# HJ O'NEIL COMMODITY CONSULTING

## Transportation and Export Report for 30 November 2023

The Capesize market found good support from increased Chinese demand for Iron Ore and Coal and staged a significant rally. The increase in Chinese imports is attributed to the impact of recent government stimulus programs. The Panamax vessel sector experienced an increase in global port congestion and followed the Capes upward for the week. Vessel owners in Dry Bulk markets believe a market bottom has been established and things are now poised to move higher in the coming months and year. Time will tell if this is just an early Christmas gift or a true market turnaround. Rates are also being impacted by the low water situation at the Panama Canal and the subsequent reduction in vessel transits and higher cost of passage. Most all grain ships moving from the U.S. Gulf to Asia are now avoiding the Panama Canal and routing via the Suez Canal. This obviously adds 8-9 extra tonne days and cost to the voyage. For Grain shipments from the USG to Asia; there is no Panama Canal for the next few months. I hope everyone read my special report from last week.

#### **BALTIC DRY-BULK PANAMAX INDEX CHANGES**

Panamax Ocean Freight Indices								
30-Nov-2023		This	Last		Percent			
		Week	Week	Difference	Change			
P2A: Gulf/Atlantic - HK-Korea	Index	31223	24795	6,428	25.9%			
P3A: PNW/Pacific - RV Korea-Taiwan	Index	16698	13388	3,310	24.7%			
S1C: US GULF-China-So.Japan	Index	36457	31279	5,178	16.6%			
P7: Trial- Miss. River - Qingdao	per ton	62.19	57.02	5.17	9.1%			
P8: Trial- Santos - Qingdao	per ton	45.24	41.88	3.36	8.0%			

### Recent history of freight values for Capesize vessels of Iron-Ore from West Australia to South China:

Four weeks ago: \$10.55-\$9.35
Three weeks ago: \$9.30-\$8.35
Two weeks ago: \$8.80-\$9.50
One week ago: \$10.06-\$10.48
This week \$11.50-\$12.75

### US Vessel Line-Ups/Estimated vessel berthing delays at U.S. Export Grain Elevators:

Mississippi River: (9 elevators) 2-6 days (1 facility over 3 days)

Mid-Stream loaders: (6+ Rigs) 1-2 days

Texas Gulf (5 elevators) 0-8 days (3 facilities at zero days)
Pacific Northwest: (9 elevators) 1-5 days (3 facilities at zero days)

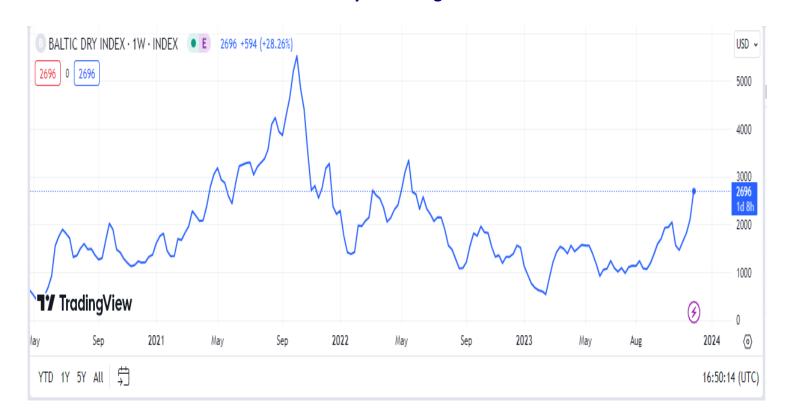
Panamax Market Spreads to Asia -China							
30-Nov-2023 GULF PNW Bushel Spread Tonne Spread Advantage							
CORN	0.70	1.23	0.53	\$20.86	PNW		
SOYBEANS	0.60	1.30	0.70	\$25.72	PNW		
OCEAN FREIGHT	\$62.00	\$32.00	.6974	\$30.00	December		

# **Grain Vessel Market Indications:**

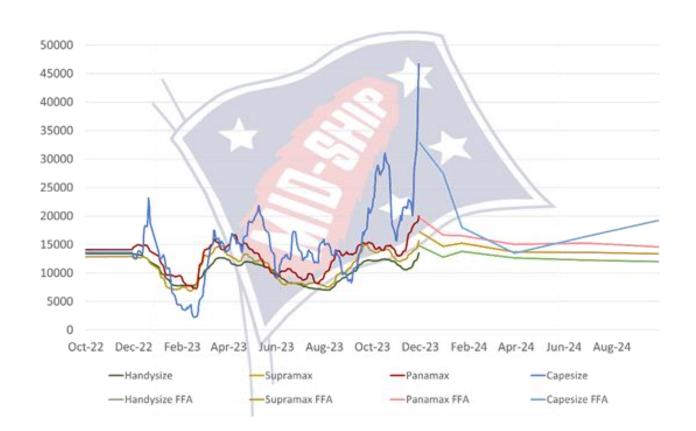
\*\* Rates are estimates for the nearly 30-day period. 60-90 days forward physical rates will usually be higher. Soybean Panamax USG to Spain is running \$33.50 -\$34.50/mt. Soybean Brazil to Spain about \$43.00 -\$44.00/mt.

