

MatchBack Systems COVID-19 Impact & Response

Updates – 3/28/2020 through 4/14/2020

4/14/2020 - Market Feedback

Pandemic increases digital signature adoption - This week we've heard from a software provider and a trucker that customers have quickly adapted to digital signatures on their own devices. Adoption was slow prior to COVID-19 to sign the drivers' devices but now with the risk of transmission, shippers have quickly pivoted to signing or even taking pictures of product and B/L as confirmation.

DC is open, but not working - Truckers have shared that although a distribution center is open, the DCs have struggled to secure labor, often temporary workers, to unload the containers. This continues to exacerbate the lack of container fluidity.

4/7/2020 - Market Feedback

Ocean carrier - Contingency planning for DC's that aren't accepting freight. Very little repositioning of containers as they hold them for exports.

Truckers - Volume and rates have dropped for trucking. There are 3PLs and BCOs pulling ahead bids to take advantage of the soft market, hurting the truckers.

IMCs - Container supply is slowly freeing up and not as many challenges on the west coast for empties.

Container leasing companies - Seeing increase in demand across the country for adding containers.

4/2/2020 - Blanked April Sailings Soar as Carriers Prep for Sharp Demand Drop JOC

3/31/2020 - MatchBack Systems Export Index

Introducing MatchBack Systems Export Index

Exports are a vital component to empty repositioning for international containers. MatchBack Systems has created the Export Index (see under Analysis section) to highlight the changes in the current market. This index is baselined off January 2019 and contains a basket of MatchBack Systems customers in the ocean carrier, trucker and 3PL arena.

For most of 2020, exports have been trailing 2019 but we see a pick up over the next 4 weeks, getting 2020 back on par with the previous year. Feedback from our customers is that container supply is not a current impediment. We are tracking the YoY export data and will update this analysis on a weekly basis.

If you would like a scenario analysis for your network, you can reach us at mbsi_info@matchbacksystems.com.