
The American Importer

A Monthly Newsletter for Importers - from American International Transport, Los Angeles

Transport Costs to Increase in 2006

Had enough of the price-increases in 2005 due to fuel surcharges? Few expect relief in 2006.

Container shipping costs are rising, perhaps as much as **7 percent** by the end of next year say member lines in a Transpacific Stabilization Agreement carrier discussion group.

DHL announced plans to raise its express rates in the US and internationally between **5 and 8 percent** in 2006, keeping pace with price increases already announced by **FedEx** and **UPS**.

China Textile Agreement



Last month's agreement regarding import of textile related goods from China changed the USA's **China Safeguards** policy. How will your company be affected? [Read details here](#) about the categories of goods affected.

The Port of Long Beach : Congestion Down, Costs Up.

Traffic World magazine reports :The air pollution control agency for Southern

California announced a seven-point action plan to cut emissions. The result is likely more taxes imposed per-container in the port of LA/Long Beach.

The LA/Long Beach PierPass system diverted 30-35 percent of peak shift work to evenings and Saturdays in September. Most companies charge approx. **\$50- \$80 extra to pick-up containers** during these evening hours.

Railroad congestion is causing some delays in hauling cargo away from western ports, but in general operations are smooth, according to the report.

C-TPAT : A Success for America

The Journal of Commerce reports that **Robert C. Bonner** on Wednesday, Nov-23rd departed the top post at Customs and Border Protection. Bonner was sworn in as commissioner days after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Bonner called **C-TPAT the most successful government-private partnership to emerge since 9-11**. C-TPAT encouraged shippers, carriers and intermediaries to voluntarily improve their supply-chain security in exchange for added benefits from the government.

To learn more about implementing C-TPAT at your company, [click here](#).

