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France

New rates on several routes for CMA CGM as from the 15th December

The French shipping company CMA CGM has announced that since the 15th December 2011, it has implemented a new rate restoration programme. A surcharge of US \$ 600 per TEU will be applied on containers transported from Asia to Mexico, West Coast of Central America and West Coast of South America.

Furthermore, from Asia to the Caribbean, shippers will have to pay an additional sum of US \$ 560 per 20 feet container and US \$ 800 per 40 feet container. Finally, from Asia to West Africa, an additional US \$ 250 per TEU will be charged.

A security fee on freight traffic by train through the Channel Tunnel

As from the 1st January 2012, RFF, the company that manages the rail network in France, will introduce a security fee on freight traffic by rail through the Channel Tunnel. That fee might be around € 600 per train.

The fee will cover the costs for protecting the transit zone near the entrance to the tunnel in France. Trains have to stop to change locomotives in that area where migrants try to enter illegally into the United Kingdom.

Previously, Fret SNCF was footing the bill but as it holds 20% of freight train traffic through the tunnel, it is no longer willing to pay for the private rail operators.

160 million euros invested in a new container terminal at the port of Le Havre

A quay 1 400 metres long and equipped with four berths, will be built at Le Havre to accommodate vessels up to 14 000 TEUs.

The first berth will be opened by January 2012 and the 3 others by the end of next year.

The shipping line MSC and the cargo-handling operator Terminaux de Normandie will invest €160 million.



INDIA

23 major port development projects

The Ministry of Shipping will award contracts concerning 23 major development projects at ports through the public private partnership system during the current financial year 2011/12.

The contract for constructing a fourth terminal at Jawaharlal Nehru Port and estimated at Rs 67 billion, has been awarded to a consortium composed of Port of Singapore Authority and ABG Ports.

Moreover, the tender for building a mega container terminal at Chennai port, has been issued and the works will require an investment of Rs 37 billion.

Port of Chennai to purchase a scanner

The port of Chennai will buy next year, a state-of-the-art scanner for containers from the United States. The objective is to resolve its congestion problem.

New service by K Line

Shipping company K Line has enhanced its West India service by introducing since the end of November, a new Kwangyang/Kaohsiung - West India Express service.

The direct service from Kwangyang and Kaohsiung calls each week at Nhava Sheva and Karachi.

The port rotation is Kwangyang - Pusan - Shanghai - Ningbo - Kaohsiung - Singapore - Nhava Sheva - Karachi - Port Klang - Singapore - Kwangyang.



MADAGASCAR

Safety audit at Ivato International Airport

The International Civil Aviation Organisation is planning to undertake a safety audit of Ivato International Airport in February 2012.

The International Civil Aviation Organisation must give its green light for an airport to be able to welcome international flights.

Tariffs of electricity might increase

The tariffs of electricity might increase due to the financial problems of company Jirama which supplies electricity in Madagascar.

The latest tariff review occurred three years ago and since then, the bad debts of several of its industrial customers have accumulated. This tariff hike will have far-reaching effects on the prices of products and services.

Jirama is currently operating at a loss. Furthermore, its frequent power cuts are affecting operators of different industries.

Freeport project at Ehoala

Madagascar intends to set up a freeport at Ehoala for the transshipment of containers.

The Transport Minister of Madagascar, Benjamina Ramanantsoa stressed the importance of the freeports of Madagascar and of Mauritius to establish common strategies to face competition from other regional hubs.



MAURITIUS

New airport terminal operational by early 2013

The construction of the new terminal at SSR International Airport has been completed by more than 40%. The new terminal of 57 000 square metres, will have 5 boarding gates.

The building contract has been awarded by tender to China State Construction Engineering Corporation Ltd for US \$ 305.8 million.

Initially, the project was expected to be delivered by September 2012 but due to additional works that would be needed due to caves on the construction site, the contractor has obtained an extension of 3 months. The new terminal will be operational at the beginning of 2013.

Mauritius hosted a workshop on the 'Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air'

The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) held a five-day workshop on the 'Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air' in Mauritius at the end of last month, with 27 participants from the African-Indian Ocean region and 12 from the aviation industry of Mauritius.

The workshop has enabled inspectors of dangerous goods to acquire the necessary skills to ensure compliance with ICAO safety requirements and standards, especially on the appropriate packing to be used, the classification and amount authorised on board of a passenger aircraft or a cargo plane.

Mauritius courts of justice to prosecute piracy offences

Mauritius will introduce a bill of law on piracy and maritime violence to prosecute piracy offences under the United Nations Convention on the Laws of the Sea.

The European Union and other States will hand over to Mauritius persons suspected of having committed acts of piracy, maritime attack and related offences for the purpose of being prosecuted by a court of justice.



MOZAMBIQUE

US \$ 6 billion to be invested in the expansion of a coal project

Brazilian company Vale will invest US \$ 6 billion to expand its coal project at Moatize so as to produce an output of 22 million tons a year instead of 11 million tons as initially planned.

The expansion will comprise the construction of a US \$ 4.4 billion new coal terminal at the northern port of Nacala and a rail line of 912 km to link the coal mine to the port.

Mozambique positions itself as the main supplier of fish of the SADC

The Mozambican Minister of Fishery, Victor Borges has announced that Mozambique could become one of the main fish suppliers of SADC, the Southern African development Community.

He stated to the press that his ministry has identified 77 acres of land on the coastline and 32 maritime zones that could be exploited to produce one million tons of different types of fish each year.

US \$ 1.8 billion to be invested in power transmission line

Mozambique is looking to establish a new electric power transmission line between the Dam of Cahora Bassa and the capital, Maputo.

US \$ 1.8 billion will be invested in the project to meet the rising demand for energy in the country.



OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD

Maersk Line and Orient Overseas (International) cut services on Asia-Europe trades

Two shipping lines, Maersk Line and Orient Overseas (International) have announced cuts in the services on the trades between Asia and Europe due to lower demand and the Eurozone debt crisis.

Maersk Line will merge its Icon service which links the Far East and the Indian subcontinent to Northern Europe, with its Asia-Europe Daily network.

The Chinese company Orient Overseas (International) has already stopped servicing one of the four loops of the Asia-Europe service which it operates in partnership with shipping lines Hapag-Lloyd and NYK.

MSC and CMA CGM enter into an alliance

Shipping lines Mediterranean Shipping Co (MSC) and CMA CGM have established an alliance in line with European competition rules. It will start in March 2012 and last for an initial period of two years.

The alliance will cover several trades, including Asia-Northern Europe, Asia-Southern Africa and South American.

The largest ships will service each trade lane, with vessel sharing agreements so as to achieve economies of scale. However, the 2 shipping companies will not have collective pricing.

Court has banned night flights at Frankfurt Airport

A court of justice has banned flights at Frankfurt Airport between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. due to residents complaining about the noise. Lufthansa Cargo had to switch its night freighter services, about 10 per night, to other airports.