



V-News

15/5/2016

LATEST LOGISTICS AND FORWARDING NEWS

FRANCE

- CMA CGM enters into a new shipping alliance
- Air France will schedule flights to a new destination in Costa Rica
- CMA CGM has launched the Baltic Levant Express service

INDIA

- More than Rs 1 billion to be invested by Toyota
- Exports from India dropped for the 16th consecutive month in March 2016
- MOL has launched a new direct service between Japan and India

MADAGASCAR

- Two flights per week to Guangzhou (China) as from September 2016
- Revenues of 64.5 billion ariary generated by seafood exports
- Air Madagascar in quest of a strategic partner



V-News

15/5/2016

MAURITIUS

- The Dubai Ports World projects for Mauritius
- Major developments in the pipeline
- Project for the production of electricity from landfill gas

MOZAMBIQUE

- Mozambique wants to cooperate with Swaziland in a number of transport projects
- Enhancing trade between Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia
- Air Mauritius has started to land in Maputo

REUNION ISLAND

- Air Austral has cancelled its order for two A380
- The third ship to shore crane delivered
- 9 000 TEUs vessels now call at Port Reunion

OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD

- COSCO vessel will be the first to transit through the expanded Panama Canal
- Lower volumes at key container terminals in Hong Kong and Shenzhen (China)
- Maersk Line has recorded lower financial results

LATEST LOGISTICS AND FORWARDING NEWS

FRANCE

CMA CGM enters into a new shipping alliance

The French shipping company CMA CGM has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with 3 other shipping lines namely COSCO Container Lines, Evergreen Line and Orient Overseas Container Line, to establish a new alliance.

The objectives are to achieve faster transit times, increase the sailing frequencies and further extend their port coverage.

The alliance will have a fleet of more than 350 containerships. It will offer around 40 global services, mostly connected with Asia and about 20 services between the United States and Europe. The alliance intends to start its operations in April 2017, subject to approval from regulatory authorities especially of Europe and the United States.

Air France will schedule flights to a new destination in Costa Rica

As from the 2nd November 2016, Air France will add two new flights per week between Paris and San José, a new destination in Costa Rica. This country has a vibrant economy but will also serve as a gateway to Central America. A Boeing 777-300 will service the new link.

CMA CGM has launched the Baltic Levant Express service

Since the 9th May, CMA CGM has launched the Baltic Levant Express service which offers a direct connection between Saint Petersburg and the Eastern Mediterranean region.



V-News

15/5/2016

INDIA

More than Rs 1 billion to be invested by Toyota

Toyota will invest more than Rs 1 billion in a new diesel engine plant in Bengaluru and plans to market 108 000 units each year for the Indian market.

The diesel engine technology is an integral part of Toyota's expansion plans in India due to its fuel efficiency and despite the Court has recently banned diesel cars in Delhi.

Exports from India dropped for the 16th consecutive month in March 2016

According to latest statistics, exports from India dropped for the 16th consecutive month in March 2016, to US \$ 22.7 billion due to the global slowdown in demand.

WTO statistics indicate that in January 2016, exports to the United States fell by 10.8%, to China by 11.4% and to the European Union by 7.4%, compared to the same period in 2015.

Moreover, imports too contracted by 21.6% to US \$ 27.8 billion in March 2016 compared to March 2015.

MOL has launched a new direct service between Japan and India

Shipping company Mitsui O.S.K. has launched a new direct link between Japan/Vietnam and the west coast of India as well as Pakistan.



V-News

15/5/2016

MADAGASCAR

Two flights per week to Guangzhou (China) as from September 2016

Air Madagascar has entered into an agreement with the carrier of Reunion Island, Air Austral to operate an air link between Antananarivo, Madagascar and Guangzhou (China) via Reunion Island.

Two flights per week are planned as from September 2016.

The air route between Madagascar and China by Air Madagascar was suspended last January as it was not profitable. Aviation analysts estimate that 7 million dollars were lost per year.

Revenues of 64.5 billion ariary generated by seafood exports

The Customs Services of Madagascar have told the press that during the first quarter of 2016, exports of seafood attained 64.5 billion ariary.

A very encouraging figure as for the whole year of 2015, 12,800 tonnes of seafood worth 261.4 billion ariary had been exported by Madagascar.

Air Madagascar in quest of a strategic partner

Air Madagascar is looking for a strategic partner which will inject new capital and thus enable the company to reduce its short-term debts.

Air Mauritius has expressed its interest to become a strategic partner of Air Madagascar.