Route and Vessel Size	Current Week USD/MT	Change	Remarks
55,000 U.S. Gulf-Japan	\$62.75	Up \$5.75	Handymax \$63.25 mt
55,000 U.S. PNW- Japan	\$32.50	Up \$3.00	Handymax at \$33.00 mt
65,000 U.S. Gulf – China PNW to China	\$62.00 \$32.00	Up \$5.75 Up \$3.00	North or South China
25,000 U.S. Gulf- Veracruz, México	\$23.50	Up \$1.50	3,000 MT daily discharge rate
35-40,000 U.S. Gulf- Veracruz, México	\$20.75	Up \$1.50	Deep draft and 6,000 MT per day discharge rate.
30-38,000 U.S. Gulf- Colombia 50,000 USG- E/C Colombia <u>East Coast Colombia</u>	\$34.00 \$31.00	Up \$3.50	West Coast Colombia at \$37.50
From Argentina	\$41.50		
40-45,000 U.S. Gulf - Guatemala	\$33.50	Up \$3.00	Acajutla/Quetzal - 8,000 out
30,000 US Gulf-Morocco	\$40.50	Up \$4.00	5,000 discharge rate
55-60,000 U.S. Gulf –Egypt PNW - Egypt	\$39.50 \$40.00	Up \$4.00	55,000-60,000 mt Egypt Romania - Russia- Ukraine \$20.00 -\$19.50 - \$40.00?? France \$24.00, Bulgaria \$19.00
58-74,000 U.S. Gulf – Europe – Rotterdam	\$32.00	Up \$3.00	Handymax at +\$2.50 more
Brazil, Santos –China	\$47.25		54-59,000 Supramax-Panamax
Brazil, Santos – China	\$45.25	Up \$4.00	60-66,000 Post Panamax
Up-River Port North Brazil	\$51.00		55-60,000 mt
56-60,000 Argentina-China Deep draft	\$53.00	Down \$4.00	Up-River with Top Off Plus \$3.75-\$4.75

# **Baltic Dry Bulk Freight Index**



# The Baltic Dry Bulk Freight Index- Cape-Panamax-Supra and Handy





China Import Dry Bulk Freight Index 2023-11-30						
Description	Volume	Cargo	Unit	Rate	Change	
Composite Index			Point	1359.13	74.56	
Iron ore Freight Index			Point	1478.42	131.22	
Dampier(West Australia)-Qingdao (China)	170000/10%	Iron ore	\$/ton	12.778	1.041	
Soybean Freight Index			Point	1341.46	13.88	
Santos(Brazil)— North China	66000/10%	Soybean	\$/ton	44.81	0.2	
Tacoma(West America)—North China	63000/10%	Soybean	\$/ton	31.76	0.6	
Mississippi(US Gulf)—North China	66000/10%	Soybean	\$/ton	61.49	0.93	

# 30 November 23 U.S. FOB Vessel Export Market Values:

U.S.	U.S. Yellow Corn (USD/MT) FOB Vessel						
#2 YC	GULF #2 YC		PNW	# 3 YC	Z=	4.6175	
Max. 14.5% moisture	BASIS	FLAT PRICE	BASIS FLAT PRICE		H =	4.8275	
Dec.	0.70	\$209.34	1.23	\$230.20	K =	4.9500	
Jan.	0.57	\$212.49	1.10	\$233.35	N =	5.0425	
Feb.	0.60	\$213.67	1.12	\$234.14	U =	5.0650	
Mar.	0.65	\$215.64	1.15	\$235.32	Z=	5.1225	
Apr.	0.60	\$218.49	1.12	\$238.96			
May	0.62	\$219.28	1.14	\$239.75			

The Gulf spread between #2 YC & #3 YC is currently about .03 cents per bushel (1.10/mt) at USG but is out to .04/bushel in the PNW.

