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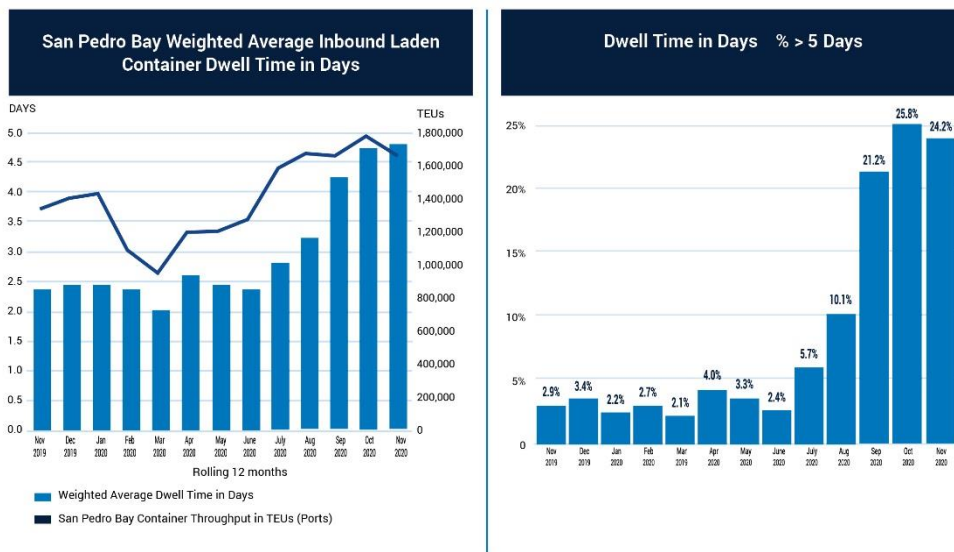
Contact: Jessica Alvarenga
jalvarenga@pmsaship.com
562-432-4042

Record Dwell Time Slowing Container Velocity

Container dwell time at San Pedro ports remains at an all time high. The average container dwell time has exceeded 3 days for the fourth month in a row, with November’s being 4.85 days – the longest yet. This metric indicates the terminal’s ability to keep containers flowing efficiently. It is vital that dwell time remain low to keep the flow of cargo without any delays.

“The amount of containers piling up on terminals is adding to the unnecessary additional container moves labor has to make in order to reach those that are getting picked up in a timely manner,” explained Jessica Alvarenga, manager of Government Affairs at the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association.

While the pandemic has created uncertainty and delays at seaports globally, efficiently flowing terminals would ease the problem. Terminal operators and dockworkers are moving record-breaking volumes on a monthly basis and it is vital that these containers be picked up to enable these operations. In addition, terminals continue to see a high number of missed appointments. Missed appointments reduce terminal capacity and contribute to congestion. Stakeholders need to continue to work together to move cargo off the docks and onto their final destination. “Terminals facilitate the transition of containers from vessels to trucks, and they cannot provide storage services if they want to continue flowing cargo without interruptions,” stated Alvarenga.



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About the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA). The Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA) is an independent, not-for-profit association focused on global trade. PMSA operates offices in Oakland, Long Beach and Seattle, and represents owners and operators of marine terminals and U.S. and foreign vessels operating throughout the world.