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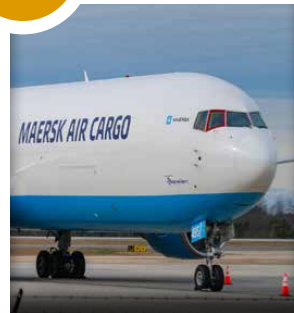
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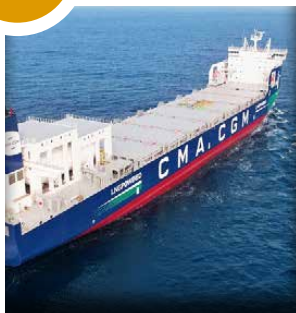
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Airfreight rides e-commerce to surprise growth in May

Conventional thinking suggests the unexpected strength of the air cargo market so far this year is ready to cool off for the summer, as freight activity normally does each year. It's not happening — yet.

Global airfreight volumes didn't subside after China's Lunar New Year holiday in February, as many industry professionals anticipated, and are still going strong, albeit with ebbs and flows. The primary catalysts remain Asian exporters shifting modes because of slower ocean transits around the Red Sea conflict zone and robust bookings by Chinese e-commerce platforms fulfilling orders in Europe and North America.

Air cargo demand grew 11% year over year in April — the fourth month in a row that has happened, according to rate benchmarking platform Xeneta. The International Air Transport Association, widely followed by the broader public, also reported lagging data showing volumes grew 10.3% in March and 13% during the first quarter. Sector volume has increased by double digits for five consecutive months, cementing the recovery trend from a steep downcycle that began in 2022.

And the momentum has carried over into early May with volumes up 12% to 16%, the latest data from WorldACD and Xeneta show.

Demand growth for air transport has tapered slightly in the Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia as ocean shipping schedules around the Red Sea conflict have become more predictable and cargo owners order goods with longer delivery times in mind, but volumes are still significant by historical standards. A short dip in April related to the Muslim Eid holiday and flooding at Dubai airport was replaced by a surge in flower volumes from Central and South America.

North America is the primary destination market for flowers shipped by air, consuming more than 60% of all flowers flown from Latin America and Africa combined, WorldACD said.

Colombia-based Latam Airlines, for example, said it moved more than 24,000 tons of flowers in the three weeks leading up to the Mother's Day holiday, marking a 20% increase compared to the

same period last year. Volumes out of Central and South America are now coming down with the passage of Mother's Day.

The improved business climate is reflected in cargo revenues reported by airlines for the first quarter, with year-over-year declines much narrower than every quarter last year. Air France-KLM's cargo revenues, for example, declined 16.5% compared to 23% in the fourth quarter and saw a 29% drop for the full year against 2022.

At the same time, cargo capacity has increased about 5% y/y as passenger airlines throw more aircraft into action for their big summer schedules, decreasing load efficiency by 3 points to 59%, said Xeneta.

Asia-Pacific air exports remain particularly robust with volumes up 13% in April (but only flat compared to 2019). And after a post-Lunar New Year dip, spot rates on the eastbound corridor from northeast Asia to the U.S. have rebounded by more than 30% y/y, according to Xeneta. Meanwhile, air shipping prices out of the Middle East and southwest Asia are up 42% y/y because of the longer ocean transit times around Africa.

surprise growth in
May



ETHIOPIAN CARGO GROWS FREIGHTER NETWORK IN INDIA

Ethiopian Cargo & Logistics Services is growing its network with two new freighter destinations in India. Hyderabad and Ahmedabad will be added to Ethiopian Cargo's freighter network from May 11, said Ethiopian Cargo & Logistics Services in a LinkedIn post on May 10. Starting May 11, 2024, we will offer twice-weekly air cargo service to and from Hyderabad and Ahmedabad, our fifth and sixth destinations in India, next to New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, and Bangalore," said the airline

AKASA AIR ADDS JEDDAH AS 2nd INT'L DESTINATION

Akasa Air has announced that it has added Jeddah in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as its second destination for its international network. The airline will connect Mumbai with Jeddah on July 15, starting with daily non-stop flights.