SORGHUM (USD/MT) FOB VESSEL					
#2 YGS Fob Vessel	TEX	AS Gulf			
Max. 14.0% moisture	BASIS FLAT PRIC				
Dec.	2.10	\$264.45			
Jan.	2.05	\$270.75			
Feb.	2.05	\$270.75			
Mar.	2.10	\$272.72			
Apr.	2.05	\$275.57			

Fob vessel Texas Gulf #2 Sorghum is about 126 % the value of #2 Yellow Corn at NOLA.

U.S. SRW Wheat Fob Vessel at the Center U.S. Gulf

SRW Wheat	USD/MT	Fob Vessel	US Gulf	
	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
FOB U.S. GULF	\$251.78	\$252.79	\$252.79	\$252.79
Basis	1.15	0.90	0.90	0.90
WZ	5.7025			
WH	5.9800			
WK	6.1275			

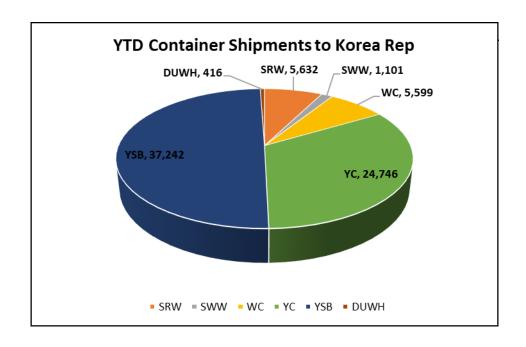
# **U.S. Soybean and SBM Markets Fob Vessel:**

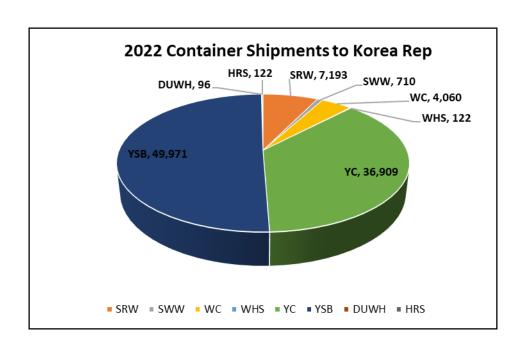
U.S. Ye	U.S. Yellow Soybeans (USD/MT) FOB Vessel								
# 2 YSB	U.S. Gulf #2 YSB		PNW	/ #2 YSB					
14.0 % Moisture	Basis	Flat Price	Basis	Flat Price					
Dec.	0.60	\$515.42	1.30	\$541.14					
Jan.	0.66	\$517.62	1.35	\$542.97					
Feb.	0.60	\$522.58	1.25	\$546.47					
Mar.	0.65	\$524.42	1.30	\$548.30					
Apr.	0.60	\$527.36	1.23	\$550.51					
Soybean Futures									
Jan.	\$ 13.4275								
Mar.	\$ 13.6225								
May	\$ 13.7525								
July	\$ 13.8075								
Aug.	\$ 13.5825								
Sept.	\$ 13.1200								

U.S. SBM (USD/MT) FOB Vessel					
Fob U.S. Gulf Port	47.5 Pro. SBM				
max 12.5 % moisture		Basis		Flat Price	
Dec.		57.00	\$	550.37	
Jan.		55.00	\$	528.10	
Feb.		51.00	\$	512.88	
Mar.		45.00	\$	506.27	
Apr.		36.00	\$	489.51	
SBM Futures					
SMZ	\$	442.20			
SMF	\$	424.00			
SMH	\$	414.20			
SMK	\$	408.00			
SMN	\$	406.80			
SMQ	\$	402.90			

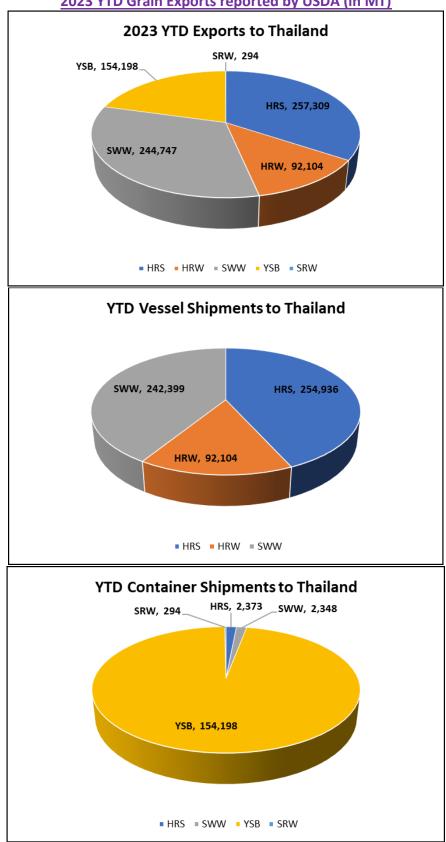
<u>Data sheet below:</u> USDA weekly export inspections report with corrections to the last three weeks' grain export inspections reports. (This usually covers a 2-5-week prior time frame).

