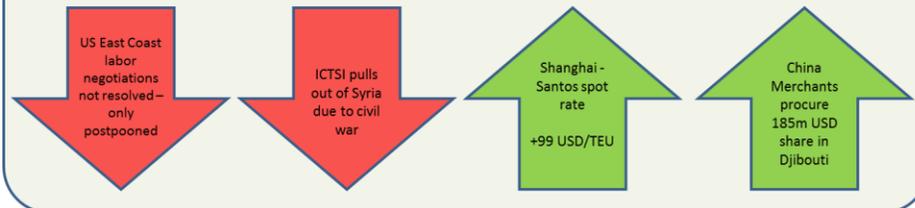


SUNDAY SPOTLIGHT

6 JANUARY 2013, ISSUE 93

SEAINTEL MARITIME ANALYSIS

Indicators from the week 31 Dec – 6 Jan. 2012



Get up-to-date information on operational incidents in 50 African ports:

www.portoverview.com

THE NATURE OF PORT INCIDENTS IN AFRICA

Shedding a clear light on the challenges faced every day

Africa is one of the world's fastest growing economic regions, but it certainly has its share of challenges. With so many developing countries on the continent, trying to keep up with the level of progress in regards to international trade is a challenging task indeed for any shipper, carrier, consignee or forwarder involved in the market.

When it comes to moving cargo in and around Africa, it's not always easy to find information on the various situations that can impact a shipment. Africa experiences it all - poor road conditions, piracy, civil disturbances, port congestion, severe weather, striking workers, government endemic corruption, vessels running aground, etc.

In order to shed a factual light on these issues, we have established an intelligence-gathering operation which has been operational for the past 2 months. We are receiving factual information from people on location across the top-50 container ports across Africa, reporting incidents from the individual ports.

An incident can have negative ramifications on cargo movements – such as a report of a labour strike closing operations at a port – but an incident

Self-help

In the first editorial of 2013, we start by quoting the New Year Speech of MOL's President, Mr. Koichi Muto: "Heaven Helps Those Who Help Themselves." A key part of the message is that despite a challenging environment for the container business, rates improved. This was not achieved by hoping for a better external environment, but by taking action on items firmly under the carrier's own control. This is used to show that you do not need to be at the mercy of the market. Mr. Muto-san's message is indeed very apt for the situation facing all carriers in 2013 – carrier action, and not the external environment, will define 2013.

Content

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