

AllCovered NEWS

The news YOU need to grow your business and stay ahead of your competition

A weekly service for clients and friends of Allcovered.net and the Allen Insurance Group

PO Box 1439 / 304 MLK Jr Dr / Fort Valley, GA 31030 USA
Voice: +1.478.825.5566 / Fax: +1.419.715.4723 / US TOLL FREE: 800.922.5536

Copyright 2005
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Monday, 11 July 2005 --- Edition #444

AllCovered-NEWS is sent via email to all who request it in "Plain Text" to limit your download times.

Monday, 11 July 2005

-- CONTENTS THIS WEEK --

SMALL BUSINESS:

Insurance a Must for At-Home Workers
Telecommuting Policy
Act & Speak Like A Winner – Get the Sale

TRUCKING:

National Carriers Hike Pay
Diesel Up Again

SECURITY:

Truckers Urge Security Review
The Rise of RFID
Piracy near Iraq & Somalia

OCEAN & AIR FORWARDING:

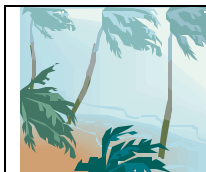
US Sues to Take Over Longshore Union
Focus – Preparing for the Big One
NWA Mechanics & United Attendants to Strike?
KAL & Asiana Strike Actions

JUST FOR FUN:

Older Exercises
English Language Complaints

NEXT WEEK: Supply Chain Problems – Marketing Opportunity for You

NOTE: At the end of most stories excerpted within is a link to the full story at its source.



HURRICANE / STORM PREPARATIONS – HURRICANE DENNIS

Allcovered.net helps you get ready for storms... track the storms... keep your cargo and employees safe. Checklists... storm links and more.

YOU DESERVE IT – WE DELIVER IT

www.allcovered.net We have logistics Allcovered

SMALL BIZ – INSURANCE A MUST FOR AT-HOME BUSINESS

If you let your employees work from home, are they insured? If you work from home, are you insured? For entrepreneurs running a business out of their home or employees doing some of their work from home, insuring business assets is just as important as a business plan and financing.

In total 28% of the US workforce works fulltime or part-time from home... 2/3 of them are not insured.

Many home-based business owners assume that their homeowners' insurance policy will cover business assets inside the home. *That is usually not true.*

The type of insurance a home-based business needs depends on the business and assets included.

IF YOU ARE HOME BASED:

Typically, a business with annual revenue of less than \$250,000 is best suited to purchase an add-on, or endorsement, to a homeowners' policy for \$100 or \$250 of additional premium annually that will insure business property up to \$10,000 or \$20,000.

Home-based businesses with annual revenue of more than \$250,000 are generally advised to purchase a business-owner package. Business-owner policy packages vary in cost and are designed to combine general property and liability coverages into one policy. The cost is around \$500 per year.

IF YOU LET EMPLOYEES WORK FROM HOME:

If you allow employees to work from home all or part of the time, be sure your insurance covers them for falls or accidents... Make sure either the employee or your company has insurance for the equipment they use like their notebook computer, etc. There are legal concerns as well as we reported in 2002.

FROM OUR 19 August 2002 Allcovered News – the following:

TELECOMMUTING CHALLENGES TO CONSIDER:

SAFETY: Workers' compensation covers on-the-job injuries, including ones suffered while working at home. An injury to a business visitor at your employee's home also may expose employers to liability.

WAGE & HOUR ISSUES: Develop policies for ascertaining and recording hours worked if the employee is hourly, enforcing break and meal periods, monitoring and controlling overtime, and determining if employees should be paid for time spent on-call or traveling to a company facility.

PRIVACY: Employers must be able to monitor all online communications, including e-mail sent and received and Internet sites visited. Monitoring employees who work from home may lead to the interception of purely personal information. To guard against an invasion-of-privacy claim, employers must implement a policy expressly permitting them to monitor the employees' communications and obtain employees' written consent to be monitored.

CONFIDENTIALITY: Employers may require telecommuters to enter into a confidentiality agreement regarding confidential business information.

