

WEEK 50

DECEMBER 21 2022

# APERTURE & FOCUS

A Global Network Advisory Series by Kintetsu World Express, Inc.

## GLOBAL APERTURE

In two weeks, [a set of new measures will be enforced by the](#) International Maritime Organization (IMO), requiring all ships to calculate their Energy Efficiency Existing Ship Index (EEXI) and Carbon Intensity Indicator (CII) rating. [Maritime carrier alliances THE and OCEAN plan](#) to phase-in new container vessels with capacities upward of 20,000 TEUs, replacing smaller box ships on some of their most in-demand service loops.

The [ongoing energy crisis in Europe is reportedly cinching](#) the region's textile production, while their US counterparts [laud newly announced nine-month tariff exclusions for 352 commodities](#) including raw material inputs. Nearshoring talks in North America prompt [concerns of combatting organized crime](#) in the region—government leaders will convene in January for further discussion and collaboration.

## REGIONAL FOCUS - AMERICAS

[The Container Dwell Fee levied in 2021 by](#) LA-Long Beach Ports will be officially put to rest on January 24—though the fee was never implemented, port management have reported a combined 92% reduction in long-term container backlogs since the program's debut. Savannah's breakbulk operations [will be forwarded to](#) New Brunswick as the latter [receives \\$16 million in federal support](#) and the former stumbles over [lower-than-expected November volumes versus 2021](#).

A major storm is expected to hit the US Midwest through the coming weekend, potentially affecting [passenger and cargo operations from Denver to Memphis](#). Arizona [comes under fire for](#) welding a border wall of over 800 cargo containers across Cochise County. This move may hinder cross-border trade with Mexico, which saw major increase in [automotive exports throughout November](#).

## REGIONAL FOCUS – ASIA-PACIFIC

[China's easing of pandemic controls](#) amid recent protests have resulted in more outbreaks throughout the country. [Domestic pharmaceutical brands in China](#) have implemented 24-hour production cycles to replenish retail inventories of OTC drugs and home remedies. More air capacity [a la China Southern is scheduled to premiere](#) through the start of January, bridging several provinces to Cambodia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Netherlands, Singapore, and Turkey.

Consumer electronics leaders are resettling into [India and Vietnam](#) as the US announces more [blacklisted companies based in China](#); ocean carriers [have responded with new intra-Asia services](#) connecting South China ports to Singapore, Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia.

## REGIONAL FOCUS – EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA

To optimize maritime and inland shipping, [Rotterdam will allow mixed berthing in mid-January](#)—that is, vessels carrying hazardous materials will be allowed to berth near vessels carrying non-hazardous goods. Intended to speed up cargo handling, the move may serve little purpose: dockworkers of Rotterdam's Delta II terminal [are engaging in go-slow operations](#) as a form of labor action. Some carriers have suspended calls to the port, [discharging containers instead at](#) Antwerp or Zeebrugge. [Several vessels laden with oversize cargoes](#) are scheduled to berth the ports of Stockholm through the end of 2022.