NAVIGATING LOGISTICS WITH PRECISION AND CARE



MSC AIR CARGO CONTINUES FLEET EXPANSION

MSC Air Cargo has taken delivery of its fifth freighter as it continues to expand its all-cargo fleet.

The carrier took delivery of its latest Boeing 777 freighter (I-MSCA) late last week. The aircraft, which carries an MSC livery and has been named Alfirk, will be based in Milan. Jannie Davel, senior vice president of MSC Air Cargo, said the aircraft will "enhance our efficiency and capabilities to better service our customers and trade lanes" in a LinkedIn post. According to fleet site PlaneSpotters, the aircraft was originally ordered by Air Canada Cargo before the Montreal-headquartered airline cancelled its plans to take on 777Fs due to weakening air cargo market conditions.



Lufthansa Cargo targets North America with freighter expansion

Lufthansa Cargo will expand its presence in North America with the launch of a new freighter service and an increase in bellyhold frequencies to other destinations.

The Frankfurt-hubbed freighter operator will launch a Boeing 777 freighter service to the Mexican city of Monterrey on June 3, with bookings now available.

The service rotation heads from Frankfurt (FRA) to Mexico City (NLU) and then onwards to Monterrey International Airport (MTY) and back to Frankfurt.

Flights will operate on a Monday and Lufthansa reckoned the service would be of interest to automotive suppliers, electronics providers, and customers transporting medical products.



MAERSK AIRLINE PREPARES TO DEPLOY FIRST 777 FREIGHTERS FOR PEAK SEASON



Maersk Air Cargo currently operates 21 Boeing 767 freighters and will soon add two Boeing 777s to the fleet

Maersk continues to move ahead with plans to grow its air cargo business in 2024 even as many competitors pull back in the wake of a painful downturn, culminating with a milestone next quarter when Boeing expects to deliver the first two 777s for the airline operation.

LUFTHANSA CARGO ADDS MONTERREY TO FREIGHTER FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Lufthansa Cargo customers can now book their freight from Frankfurt to the Mexican city of Monterrey. "From June 3, 2024, the logistics expert will offer a connection from its home hub to the North American city. The entire route goes from Frankfurt to Mexico City, then onwards to Monterrey International Airport and back to Frankfurt," says an official release. A B777F will operate on the new route every Monday, which should be interesting for automotive suppliers, electronics providers and customers transporting medical products, the release added.



ETIHAD CARGO FULLY PREPARED FOR UAE-PLACI

Etihad Cargo, the cargo and logistics arm of Etihad Airways, announced its complete readiness for the UAE



pre-loading advance cargo information (Placi) regulations, ensuring that partners and customers will experience no disruptions in their shipments. "The achievement underscores the carrier's commitment to maintaining the highest standards of security and efficiency in operations," says an official release. Placi is an advanced security measure designed to enhance the monitoring and safety of air cargo, the release added. "It mandates the submission of cargo data to regulatory authorities for risk assessment prior to loading, thereby enhancing the security of the supply chain."



Congratulations

To Mumbai Branch on achieving 93% of targets in the number of shipments and 95% in shipment turnover in the month of April.





Alaska Air starts Los Angeles freighter service with 737-700F

Alaska Air Cargo has begun a new twice-weekly freighter service from Anchorage to Los Angeles through Seattle in April 2024.

The airline informed that, starting later in May, the LAX route will be served by the larger 737-800BCF freighters, which have 10,000 pounds more capacity per aircraft than their existing 737-700s.

The new freighter service to Los Angeles is Alaska Air's first beyond Seattle in the lower 48, and it increases its capacity to meet a growing demand for air freight services in industries up and down the West Coast.

The increased capacity provides new connections to carry larger, palletized parts and supplies between the two hubs for aerospace, biotechnology and other industries whose operations depend on time-critical shipments.



