

March 2024



# OUTSIDE THE BOX

Hi All,

Welcome to the March edition of Outside the Box 2024.

## Chinese Shipping Market

- We are seeing the rates start to drop slowly for the first half of March. The 2<sup>nd</sup> half of March may see some pressure on the rates as factories catch up post CNY, however, rates are expected to decrease again
- Over the coming months we expect to see a steady decline in rates ex China as we head into the low season
- 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](mailto: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](mailto:sales@auscus.com.au)

## Important Information:

- Easter Break

- Please note that our office will be closed on Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March and Easter Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April, we will re-open Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April
- If you have any containers or LCL arriving during this period, we will be in contact regarding the best and most economical storage and delivery options
  - Once we have vessel ETAs confirmed we can then arrange accordingly with our transport providers
- FCL Transport Providers
  - Our transport providers are not working during the easter period (at this time)
  - If for some reason they choose to work, they will not be arranging any deliveries to clients they will only pick up from the wharf and bring back to their depot and store until deliveries resume after the Easter holiday period
  - Sometimes wharf storage is unavoidable, but we will always do our very best to minimise additional charges, however there could be additional charges during this period such as:
    - Via Yard Fees
    - Lift on Lift off Fees
    - Yard Storage
    - Weekend/Public Holidays Surcharges
  - Also, it's important to be aware of Container Detention during this period also, the shipping line will not extend detention for the public holidays, please keep that in mind.
- 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

### **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](mailto: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**

- [Australia and Singapore formalise maritime partnership - Daily Cargo News \(thedcn.com.au\)](#)
- [Air cargo demand outpaces trade in January - Daily Cargo News \(thedcn.com.au\)](#)
- [The Chinese digital octopus spreading its tentacles through smart port ambitions - Splash247](#)

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Thanks,