

V-News

17/12/2012

LATEST LOGISTICS AND FORWARDING NEWS

FRANCE

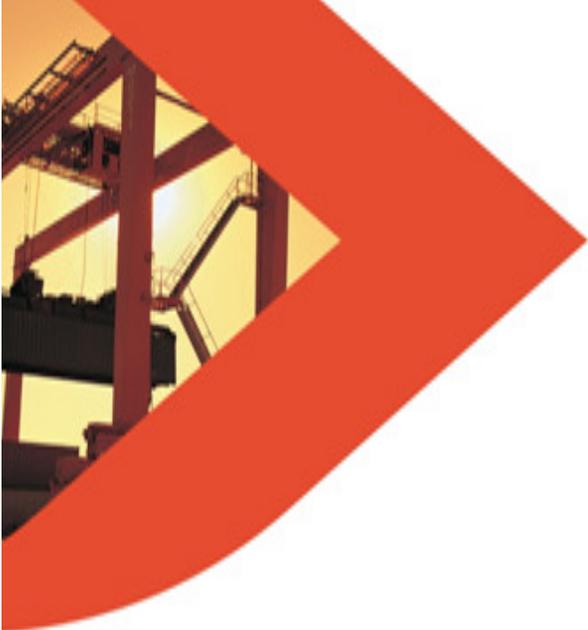
- A third rail motorway in France
- Construction of a tunnel between Lyon and Turin
- CMA CGM has invested in the port of Long Beach

INDIA

- Kolkata Port will increase substantially its cargo handling capacity
- Haulage rates increase by up to 31%
- COSCO Container Lines increase its tariffs

MADAGASCAR

- Extension works at the port of Toamasina next year
- Suspension of any export of scrap iron and ferrous objects
- 80 billion ariary in the 2013 budget



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MAURITIUS

- Nine projects worth Rs 857.4 million
- Alitalia schedules flights between Italy and Mauritius
- Exports on the up

MOZAMBIQUE

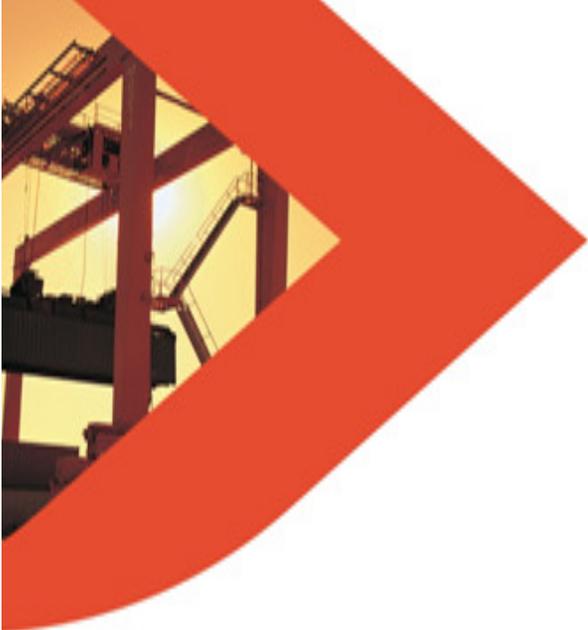
- US \$ 2 billion project
- Mozambique plans to boost its revenue
- A contract of 138 million euros

REUNION ISLAND

- XL Airways has started to service Reunion Island
- XL Airways to New York next year
- New coastal road

OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD

- Government of Indonesia issues new regulations on imported horticulture products
- Ranking of shipping lines
- Changing trend



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LATEST LOGISTICS AND FORWARDING NEWS

FRANCE

A third rail motorway in France

The French government has initiated the project of creating a third rail motorway in France which will link the Basque country in the south to Picardy in the north.

The Autoroute Ferroviaire de l'Axe Atlantique (Atlantic Rail Motorway) aims at shifting the transportation of freight from trucks to trains so as to reduce traffic jam on the major highways of France. The commercial launch of the Atlantic Rail Motorway is expected to be year 2015. Freight terminals will be constructed in Bayonne and Dourges. The railways will also have to be modified to accommodate the flat-bed wagons carrying lorry trailers.

