

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**.

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.

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.

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.

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

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

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