TELECOMMUTING POLICIES:

An employer that permits workers to telecommute should have a written policy addressing the subject, and it should require virtual workers to execute a telecommuter's agreement. The policy should cover:

- 1)- Positions & employees eligible for telecommuting.
- 2)- Work schedules & responsibility for recording hours.
- 3)- Telecommuters' responsibilities for health and safety & employer's right to inspect telecommuters' home offices.
- 4)- Ownership, maintenance & use of equipment in the telecommuters' home offices.
- 5)- Does employee's homeowners insurance cover home offices & equipment – who pays any extra insurance cost?
- 6)- Conditions of Internet & intranet access.
- 7)- Employer's right to monitor telecommuters' communications.
- 8)- Telecommuters' obligations to maintain the confidentiality of company information.
- 9)- Liability for injuries occurring at the telecommuters' home offices.
- 10)- Telecommuters' responsibilities to abide by company policies and procedures.
- 11)- The employer's right to terminate its telecommuting program at any time with or without cause or notice.

MORE: http://www.bizjournals.com/industries/banking_financial_services/insurance/2005/06/27/milwaukee_focus1.html?f=et145

OTHER PAST ISSUES OF ALLCOVERED NEWS AT: <http://www.allcovered.net/AC-News-PDF.htm>

SMALL BIZ – MARKETING – ACT & SPEAK LIKE A WINNER

Strong sales people take charge and act like leaders.

Weak sales people act like they do not deserve a prospect's time.

Here are some examples of right and wrong:

QUALIFYING PROSPECTS:

WRONG: "Do you mind sharing with me your goal for market share this year?"

RIGHT: "What percentage of market share would you like to obtain this year?"

ASKING FOR AN APPOINTMENT:

WRONG: "Do you think you can find some time for me to stop by next week?"

RIGHT: "I'll be close by Wednesday and Thursday. How about 9am Wednesday morning?"

CLOSING:

WRONG: "Would you like to move forward?"

RIGHT: "How soon would you like to begin this program and increase your sales?"

GOING FOR REPEAT BUSINESS:

WRONG: "If you'd like to come in for an appointment, let me know and I'll be happy to set one up for you."

RIGHT: "When would you like to schedule your next appointment? Do you prefer mornings or afternoons?"

Act like a winner. You will increase your sales, success and income.

MORE: http://www.bizjournals.com/extraedge/consultants/sell_more/2005/07/04/column174.html

SMALL BIZ – ID THEFT RULE REQUIRES YOU DESTROY EMPLOYEE RECORDS: A new federal law has put human resource departments on the front lines in the fight against employees' identity theft. And their favorite weapon in the battle is likely to be a sharp paper shredder. As of June 1, the Disposal Rule requires businesses and individuals to take appropriate measures to dispose of sensitive information derived from consumer reports. This includes reports received with information relating to employment background such as criminal and education checks.

MORE: http://www.bizjournals.com/industries/business_services/human_resources/2005/07/04/triangle_focus1.html?f=et152

TECH WATCH – ANOTHER TROJAN HORSE INFECTING COMPUTERS: We will deliberately misspell the name of this Trojan Horse so poorly set email filters will not block this newsletter. The name is all one word. We have placed spaces in the name. Mit glieder. DQ, a Trojan-horse program, is placed on Web sites and other media, from which users are tricked into downloading and executing it. The virus can easily halt your security software and copy unwanted files onto your PC. Avoid and remove the culprit by following our step-by-step instructions.

MORE: <http://ct.eneews.pcmag.com/rd/cts?d=184-1897-16-61-140208-212897-0-0-0-1>

TECH WATCH – SMALL OFFICE LASER PRINTERS: Laser printers with reliability, low maintenance cost, and network-readiness... price tags ranging from \$500 to \$1500. Which is best for you?

MORE: <http://ct.eneews.pcmag.com/rd/cts?d=184-1901-4-54-205416-213524-0-0-0-1>

CURRENCIES - THE BIG MAC INDEX: Twice a year The Economist magazine offers its Big Mac Index. This measures the cost of a McDonalds Big Mac in real terms... or what is known as "Purchasing Power Parity" to get an idea of which currencies are over-valued and which under-valued in relation to the dollar. The Big Mac Index has been remarkably accurate over time. If the Big Mac Index is right, the Euro is overvalued by 17% and must fall in relation to the dollar. The Chinese Yuan is undervalued by 59% and must rise against the dollar. There are many more examples. Let this serve as a starting place as you plan your currency strategies for the coming months.

