

February 2024



OUTSIDE THE BOX

Hi All,

Welcome to the first market update for 2024.

Chinese Shipping Market

- We are seeing the rates mostly plateau for the first half of February except for the premium/direct services to Brisbane which are still in high demand so they are expected to see a USD200/20 and USD400/40 increase (yet to be confirmed)
- Chinese New Year (CNY) 2024 is from the 10th of February to the 17th February inclusive, so please keep this in mind when making your FCL and LCL bookings. We advise to make bookings as far in advance as possible to allow for increased demand due to factory shutdowns
 - Please ensure that you also request documentation from your supplier(s) prior to their shutdown for CNY to avoid additional fees (detention, storage, via yard fees etc)

- If you require an NOR (non-operation Reefer, a slightly smaller container at a reduced rate) rate for NON-DG cargo only, please email Melissa – sales@auscus.com.au
- PLEASE NOTE: We can offer rates direct into **Townsville ex China**, if you require a quote please email Melissa – sales@auscus.com.au

Important Information:

- DP World and MUA
 - In breaking news, after months of disruption without any regard for the businesses and people affected, DP World and the MUA have finally come to a 4-year agreement, facilitated by the Fair Work Commission
 - This now means that all industrial action will cease (until another service provider at the ports decides to go on strike....)
- Import Ban on Engineered Stone in 2024
 - Due to an increase in workers developing the lung disease Silicosis
 - Ban will come into effect on 1 July 2024
 - The ban will affect all importers who bring in building materials, tiny homes, other products that may contain engineered stone
 - We do not know how this will be implemented as yet, and exactly what HS codes will be affected but we will keep you informed as the government make further announcements.
- UAE and Australia Free Trade Agreement negotiations have begun
 - We will advise further details as they come to hand
- Port Infrastructure Fee Increases
 - DP World have already increased their PIF charges

- Patrick will also increase their PIF charges effective 1st March 2024

Door to Door Courier

- Did you know that not only can AUSCUS offer worldwide Door to Door courier services, but we have access to wholesale courier rates
- If you would like a quote, please contact Melissa on sales@auscus.com.au

FCL Deliveries

- *******Container Detention charges reach record highs*******
 - We wish to remind everyone to be mindful of detention and try to have the container emptied the day it's delivered and to notify us via email it's available for empty return immediately
 - Transport companies have 48-72 hours business days only (MON-FRI) to collect the empty container and return to the empty depot, this time it takes the transport company to collect is also included in your free days allocated by the shipping line, so please keep that in mind.
 - For CIF FCL clients, please ensure your suppliers are requesting a minimum of 14 days free detention period time when making a shipping line booking on your behalf at origin prior to loading.
- **In the news**
 - [Red Sea crisis drove shipping rates up faster than Covid, but some are falling - The Loadstar](#)
 - [BREAKING NEWS: MUA withdraws all industrial action at DP World terminals - Daily Cargo News \(thedcn.com.au\)](#)

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Thanks,

The Auscus Team