		С	ONTAINER S	HIPMEN	ΓS of GRAI	N			
USDA Grain Inspections	s Report:		23-Nov	-2023					
Last Week	metric tor	ns							MT
	YC	WC	YSB	SRW	NS	HRW	SWH	Sorghum	TOTAL
China	1,666		34,846					5,044	41,556
Taiwan	17,407		18,044						35,451
Hong Kong	1,298								1,298
Costa Rica									0
Indonesia			23,926						23,926
French Poly	147								147
Japan	195		1,932						2,127
Korea Rep.	1,224	316							1,540
Bangladesh			955						955
Malaysia			6,540						6,540
Jordan			661						661
Philippines			637						637
Thailand			3,159						3,159
Ireland			·						0
Burma									0
Nepal			73						73
Cambodia			196						196
Vietnam			9,401		3,012				12,413
Sub Total:	21,937	316	100,370	0	3,012	0	0	5,044	130,679
USDA Corrections/Addit	tions to prev	vious repo	orts:						
Taiwan			857						857
China			392						392
Hong Kong									0
Korea Rep.		367							367
Un Kingdom									0
Japan			245						245
Philippines									0
Indonesia			1,715						1,715
Malaysia			490						490
Thailand									0
Vietnam			1,028						1,028
Burma									0
Cambodia									0
Sub Total:	. 0	367	4,727	0	0	0	0	0	5,094
Mt. Grand Total	21,937	683	105,097	0	3,012	0	0	5,044	135,773
Number of Containers	954	30	4,569	0	131	0	0	219	



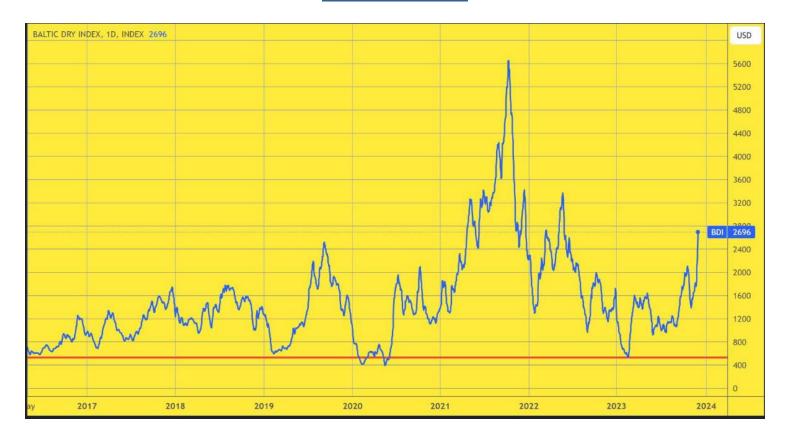


### 2023 YTD Grain Exports reported by USDA (in MT)



<sup>\*</sup>Please keep in mind that USDA does not report DDGS sales Source: USDA-data

# Shipping News



### Tom Craig @LTDManagement · 12m

Thailand wants to build a landbridge to handle ocean volumes now going via Malacca Strait, a major sea lane. Just wondering. What is cost & viability of a canal alternative? #maritime #trade

Indo-Pacific News - Geo-Politics & Defen: ② @IndoPac\_I · 5h · ∠ #Thailand Takes \$28 Billion Malacca Strait Bypass Plan to #US - Bloomberg

Project seen cutting shipping time by four days, costs by 15%

Andeman Phonon No Chiperin Mont City Spratty Islands Passar Monte City Islands Passar Monde Passar Islands Passar Monde Malaysia

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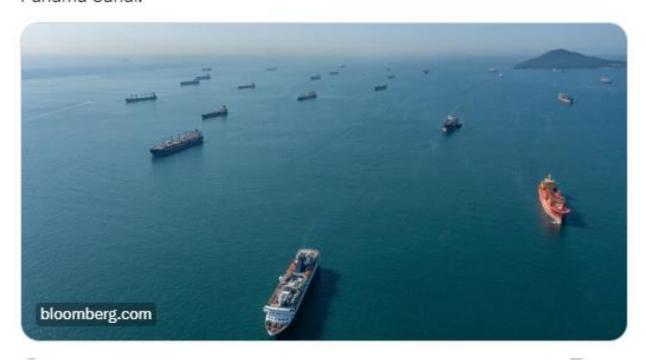
### Suez Canal

Toll for a common Panamax Bulk Carrier of 65,000 mt of Grain will be close to \$266,600

...

