

MatchBack Systems COVID-19 Impact & Response

Updates – 3/11/2020 through 3/18/2020

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