



March 26, 2021

### **SUEZ CANAL STILL BLOCKED BY “EVER GIVEN” AS DELAYS & DIVERSIONS BECOME FOCUS**

Continued efforts to dredge around the 224,000-ton container vessel have not yet yielded the outcome hoped in order to free the wedged ship that ran aground on Tuesday, earlier this week. A sandstorm with high winds and poor visibility, creating navigation complications, is said to be the cause that has left the vessel blocking the Suez Canal and all marine traffic from both directions for several days.

It has been reported that the proper equipment is now onsite to improve efforts and increase dredging at a faster rate per hour, but will take days to continue the operations in order to refloat the mega-vessel. The timing of an expected high tide in the waterway is also critical to the situation.

The length of the vessel is 1,312 feet, just short of the height of the Empire State Building for comparison, and has a carrying capacity of 20,000 TEU containers, creating an even greater challenge.

Forecasted progress has noted a range of two days to potentially a week to resolve the situation, but there is great optimism that another 48 hours is all that will be needed to bring resolution that should free the Ever Given and then allow ships to begin passage. With this noted, significant delays are expected to take place with vessels already in a holding pattern and awaiting passage. It has been reported that there are approximately 160 ships carrying fuel and cargo that are anchored and waiting to proceed.

In the meantime, ships just recently departing from their origins that require use of the Suez Canal to reach their destinations are considering alternative routings as a diversion. This will of course bring concern of additional delays for newer shipments due to longer transits and likely increased costs, should those alternatives be utilized to a greater extent.

Should the situation worsen beyond the weekend and into early next week, we will provide status and any further guidance that has been provided at that stage.

Once the flow of cargo has resumed and carriers can recalculate transit, any shipments that impact our clientele will see updates to their destination estimated time of arrivals.

#### **OFFICE LOCATIONS**

Moonachie, NJ (201-478-4600) \* Long Beach, CA (562-435-2327) \* Schaumburg, IL (630-860-0782)  
 Hong Kong • Shenzhen • Guangzhou • Shanghai • Ningbo • Nanjing • Dalian • Tianjin • Qingdao • Xiamen • Taiwan • Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, India

#### **DOMESTIC CARGO OPERATIONS**

Kearny, NJ (201) 772-560

#### **3PL LOCATIONS**

Fontana, CA \* Ontario CA \* Joliet, IL \* Kearny, NJ (Central Ops)