### Panama Canal

**Tom Craig** @LTDManagement · 2h Shipping Fuel? It Can Now Cost \$4 Million to Skip the Queue at the Panama Canal.



The PCA has introduced reservation slots from now until February, limiting transits to 49 between 3 and 30 November, 22 in December, 20 in January and 18 for February.

It advised: "The Panama Canal urges its customers to make reservations in order to transit as programmed. In addition, information is provided in advance, as well as in real time, so that shipping companies can plan and make the best decisions."

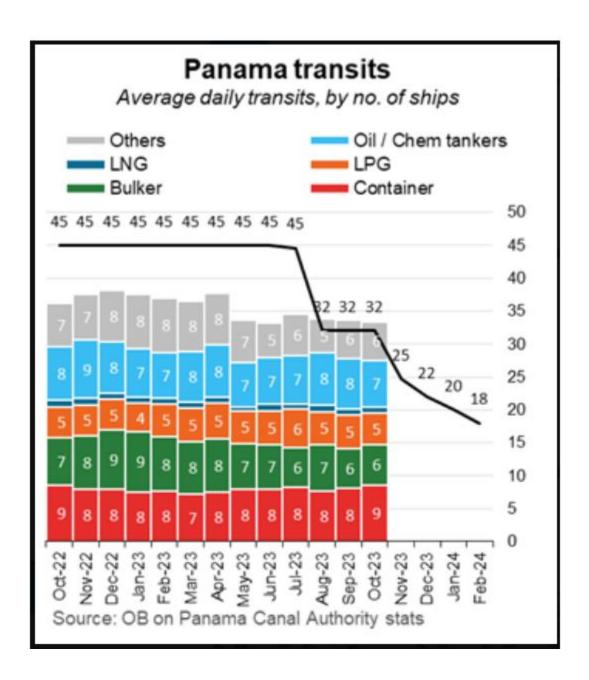
They are established as announced on Advisory to Shipping No. A-48-2023:

Dates	Number of reservation slots
November 3 to 7	25
November 8 to 30	24
December 1 to 31	22
January 1 to 31, 2024	20
As of February 1, 2024	18

What is the True freight cost from USG to Asia, or to Central America?

USG to China			
Dec-23			
	Freight	USD	Adj, Freight cost
65,000 tonnes			
Freight rate	\$62.00	\$ 4,030,000.00	
Canal Booking Fee		\$ 55,000.00	
Canal Toll		\$ 85,000.00	
Sub total		\$ 4,170,000.00	\$64.15
Auction cost		\$ 2,000,000.00	
Total Freight		\$ 6,170,000.00	\$94.92

For the next few months, there is no Panama Canal for Grain shipments from the USG to Asia. This will also severely impact grain shipments from USG to West Coast Central America and from PNW to East Coast Central America.





# GENERAL TRAFFIC INFORMATION FOR: NOVEMBER 20 2023 ASSOCIATED STEAMSHIP AGENTS, S.A. AT THE PANAMA CANAL SINCE 1889

NEOPANAM	MAX LOCKS		20-no	ov-23		21-nov-23					
NEW		BALBOA (NB)		CRISTOBAL (SB)		BALBO	DA (NB)	CRISTOBAL (SB)			
ARRIVALS		5		4		·	4	6			
TOTAL SCHEDULED		4		2			3	3			
*BOOKED		4		2			3	3			
*NON-B	OOKED	0		0		0		0			
QUEUE	Booked	20	4	11	2	20	3	16	3		
Un-booked		20	16	11	9	20	17	16	13		
TOTAL QUEUE /		31				36					
BACI	KLOG										

5	001/0 /01 5		20-n	ov-23		21-nov-23					
PANAMAX LOCKS (OLD)		BALBO	A (NB)	CRISTO	BAL (SB)	BALB	OA (NB)	CRISTOBAL (SB)			
SUPER:Beam > 91 ft and <107ft											
ARR	IVALS	6	6	!	9		4	7			
TOTAL SCHEDULED		6			7		7	6			
*BO	OKED	6		7		7		6			
*NON-E	BOOKED	0		0		0		0			
QUEUE	Booked	20	7	35	6	40	7	26	5		
	Un-booked	38	31	35	29	40	33	36	31		
TOTAL QUEUE / BACKLOG		73				76					

REGULARS:Beam < 91 ft											
ARRIVALS		2		1			7	0			
TOTAL SCHEDULED		3		3		2		2	2		
*BOOKED		2		2		2		2			
*NON-BOOKED		1		1		0		0			
QUEUE	Booked	18	2	17	2	24	2	17	2		
Un-booked		10	16	17	15	24	22	17	15		
TOTAL QUEUE /		35				41					
BACKLOG											

