



## Current market situation sea freight export

Dear customers,

We would like to inform you about current developments and challenges in the export sector.

### Limited containers and container space:

A large number of the available freight volume is increasingly tied up by traffic between Asia and America. This condition has already persisted since 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2020, driven by high sales of consumer and durable goods from Asia to the U.S. and a long return period of empty equipment from the U.S. domestic market.

### Ship delays:

To prevent the spread of Covid 19 virus during the New Year celebrations in China, a large number of transshipments in southern China will be suspended during the period from 01st January to 28th February 2021. These restrictions affect import volumes from Europe as well as exports from the Pearl River Delta region. This leads to congestion in the ports and delays in the handling of ships of up to several weeks.

### Situation of ports in Northern Europe:

Ship delays are also causing problems in northern European ports. On average, containers remain longer at the terminals, port facilities reach their capacity limits. In order to keep terminal capacity utilisation reasonably predictable, HHLA (Hamburger Hafen und Logistik AG), for example, has announced delivery restrictions for all terminals in Hamburg:

CTA and CTT	= 48 hours before ETA of the vessel
CTB	= 72 hours before ETA of the vessel

### Consequences for shippers:

There is currently a high demand for shipping space and equipment in Germany, which can only be satisfied to a limited extent by the shipping companies. The consequences are as follows:

- Empty container depots and capacity bottlenecks in the on-carriage sectors and on the ships
- Weather-related restrictions (snow, ice, floods) in the truck, rail and inland waterway sector
- Additional costs for container demurrage / detention, interim storage and port storage
- Partly long advance booking periods on the part of the shipping companies for their departures
- Short-term price adjustments and introduction of surcharges by shipping companies and forwarding companies

### a. hartrodt service:

Please contact us in good time before loading so that we can show you solutions with all our expertise even in this difficult time. If you have any questions, you can reach us at any time.