



OCEAN CARRIERS AND MARINE TERMINALS DELIVER FOR U.S. FAMILIES

Amid historic import volumes and continued challenges resulting from the COVID-19 crisis, the shipping industry took extraordinary steps through 2021 in order to keep cargo flowing through the ports and into the hands of U.S. families, businesses, and key industry sectors.

2021 at a glance: Record volumes of cargo // Most packages arrive on time for the holidays

Together, the Port of Long Beach and Port of Los Angeles processed in excess of 20 million containers in 2021, a 13% year-over-year increase for the Port of Los Angeles, and a 15.7% increase for the Port of Long Beach. Forces driving this influx of cargo include the ongoing need for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and medical supplies, heightened e-commerce activity, back-to-school spending, and the holiday purchasing rush. Amid the influx, managing the flow of containers was slowed by transportation disruptions and warehouse availability.

Despite supply chain challenges, approximately 99% of the packages destined for a residential address arrived on time this holiday season.

The New York Times

Why Christmas Gifts Are Arriving on Time This Year

Fears that a disrupted supply chain could wreak havoc on the logistics industry over the holiday turned out to be wrong as many Americans ordered early and shopped in stores.

Major efforts by marine terminal operators and ocean carriers to keep goods flowing through the ports

We are creating more longshore jobs. Over 2,000 new workers have so far been brought on to manage the incoming and outgoing containers at marine terminals.

We are investing in equipment. PMSA members are making major investments in additional chassis, new ships, and larger cranes to minimize chokepoints and expedite movement of containers.

Despite COVID-19 labor shortages, marine terminals are adding gates and increasing hours of operation. PMSA members are also leasing hundreds of acres of land for off-dock processing and are keeping terminals open 24/7 when necessary.

We are enhancing technology to improve container processing. PMSA members are using technology to make and track truck appointments and to improve efficiency in the loading and unloading of containers.

We are implementing a new arrival system that improves ship arrivals. PMSA, the Coast Guard, and the Marine Exchange are working together to control the arrival of ships to California ports.

We are expanding terminals to increase rail capacity. The expanded rail yards at the Long Beach Container Terminal are being utilized in order to increase TEU capacity lift.

We are taking action to find and deliver priority products. Ocean carriers and marine terminals are responding to requests from government and private parties to expedite the processing of containers full of high priority items, such as medical equipment, hospital supplies, safety products and other items that the public or cargo owners need delivered as soon as possible.