# Panama Canal Transit auctions-

AUCTIONED BOOKING SLOTS LAST 8 DAYS									
<b>Booking Date</b>	Date Sold	Slot Type	Auction Type	Vessel Type	Arr. Loc	A	Amount Paid		
27-Nov-23	20-Nov-23	LARGE	Daily	Chemical	Р	\$	900,300.00		
27-Nov-23	20-Nov-23	NEOPANAMAX	Daily	LPG Carrier	Р	\$	2,650,100.00		
27-Nov-23	20-Nov-23	LARGE	Daily	Dry-bulk Carrier	Α	\$	560,100.00		
26-Nov-23	19-Nov-23	0-Jan-00	Daily	Chemical	Α	\$	900,100.00		
26-Nov-23	19-Nov-23	LARGE	Daily	LPG Carrier	Α	\$	900,100.00		
26-Nov-23	19-Nov-23	NEOPANAMAX	Daily	LPG Carrier	Р	\$	2,000,200.00		
25-Nov-23	18-Nov-23	LARGE	Extraordinary	Chemical	Α	\$	750,100.00		
25-Nov-23	18-Nov-23	NEOPANAMAX	Daily	LPG Carrier	Α	\$	3,100,600.00		
25-Nov-23	18-Nov-23	LARGE	Daily	Dry-bulk Carrier	Α	\$	760,100.00		
25-Nov-23	18-Nov-23	LARGE	Daily	Chemical	Α	\$	670,900.00		
24-Nov-23	20-Nov-23	LARGE	Extraordinary	Chemical	Р	\$	900,300.00		
24-Nov-23	20-Nov-23	LARGE	Extraordinary	Dry-bulk Carrier	Α	\$	800,200.00		
24-Nov-23	18-Nov-23	REGULAR	Extraordinary	Chemical	P	\$	700,200.00		
24-Nov-23	17-Nov-23	NEOPANAMAX	Daily	LPG Carrier	Α	\$	3,100,600.00		
24-Nov-23	17-Nov-23	LARGE	Daily	Chemical	Α	\$	787,100.00		
24-Nov-23	17-Nov-23	LARGE	Daily	LPG Carrier	0-Jan-00	\$	671,100.00		
23-Nov-23	17-Nov-23	LARGE	Extraordinary	Dry-bulk Carrier	P	\$	750,200.00		
23-Nov-23	16-Nov-23	NEOPANAMAX	Daily	LPG Carrier	Α	\$	3,808,200.00		
23-Nov-23	16-Nov-23	LARGE	Daily	Dry-bulk Carrier	Α	\$	585,600.00		
23-Nov-23	16-Nov-23	LARGE	Daily	Chemical	P	\$	800,400.00		
22-Nov-23	19-Nov-23	LARGE	Extraordinary	Dry-bulk Carrier	P	\$	875,800.00		
22-Nov-23	15-Nov-23	LARGE	Daily	LPG Carrier	Α	\$	570,600.00		
22-Nov-23	15-Nov-23	LARGE	Daily	Refrigerated Cargo	P	\$	603,400.00		
22-Nov-23	15-Nov-23	NEOPANAMAX	Daily	LPG Carrier	Α	\$	3,800,400.00		
22-Nov-23	17-Nov-23	LARGE	Extraordinary	Chemical	Р	\$	701,100.00		
21-Nov-23	19-Nov-23	LARGE	Extraordinary	Chemical	Α	\$	639,300.00		
21-Nov-23	19-Nov-23	LARGE	Extraordinary	Chemical	P	\$	681,400.00		
21-Nov-23	18-Nov-23	LARGE	Extraordinary	Chemical	Α	\$	685,100.00		
21-Nov-23	14-Nov-23	NEOPANAMAX	Daily	LPG Carrier	Α	\$	2,165,100.00		
21-Nov-23	14-Nov-23	LARGE	Daily	Tanker	Α	\$	565,100.00		
21-Nov-23	14-Nov-23	LARGE	Daily	Chemical	P	\$	410,100.00		
20-Nov-23	18-Nov-23	LARGE	Extraordinary	Chemical	Α	\$	678,000.00		
20-Nov-23	18-Nov-23	LARGE	Extraordinary	Dry-bulk Carrier	Α	\$	679,500.00		

Panama Canal Wait Times

Atlantic to Pacific: Days in queue for non-booked vessels



(Chart: FreightWaves based on ACP data)



