

3/23/2020 – Delivery – The Next Link in the Supply Chain to be Challenged

As China production increases and product begins to flow, will companies be able to accept the shipments?

From empty containers in NAM to production in Asia, we've been tracking the global supply chain flow of containers and product. The next wave will break over the distribution centers.

Anecdotally we have heard of several businesses closing for two weeks and not accepting their deliveries. More companies have adopted this approach in the last few days.

We are seeing a series of companies announce closures or retooling of the supply chains to move critical product only. Amazon is accepting only "[essential deliveries](#)"; [automotive](#) and [manufacturing](#) plants are shuttering over concern for employee safety or lack of supplies. This will further delay the unload, reposition and reload of containers.

We will continue to monitor each link of the supply chain as we move forward.

3/23/2020 – MatchBack Systems Predicts Waves, not a Steady State of Container Supply

Restarting of the global supply chain will roll through the industry in waves. We anticipate surges, declines and delays in the supply chain.

After the Lunar New Year slowdown, there was the shuttering of Asian production to combat COVID-19 for most of February. Next was the repositioning of empty containers from NAM and EU to support the production.

We are now preparing to see a [surge](#) as carriers deliver initial Asia supply to NAM and EU. This surge will tax the port and trucking communities as they cope with infrastructure challenges – labor, delivery locations and even toll booths being manned.

This surge will be followed by a [decline](#) or trough as exports are loaded and additional empty containers are repositioned back to Asia.

Global supply chain [delays](#) will lengthen the period between the wave and trough as it will take months for fluidity to return to the market. Containers will be out of position; container throughput will be lowered as facilities are slowed, closed or otherwise impacted as the fluidity of the supply chain is challenged by the global response to COVID-19.

3/20/2020 – MatchBack Systems Gateway Analysis

This week's Gateway Analysis highlights:

- A pick up week over week in overall imports planned, but still down 26% year over year.
- Chicago, Atlanta, Memphis, Columbus, Detroit, LA and NY/NJ show the greatest YoY negative impact for cargo flows.
- From a percent, Detroit has less than half the import container availability YoY.
- Conversely, we see imports increasing in some markets from 2019 – Omaha, Charleston and Kansas City.

3/18/2020 – China Container Volumes Seesaw on Western Recession Conditions [JOC](#)

3/17/2020 – Ports and Dray Trucks

It's called a supply chain for a reason.

With containers on the water, the international container supply chain focus has moved to the ports, labor availability and truckers to move the freight. Everyone wants all the parties to have safe working conditions AND to quickly process and transport containers.

Just as the tide of empties are now moving from NAM back to Asia, we anticipate a peak type surge of containerized freight. The industry will have to manage expectations as there are bound to be challenges as we deal with COVID-19 restrictions.

After the ports, labor and truckers, attention will turn to the distribution centers to ensure their ability to unload the containers to continue the free flow of containers and product.

3/16/2020 – Exports Flowing Out of Asia

Based on our discussions with carriers, 3PLs and truckers, we know that volumes are still off from projections, but all are encouraged by increased flow of materials from Asia. Now everyone is focused on the ports to ensure there is available labor to work the vessels.

Here's a week over week snapshot that one of our customers provided from Asian gateways.

Xingang:	30% recovery	→ 50-55% recovery
Qingdao:	70% recovery	→ 90% recovery
Ningbo:	40% recovery	→ 70% recovery
Shanghai:	50% recovery	→ 70-75% recovery
Xiamen:	30% recovery	→ 70-80% recovery
Fuzhou:	50% recovery	→ 70-80% recovery
SPRC:	30% recovery	→ 70-80% recovery
Dalian:	50% recovery	→ 70% recovery
Taiwan:	100% recovery	→ maintain

3/13/2020 – MatchBack Systems Business Continuity Plan

Given the unique nature and health concerns sparked by COVID-19, effective 3/14/2020 MatchBack Systems will close its physical office and our team members will work from home. Our business continuity plan ensures our customers are served without disruption while our employees and their families remain safe.

3/13/2020 – MatchBack Systems Gateway Analysis

Our Gateway Analysis shows:

- A 17% drop in imports for January and February 2020
- A 34% YoY decrease in imports since the start of the year
- In terms of import container decline, the largest swings we noted were in Chicago, Memphis, Savannah, Detroit and Atlanta.

3/12/2020 – Coronavirus Spawns Worldwide Box Repositioning Challenge [FreightWaves](#)

3/11/2020 – Empty Containers Stacking Up at Ports

With all the blank sailings from Asia, empty containers are stacking up at the ports, particularly in LA/LB. This has caused carriers to quickly change their strategies to manage the flow of empty containers. Two of the most common tactics have been to embargo empty containers to locations and limiting or eliminating domestic street-turns.

The ripple effect will be wide ranging. We know that container balance, or more accurately, imbalance are carrier and gateway specific. To that end, MatchBack Systems is analyzing developments by gateway and carrier. Our customers are welcome to request customized reporting and actionable

insights to help mitigate the impact on operations, including a port impact scenario analysis to determine street-turn options.

3/11/2020 – 3/24/2020 Past News