MAERSK LAUNCHES AIR FREIGHT GATEWAY IN MIAMI

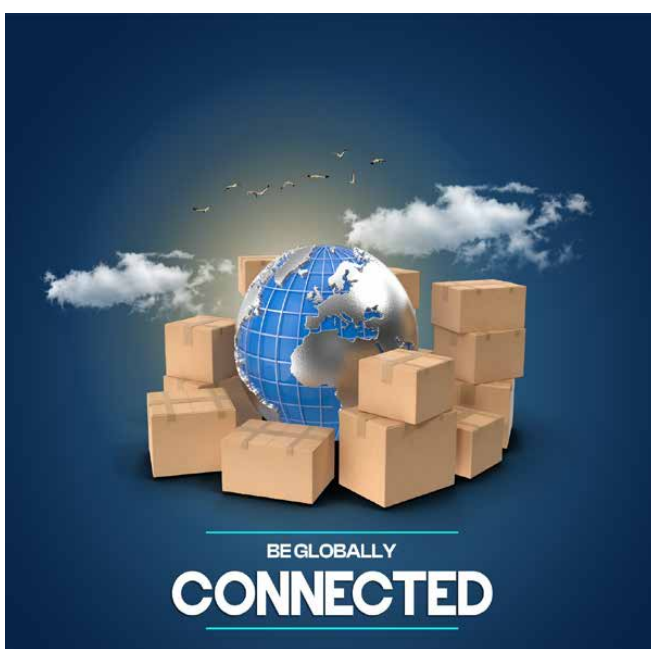
A.P. Moller - Maersk expanded its air freight operations footprint with the April activation of a full-service, in-transit gateway solution in Miami.



"This new air freight facility underscores

Maersk's commitment to providing seamless and competitive connectivity to major Latin American markets. The Miami gateway will serve as a strategic node in Maersk's global air freight network," reads the release.

"Our Miami expansion is a vital and strategic addition to our global gateway network, providing connectivity from Asia, Europe, and the US to Latin America," said, John Wetherell, global head of air freight forwarding at Maersk. The new gateway, modelled after operations in Atlanta, Chicago, and Los Angeles, will focus on transshipping European and Asian cargo via Miami to Latin America with competitive connectivity on freighter and passenger capacity. It will support the North American export market to Latin America and the Asian market that serves the Latin American supply chain via cost competitive U.S. routes.



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MAERSK OPENS ROTTERDAM CROSS-DOCK FACILITY TO ACCELERATE CARGO FLOW

Maersk has expanded its container supply chain services to European shippers with the launch of a new cross-dock facility at its Maasvlakte II terminal in Rotterdam yesterday.

Starbucks is the launch customer, which will “accelerate the flow of cargo significantly from arrival on a vessel to the point of sale”, Maersk said. After discharging containers from an arriving vessel, products can be unpacked, transloaded to conventional trucks and dispatched to their final destination within hours.



TOWER COLD CHAIN OFFERS EVOLUTION IN PHARMA SHIPPING

Passive temperature-controlled container supplier Tower Cold Chain has developed an ultra-lightweight product compatible with US and EU pallets. The Evolution 1600 Tower Universal Pallet is said to be suitable for all shipping needs, “meeting industry standards for a truly pan-global container”. As such, Reading, UK-headquartered Tower Cold Chain, said: “It gives the pharmaceutical and life sciences markets unparalleled levels of efficiency and versatility in their cold chain operations.” It can maintain the temperature integrity of pharmaceutical shipments between -60°C to +20°C and has a runtime of 120 hours without needing electrical power or manual intervention during transit. In fact, Tower believes, the Evolution 1600 represents “the optimum balance between size, weight and volumetric efficiency”.

CMA CGM joins intra-Asia consortium to boost its market share

CMA CGM is looking to consolidate its footing in the intra-Asia trades, as the market’s potential grows in response to diversifying supply chains in Asia.

The French liner will deploy three vessels to a consortium of six Asian regional lines to operate a butterfly string, designed with two strings.