# Booking slots fees and cancellation costs

Panamax Locks	New tariff
Vessels with less than 27.74 m (91 ft) in beam (regulars)	USD 10,500
Vessels with a LOA less than 274.32 m (900 ft) and a maximum beam of 32.61 m (107 ft)	USD 40,000
Vessels with a LOA between 274.32 m (900 ft) and 294.44 m (966 ft), and a maximum beam of 32.61 m (107 ft)	USD 50,000
Neopanamax Locks	New tariff
Vessels with beam less than 42.67 m (140 ft)	USD 70,000
Vessels with beam equal to or greater than 42.67 m (140 ft)	USD 85,000

Booking Cancellation table	New tariff
Noticed period (in advance of required arrival time)	Cancellation fee (the greater of)
Over 365 days	10% of booking fee
365 to over 180 days	20% of booking fee
180 to over 90 days	50% of booking fee
90 days to over 21 days	60% of booking fee
21 days to over 7 days	70% of booking fee
4 to 7 days	80% of booking fee
Less than 4 days (96 hrs)	100% of booking fee

Number of	Swapping Fee per Vessel								
Swaps	Neopanamax and Supers (beam of 91ft and over but under 107 ft)	<b>Regulars</b> (beam under 91ft)							
1st swap	Included in the transit reservation fee								
2nd swap	USD 14,000	USD 4,200							
3rd swap	USD 21,000	USD 6,300							
4th swap	USD 28,000	USD 8,400							
5th swap	USD 35,000	USD 10,500							

Swapping of reserved transit slots between two booked vessels is allowed, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Both vessels must be booked for transit within 21 days of each other.
- 2. Both vessels must be transiting in the same direction.
- 3. Both vessels must be within the same vessel classification (Neopanamax, super or regular) and be subject to the same transit restrictions and arrival requirements.
- 4. Vessel operators (Customer Codes) must be the same for both vessels.

# **Arrival time for booked vessels**

Required arrival time means the date and time established by ACP as the deadline by which a vessel booked for transit must arrive to transit.

- For Supers (beam of 91ft or over but under 107ft): must arrive at a Canal terminal by 0200 hrs the day of the transit.
- For Regular vessels (beam under 91ft) with restrictions: must arrive at a Canal terminal by 0200 hrs the day of the transit.
- For Regular Vessel without restrictions: must arrive at a Canal terminal by 1400 hrs the day of the transit.
- For Neopanamax vessels (beam over 107ft): must arrive at a Canal terminal by 2300 hrs prior to the booked transit date.
- For LNG vessels: must arrive at a Canal terminal by 0330 hrs the day of the transit.

**Arrival time**: For purposes of these rules, a vessel booked for transit will be deemed to have arrived at a Canal terminal when a ACP signal station establishes radio contact with vessels and:

- 1. The vessel is visually sighted by the signal station; or
- 2. The vessel is identified on an ACP radar by locations, speed and course at a distance no more than 8 nautical miles.

- Should the vessel elect to retain its normal booking slot, the auctioned booking slot will be offered to the next highest bidder. If, on the other hand the vessel elects to retain the auctioned booking slot, then its normal booking slot will be voided at no additional charge.

### There are basically two ways to proceed:

- Placing the starting bid at the beginning of the process or placing the next acceptable bid and amend it by increasing the amount desired every time we get outbid, or
- Placing a maximum bid that will set up a *Proxy Bid*. In this case the proxy bid will bid on your behalf. This means that if you enter an amount that is higher than any other proxy bid, the system will bid on your behalf only the necessary amount to outbid the other bidders.

In any case, the customer must inform us how much are willing to pay and how will like to proceed. From the minimum and increasing with the minimum next acceptable or bid or placing the very top amount willing to pay.

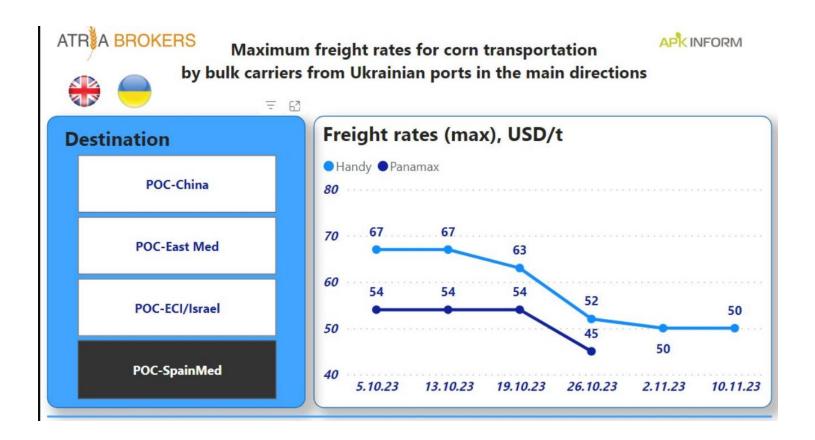
The auction can be monitored, by phone, by the client with our operator whilst the auction is in process to know when we are out- bided in case will like to submit a different/higher amount before the process conclude.