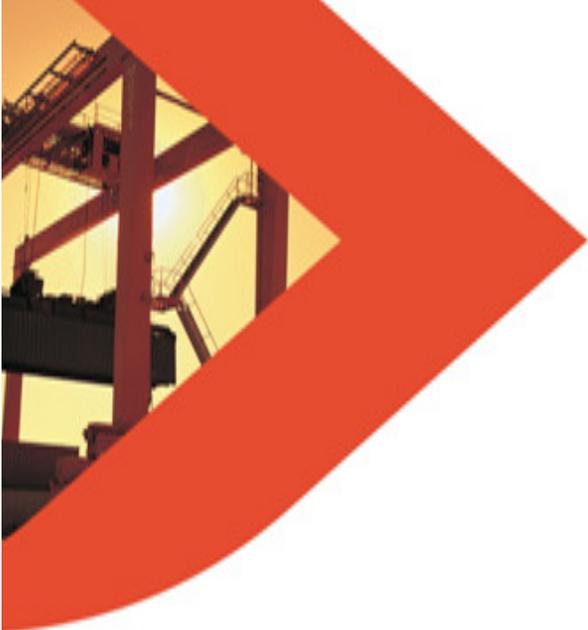
Construction of a tunnel between Lyon and Turin

A 57 km tunnel dedicated to railway, will be constructed through the Alps from Saint-Jean-de-Maurienne on the French side to Susa in Italy.

The project is estimated at € 8.5 billion. The transportation time of freight by train between Lyon and Turin, would be reduced from 3½ to 1½ hours.

CMA CGM has invested in the port of Long Beach

CMA CGM has become a partner in the lease and operations of the 256-acre terminal on the West coast of the United States. Its vessels will call exclusively at the port of Long Beach when using the San Pedro Bay gateway.



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INDIA

Kolkata Port will increase substantially its cargo handling capacity

The Kolkata Port Trust will increase its annual cargo handling capacity by 23.4 million tonnes. The state government has given almost 160 acres of land to the project. A Request for Proposal (RFP) has been issued to implement the project worth 17 billion Indian rupees.

15 offers have already been received by the Kolkata Port Trust from companies such as Adni Essar, Shapoorji Pallonji Infrastructure, Gammon India, JSW Infrastructure, Jindal ITF... The project will be carried out under a public-private partnership with a concession to be granted.

Haulage rates increase by up to 31%

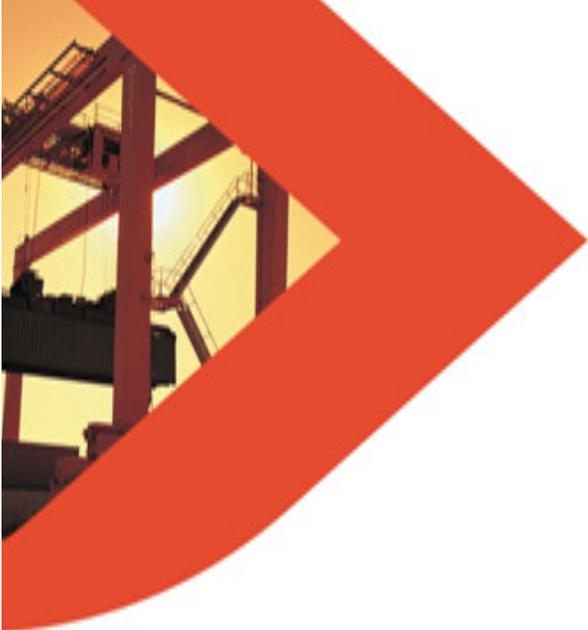
Indian Railways (IR) is going to increase haulage rates by up to 31 per cent. The haulage charges are paid by freight train operators for using the tracks, locomotives and signalling infrastructure belonging to Indian Railways.

A 22 per cent increase has already been implemented since the 1st December and another rise will be applied as from the 1st February 2013.

These increases will impact on both domestic and export-import businesses. According to analysts, the price of commodities may rise by around 20% in some parts of India distant from the ports, in March of next year.

COSCO Container Lines increase its tariffs

Since the 1st December, COSCO has applied a rate restoration of US \$ 150 per TEU on all shipments for the Indian Sub-Continent trade.



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MADAGASCAR

Extension works at the port of Toamasina next year

As from the month of January 2013, major extension works will begin at the containers' terminal and on the site dedicated to the scanner. Eight acres of additional reclaimed land, will enable the capacity of the terminal to be increased from 175 000 containers now to 330 000.

The company which manages the autonomous port of Toamasina, SPAT will invest from its own funds a total of 26 billion ariary to undertake these works as the port has already reached its maximum handling capacity. A new platform for Ro-Ro vessels will be set up by year 2014 so that Toamasina reinforces its positioning as a regional hub.