The vessel-sharing agreement also includes three ships from Emirates Shipping Line and one each from Pacific International Lines, RCL Feeder, KMTCC, CU Lines and Global Feeder Shipping, with capacities ranging between 4,000 and 6,000 teu.

Branded VGI by CMA CGM, the intra-Asia network connects markets across India, the Middle East, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand and Singapore.



GROW WITH



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HMM & SM Line cooperate on Transpacific lane amid alliance shuffle

HMM and SM Line are working together on long-haul routes for the first time. On 13 May, SM Line said that each carrier will take 300 TEU on each other's Asia-US West Coast services, starting in June.

HMM will take slots on SM Line's CPX (China Pacific Express) which calls at Qingdao, Shanghai, Ningbo, Busan, Incheon, Gwangyang, Los Angeles, Oakland, Long Beach, and Portland. CPX uses six 6,655 TEU ships, with a six-week turnaround.

SM Line will take slots on HMM's Pacific South Express (PSX), which calls at Shanghai, Gwangyang, Busan, Los Angeles, Oakland, Busan, Gwangyang, Incheon and Shanghai. PSX turns in seven weeks, using six ships of 8,600 to 10,000 TEUs. A seventh vessel, the new 13,800 TEU HMM Emerald, will join the service later this month.

SM Line joins other THE Alliance members, Hapag-Lloyd, ONE and Yang Ming Marine Transport in slotting on PSX.

The cooperation between South Korea's two ocean-going carriers coincides with the upheaval in container shipping alliances.



LARGEST CONTAINER SHIP TO ARRIVE IN INDIA DOCKS AT ADANI'S MUNDRA PORT



AdPorts and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ)'s flagship Mundra Port created a milestone by welcoming the largest container ship ever to call at an Indian port after the MSC Anna vessel docked at the Mundra Port on Sunday, the conglomerate said in a press release.

MSC Anna has an overall length of 399.98 m (roughly the length of four football fields) and has a huge capacity of 19,200 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEU), which makes it the largest container ship by capacity to ever visit an Indian port.

Happy Birthday!

RAHAN KP
28th May

JOSEPH SOLOMON
19th May

OPEN THE DOOR
FOR NEW DIRECTION



MIDAS 1

The new rotation is: Jebel Ali - Mundra - Nhava Sheva - Pointe Noire - Tema - Apapa - Capetown - Coega - Jebel Ali

MIDAS 2

"MIDAS 2 will still be operated in 49 days with 7 vessels up to 2,800 TEU Nominal, starting with m/v CMA CGM VALPARAISO, ETA Jebel Ali on April 22nd, 2024 and ETA Durban on May 14th, 2024," reads the release. **The rotation is:** Jebel Ali - Mundra - Nhava Sheva - Durban - Jebel Ali

KARIBU

The rotation is: Jebel Ali - Mombasa - Longoni
- Pointe des Galets - Mombasa - Mogadishu
- Jebel Ali

NOURA

"NOURA will be operated in 35 days with 5 vessels up to 1,700 TEU Nominal, starting with m/v CMA CGM GULF EXPRESS, ETA Jebel Ali on May 14th, 2024," it reads. **The rotation is:** Jebel Ali - Mogadishu - Mombasa - Beira - Nacala - Port Victoria - Jebel Ali

SHIPS ADVISED TO REROUTE IN INDIAN OCEAN AS HOUTHI ATTACK RANGE WIDENS





NEW SHIPPING ROUTES HIGHLIGHT GROWING **ASIA-TO-MEXICO** TRADE



A new sea route from Cosco Shipping Lines became operational on Monday, as several global ocean carriers have initiated services targeting Asia-to-Mexico trade.

In addition to cosco, global ocean carriers have initiated services targeting Asia-to-Mexico trade.

In addition to Cosco, global ocean carriers Mediterranean Shipping Co. and CMA CGM have launched services to tap into soaring container volumes and growing investment in Mexico by Chinese companies.