### Container Freight Markets

# **Baltic Freightos Container Shipping Freight Indices**

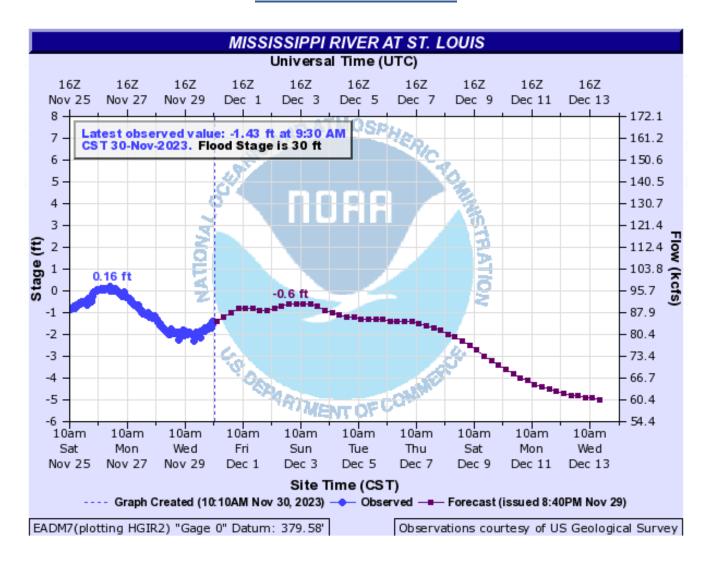


### Black Sea

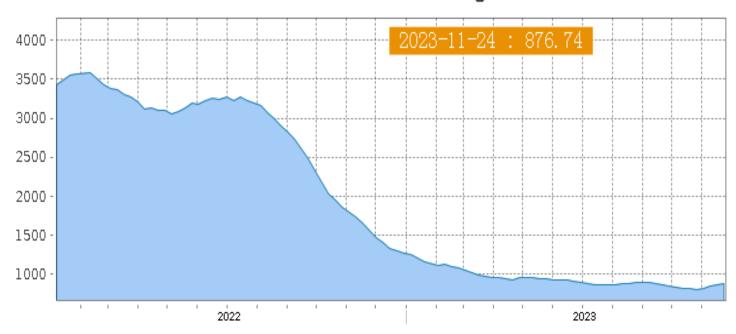


Rail News:

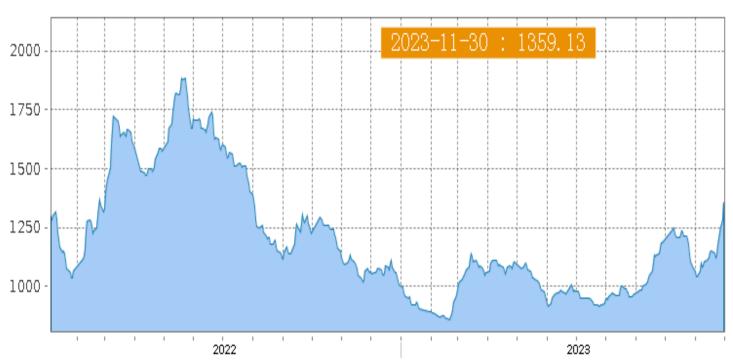
### U.S. River Markets



# China Containerized Freight Index



# China Import Dry Bulk Freight Index



### Secondary Rail Car Market for Car placement period: Last Half December 2023

Secondary Rail Car Market		BID		ASK		BID	A	ASK		BID	-	ASK
Placement LH December 2023		USD		USD		BU. BU.		MT		MT		
BNSF Shutle Trains	\$	300	\$	450	\$	80.0	\$	0.11	\$	2.95	\$	4.43
UPRR Shuttle Trains	\$	(350)	\$	(250)	\$	(0.09)	\$	(0.06)	\$	(3.44)	\$	(2.46)

### **Barge Placement Last Half December 2023**

Placement LH December 2023	% of		Corn	Soybeans-Wheat
	Tariff	MT	BU	BU
Upper Mississippi	Closed			0.00
Illinois River (Pekin and South)	415	\$ 28.32	0.72	0.77
Mid-Mississippi	Closed	\$ -	0.00	0.00
Lower Ohio	415	\$ 20.40	0.52	0.56
St. Louis	365	\$ 16.05	0.41	0.44

Best Regards,

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