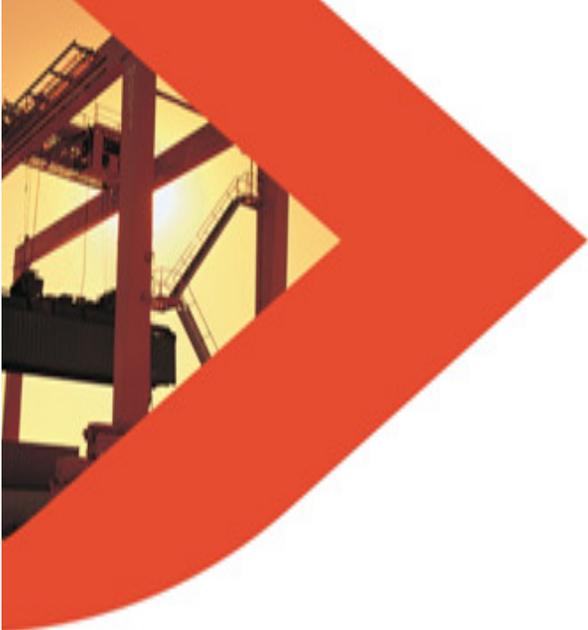
Suspension of any export of scrap iron and ferrous objects

The Malagasy government has issued at the beginning of December, a decree ordering the suspension of any export of scrap iron and ferrous objects from the country.

A means of fighting the robbery of scrap iron in Madagascar.

80 billion ariary in the 2013 budget

According to the Malagasy press, the government will make provision for 80 billion ariary in the 2013 budget to absorb any fuel price rise and minimise its impact on the cost of living.



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MAURITIUS

Nine projects worth Rs 857.4 million

Nine projects have been included by the Government of Mauritius in its Public Sector Investment Programme.

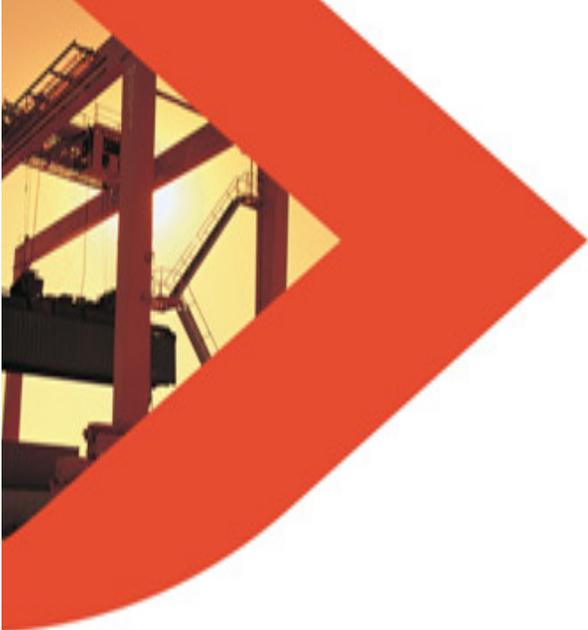
The projects worth Rs 857.4 million, comprise the updating of the passport personalization system, the acquisition of an Air Traffic Management System and fire fighting equipment, the digitization of classrooms project, the extension of the building for Neonatal Intensive Care Unit of Victoria Hospital in Port Louis.

Alitalia schedules flights between Italy and Mauritius

The Italian air carrier Alitalia will ensure as from the 24th December and up to the end of March 2013, a weekly flight between Roma as well as Milan and the island of Mauritius. The plane will take off in Italy on Mondays and land in Mauritius the following day.

Exports on the up

From January to November 2012, the value of exports of Mauritian enterprises compared to the same period last year, has increased by 2% to the UK, 6.1% to France, 28.8% to Spain, 35.3% to South Africa and 39.9% to Belgium.



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MOZAMBIQUE

US \$ 2 billion project

Mozambique will invite international bids for the construction of railways and development of a new port to increase its coal exports.