V-News

15/5/2016

MAURITIUS

The Dubai Ports World projects for Mauritius

DP World of Dubai has asked for a 99 year lease of a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) of 325 acres which will be used as a Logistics and Industrial Park. To optimise traffic to that SEZ, DP World wants an efficient port and has made a proposal to obtain 40% of the shares of the Cargo Handling Corporation Limited coupled with a management contract.

Moreover, they have expressed their intention to invest US \$ 500 million in an Island Terminal which will come online once container activities reach 1.3 million TEUs per year. Currently, 550 000 TEUs are handled in Mauritius during a year.

Major developments in the pipeline

The Government of Mauritius wants to make the Riche Terre Free become the largest Free Zone in the Indian Ocean, attracting both local and foreign investments. To achieve this ambition, there is the need for higher port connectivity, increased port productivity and more shipping lines on the south-south routes between south Asian markets and south African markets, calling at Port Louis.

Project for the production of electricity from landfill gas

The Government will launch a tender for the implementation of a new project for the production of electricity from Mare Chicose landfill gas.

MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique wants to cooperate with Swaziland in a number of transport projects

A delegation from the Government of Swaziland visited Mozambique at the end of last month to look into possible areas of cooperation between the two countries especially in the field of transportation.

The Mozambican Minister of Foreign Affairs, Oldemiro Baloi stated to the press that "Swaziland was informed of the road and rail transport situation, and the current stage of the Mozambican ports, particularly the Maputo port sugar terminal, bearing in mind that Swaziland is landlocked and needs these facilities for its exports and imports." Oldemiro Baloi added that Mozambique wants to cooperate with Swaziland in a number of transport projects but the issues of road fees and insurance need to be addressed.

Enhancing trade between Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia

Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia want to increase businesses among them. The leaders of these 3 countries, Filipe Nyusi, Peter Mutharika and Edgar Lungu have taken the decision to open up a trade route, the Nacala Corridor to boost commercial exchanges through the port of Nasa in Mozambique.

Air Mauritius has started to land in Maputo

Air Mauritius has launched a weekly flight from the Indian Ocean island to Maputo. While the incoming flight to Mozambique is a direct one, the return journey has a stop-over at Durban in South Africa.

The direct flight from Mauritius departs on Wednesdays.



V-News

15/5/2016

REUNION ISLAND

Air Austral has cancelled its order for two A380

Air Austral, the air carrier of Reunion Island, has cancelled its order for two A380 planes which were due for delivery at the end of next year.

The airline has decided to opt for a change in strategy.

Furthermore, Air Austral will put into service a B787 Dreamliner as from June 2016. The plane will mainly be used between the island's main airport, Roland Garros International and Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport, France. The B 787 Dreamliner has a cargo space of 137 m3.

The third ship to shore crane delivered

The third ship to shore crane of 'super-over-panamax' has been delivered to Port Reunion on the 26th April.

It has been manufactured in China by the company ZPMC and can lift up to 65 tonnes over a height of 56 m (21 rows of containers). The 3 ship to shore cranes coupled with the new increased quay depth, now enable Port Reunion to accommodate vessels having a capacity of up to 10 000 TEUs.

9 000 TEUs vessels now call at Port Reunion

Following the modernisation of Port Reunion, it has started to welcome since last month, vessels having a capacity of 9 000 TEUs instead of a maximum of 5 000 TEUs previously. The first to call was CMA CGM Tanya, a container carrying ship 300 m long and with a breadth of 48 m.



V-News

15/5/2016

OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD

COSCO vessel will be the first to transit through the expanded Panama Canal

Cosco has been selected after a draw to be first shipping company to transit through the expanded Panama Canal on the 26th June.

The new lane will enable the Panama Canal to double its traffic especially as the larger new Panamax vessels will be able to use it. The capacity of these latest generation container ships are one and a half times than that of a Panamax vessel.

Lower volumes at key container terminals in Hong Kong and Shenzhen (China)

Key container terminals in Hong Kong and Shenzhen (China) recorded lower volumes during the first quarter of 2016 due to weaker transshipment and intra-Asia trade.

In March 2016, the port of Hong Kong witnessed an 8% year-on-year decline of container throughput. However, outbound cargo to the United States and to the European Union, showed a slight upward trend in the first quarter of 2016.

Maersk Line has recorded lower financial results

Maersk Line's financial results for the first quarter of 2016 result amounted to USD 37 million, 94.9% lower than in the corresponding period in 2015 (USD 714 m). The weak demand and low freight rates accounted for this drop.