

Feb 28, 2020

To Our Valued Customers,

Our industry is experiencing some unprecedented challenges as the result of the outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Whilst China operations slowly get back on line the resulting impact of the past weeks closures is causing severe challenges to supply chains and the expectation is that it will take weeks to get back to normal.

Below is a current summary of the impact of the COVID-19 in the U.S

- Carriers continue to add blank/void sailings impacting container flows.
- The lack of imports from Asia is leading to a serious shortage of equipment at inland CYs while ports/terminals capacity is getting tight due to lack of container movement.
- Earlier this week, some steamship lines have started issuing advisories asking customers to hold on to equipment as they are experiencing space issues at their LAX/LGB Terminals. It is expected these same challenges will occur at other U.S terminals in the coming days.
- Space overall is consequently becoming extremely tight on a lot of Transpacific services including the Middle East and Indian Sub-Continent regions, leading vessel operators to announce multiple GRIs for the months of March & April.

We recommend our customers to book as early as possible as space becomes a growing issue in the coming weeks. We also ask to pay special attention to remarks & disclaimers regarding rate validity & general rate increases.

ECU Worldwide is appreciative of your continuous support and will provide you, our valued customers, with as much assistance as possible during these challenging times.

We will continue monitoring the situation & share relevant updates accordingly. Feel free to contact your local ECU Worldwide office should you have any additional questions.