1, 2024, Pier Pass rates will increase. The Traffic Mitigation Fee (TMF) will increase to \$37.71 per TEU and \$75.42 Per FEU.

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey reported its busiest July on record, surpassing 800,000 TEUs. This surge in volume was driven by early peak season shipments and concerns over a potential strike at East and Gulf Coast ports by the International Longshoremen's Association. The port hasn't experienced such high volume since September 2022, with current figures tracking 14% higher than in June 2024.

High import volumes at Pacific Southwest ports continue to cause delays, with over 5% of current shipments sitting for more than nine days. Many importers have redirected their shipments to the West Coast to avoid a potential strike, contributing to the ongoing congestion. Delays should be expected.

Weather Delays

Weather continues to disrupt shipments off the East Coast of South Africa, with the South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA) reporting another incident. The CMA CGM vessel *Belem* encountered severe weather, resulting in a stow collapse and the loss of 99 containers overboard. Warnings have been issued for other vessels to report any sightings of the lost containers still floating at sea. This marks the second such incident for CMA CGM within the last month, as the *CMA CGM Benjamin Franklin* lost 40 containers in the same area just a month earlier. SAMSA is collaborating with the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) to assist in recovering the lost containers.

Customs

US CBP released the July monthly operational statistics, which include:

- More than 2.9 million customs entries were processed, valued at more than \$297.3 billion, with estimated duties of nearly \$7.8 billion to be collected.
- Ocean accounted for 42.57% of all international entries.
- CBP completed 34 audits in July and identified \$355.6 million in duties and fees owed from improperly declared goods.
- CBP seized 2,230 shipments containing counterfeit goods valued at over \$1.2 billion.
- 408 shipments valued at more than \$70 million were stopped for further examination due to suspicion of being made with forced labor. The CBP is the leading US government agency focusing on eliminating goods made with forced labor.



CBP announced the expansion of Operation Plaza Spike, which is the counter-fentanyl surge operation from El Paso and Juarez region, with the addition of Operation Apollo X, which will bring the full force of CBP across the southwest border from El Paso to San Diego.

- CBP officers at the Port of Lukeville seized approximately 4 million blue fentanyl pills weighing more than 1,000 pounds, the largest singular fentanyl seizure in CBP history.

CBP announced the agency's 2024-2025 plan to accelerate testing and adoption of global interoperability standards. The agency will work with both private and public sector partners during the 2024 testing and 2025 international testing phases.

- Interoperability is the ability of different computer systems and software to communicate with each other, allowing CBP and other government agencies to communicate with other software, allowing companies to choose their technology and not have to file directly on CBP ACE system.

United States Trade Representative delays the start of Section 301 tariff modifications while they continue to review comments. The final determination is expected in August 2024.

A national survey from the Cato Institute reveals that 63% of Americans want to increase trade with other nations, while 75% worry tariffs are raising prices.

Effective August 14, CBP at all US ports of entry will no longer withhold the release of tuna and seafood products harvested by Yu Long No.2, a Taiwanese fishing vessel.

The international team is here to help with your logistic needs! Making Logistics Happen!
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Sources: Department of Agriculture, Australian Government, Pier Pass, G Captain, Splash, DSV, WorldCargo News, ShipsGo, CBP.GOV, customsandinternationaltradelaw.com, FreightWaves, Maersk, Sonar