Cosco Shipping Lines and its subsidiary OOCL's new Transpacific Latin Pacific 5 (TLP5) line offer direct connections between China, South Korea, Japan and Mexico.

"To enhance our network coverage in the emerging markets, we are very pleased to launch a new service TLP5 in our Asia Latin America network to provide a comprehensive port coverage in the regions," OOCL said in a news release.

TLP5 offers transit times of 15 and 20 days from Qingdao, China, to the ports of Ensenada and Manzanillo, Mexico, respectively. The service will utilize eight ships of 4,000 to 6,000 TEU. TLP5 launched with the 5,668-TEU vessel Xin Da Lian from Ningbo, China.

Port rotation for TLP5 includes Busan, South Korea; Dalian, China; Ningbo; Shanghai; Qingdao; Ensenada; Manzanillo; Ensenada; Yokohama, Japan; and returning to Busan.

China boosts its Mexico investments as nearshoring opportunities grow

French carrier CMA CGM will launch M2X – Mexico Express Service on Saturday, connecting China, South Korea and Japan to Mexico's ports of Manzanillo and Lazaro Cardenas.

"Our new service, M2X – Mexico Express, is specifically designed to streamline shipments from the Far East to Mexico's West Coast," Marseille, France-based CMA CGM said in a news release. "This initiative aligns with market dynamics in the region."

M2X – Mexico Express will run on a weekly fixed-day basis and be operated by eight ships of so far undisclosed capacity, with a port rotation of Tianjin, China; Qingdao; Busan; Ensenada; Manzanillo; Lazaro Cardenas; Yokohama; Busan; and Tianjin. M2X also directly connects reefer exports from Mexico to markets in China and Japan.

MSC is launching a loop shuttle service connecting Asia to Mexico starting May 15. The first voyage of MSC's new loop shuttle service will be the MSC Apollo sailing from the Port of Qingdao.

Import container bookings from China to Mexico have skyrocketed over the past year, with Chinese direct investments in the country increasing 11% year over year in 2023 to \$135 billion. While it is difficult to definitively say what is driving the demand for more ocean container service between the two countries, experts have theorized everything from nearshoring of manufacturing to Mexico to the ongoing geopolitical tensions between the U.S. and China as reasons for the surge in shipments from China to Mexico.

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Adani Ports Mundra Enhances Global Connectivity With ONE

The service offers weekly connections and efficient commercial operations. This service connects Mundra to New York, Norfolk, Savannah and Charleston. First voyage did exchange of 3,855 TEUs.

The inaugural event was marked by the arrival of the first vessel of the WIN service, MV One Modern.

ONE Line is a prominent global shipping company, boasting the world's 7th largest fleet. It offers comprehensive commercial services primarily serving countries in Asia, Latin America, and Africa. The introduction of the WIN service at Adani Mundra port not only marks the establishment of a new commercial route but also signifies a major step forward in enhancing India's maritime trade links with the rest of the world.

The improved connectivity will facilitate smoother and more reliable transportation of goods between India and North America, benefiting exporters, importers, and the broader economy.



CMA CGM to launch butterfly service VGI connecting Asia, India, ME

CMA CGM announced the launch of new weekly butterfly service, VGI connecting Laem Chabang, Vung Tau and Jakarta with the India West Coast and Middle East.

"A butterfly service that offers 2 loops, VGI offers competitive transit times to serve the rapid import and export growth of Southeast Asian markets," it reads.

Customers will be able to enjoy greater access to the core markets of Middle East via direct calls to Jebel Ali and Dammam, and further info into the outports through our feeder solutions.

VGI - port rotations:

VGI Loop 1: Laem Chabang - Singapore - Port Klang - Nhava Sheva - Jebel Ali - Dammam - Nhava Sheva - Port Klang - Vung Tau

VGI Loop 2: Vung Tau - Jakarta - Port Klang - Mundra - Jebel Ali - Dammam - Mundra - Port Klang - Laem Chabang

Did You KNOW?

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OF ALL CONTAINERS
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