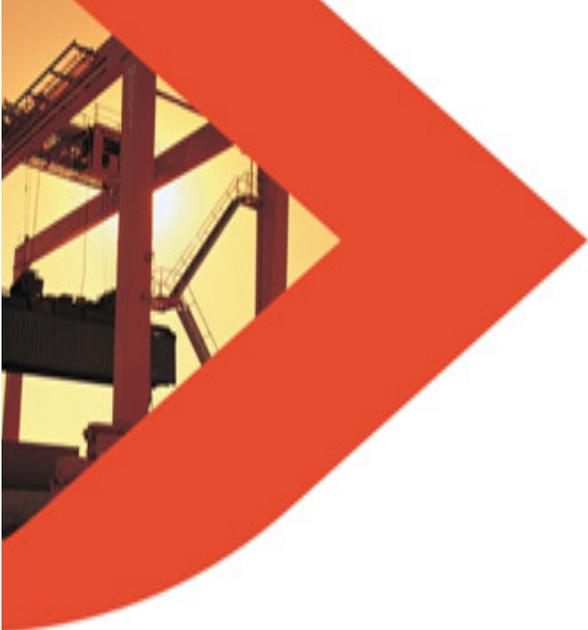
The project will cost about US\$ 2 billion. It will comprise a 525 km railway line from the Tete province to Macuse as well as a new port to handle annually around 20 million tonnes of coal. Currently, the Sena line, the only railway link between the coal-rich Moatize basin with the coast, can carry around 3 million tonnes of coal. Mozambique has one of the world's largest untapped reserves of coal.

Mozambique plans to boost its revenue

Mozambique plans to boost its revenue by \$6-\$8 billion a year through its massive gas reserves and develop an industry for the export liquefied natural gas.

A contract of 138 million euros

The Finish company Wartsila has signed a contract of 138 million euros with Central Termica de Ressano Garcia of Mozambique to supply an electricity generating plant powered by gas.



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REUNION ISLAND

XL Airways has started to service Reunion Island

The air carrier XL Airways has started since the 7th December to service Gillot airport from the town of Marseille in the South of France. A weekly flight is scheduled with an Airbus A330 by XL Airways.

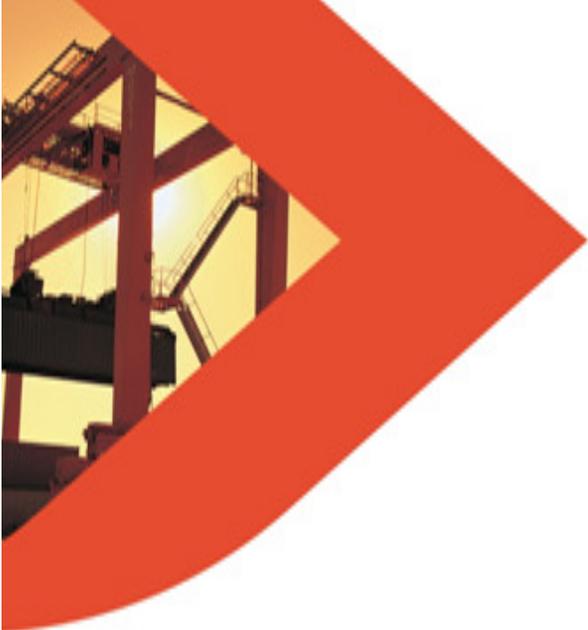
The plane takes off on Mondays from Reunion Island at 19 h 45 and lands at Marseille the next day at 4 h 20.

XL Airways to New York next year

Laurent Magnin, chairman of XL Airways, has announced that it will offer as from May 2013, a flight linking Reunion Island to New York via Marseille.

New coastal road

The tenders has been launched for this project of 1.6 billion euros. The construction works of the new coastal road will take six years.



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OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD

Government of Indonesia issues new regulations on imported horticulture products

The Ministry of Trade (MoT) of Indonesia has introduced new regulations since last month concerning the importation of horticulture products. Indonesian importers must be MoT's Registered Importers and own cold storage facilities.

Packaging compliance must be proven by certification by competent laboratory testing or self-declaration letter from importers. Labelling need to be in Bahasa Indonesia language and contain at least the name and/or brand of product; net weight or amount of product; name and producer and/or exporter's address; and name and importer's address.

All imports (by both registered and producer importers) are subject to pre-shipment verification in the port of origin by surveyors recommended by the Ministry of Trade of Indonesia.

Ranking of shipping lines

According to a report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the top five shipping lines are: Maersk Line of Denmark, Mediterranean Shipping Company of Switzerland, CMA CGM Group of France, APL of Singapore and Cosco of China.

Changing trend

Andreas Otto, board member for products and sales of Lufthansa Cargo said that the traditional end-of-year surge in air freight volumes out of Asia into Europe has largely failed to materialise again this year, and may have gone for good.