MORE: http://www.economist.com/markets/bigmac/displayStory.cfm?story_id=4065603

CURRENCIES – US DOLLAR AT 14 MONTH HIGH VERSUS EURO:

MORE: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ft/20050705/bs_ft/fto070520050729422046;_ylt=AqSu8PmqxQrfdY2.1rP3ESyBhIF;_ylu=X3oDMTBiMW04NW9mBHNIYwMIJVRPUCUJ

US ECONOMY – FACTORY ORDERS UP 2.9% IN MAY:

MORE: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20050705/ap_on_bi_go_ec_fi/economy;_ylt=AkSTIEoFy5Wv.lu8dGbDlayBhIF;_ylu=X3oDMTBiMW04NW9mBHNIYwMIJVRPUCUJ

US ECONOMY – JUNE HIRING UP – UNEMPLOYMENT DROPS:

MORE: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20050708/ap_on_bi_go_ec_fi/economy;_ylt=AqBk67X5N40Pj_vvBpDOcvCyBhIF;_ylu=X3oDMTBiMW04NW9mBHNIYwMIJVRPUCUJ

>>>>>>> TRUCKING SECTION <<<<<<<<

TRUCKING – TRUCKERS URGE SECURITY REVIEW: See “Security” section

TRUCKING – NATIONAL CARRIERS HIKES PAY

National Carriers has implemented increases in compensation for its independent contractors in the temperature-controlled 48 state and regional fleets.

The company says it now is paying 88 cents per mile for its 48-state mileage contract and 90 cents per mile for its regional mileage contract.

NCI provides service in temperature controlled truckload operations, the transportation of livestock, logistics, expedited/guaranteed product delivery service, tractor lease financing and general tractor and trailer maintenance. The company operates in the 48 states and portions of Canada.

MORE: <http://www.thetrucker.com/showstory.aspx?id=9852>

TRUCKING – DIESEL HITS ANOTHER RECORD: The US national average on-highway price of a gallon of diesel set another record high as the price for the week of July 4 increased 1.2 cents to \$2.348 according to the Energy Information Administration of the Department of Energy. The price was 63.2 cents higher than one year ago.

MORE: <http://www.thetrucker.com/showstory.aspx?id=9864>

HURRICANE / STORM PREPARATIONS – HURRICANE DENNIS

Allcovered.net helps you get ready for storms... track the storms... keep your cargo and employees safe. Checklists... storm links and more.

YOU DESERVE IT – WE DELIVER IT

www.allcovered.net We have logistics Allcovered

>>>>>>> SECURITY SECTION <<<<<<<<

SECURITY – TRUCKERS URGE SECURITY REVIEW

Thursday's deadly terrorist attack on London's mass transit system should serve as a wake-up call for US trucking companies to review and update their security plans, contend industry experts.

Highway Watch ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center), a Department of Homeland Security (DHS)-funded program run by the American Trucking Associations that deputizes highway transportation workers to report potential terrorist activity, has responded to the attacks in England by intensely communicating with its members, especially those in public transit.

"The key with transportation security today is you can't back off " this incident in London should be a reminder for trucking companies to take a fresh look at their security plans to make sure they are doing everything they need to be doing," Tom Walker, field operations manager and security expert for Pennsylvania-based regional LTL carrier A. Duie Pyle.

"Carriers have to be sure they are secure "we have a duty not only to protect our employees and our customer's cargo but to protect, by extension, the general public as well. Nothing angers me more than seeing a tractor-trailer with hazardous materials placards on it pulled over on the side of a highway so the driver can get his 10 hours of rest. That's a security risk-- an open invitation to trouble."

MORE: <http://www.layover.com/cgi-bin/portal/printnews.pl/8495.html>

SECURITY – THE RISE OF RFID

--- From an In-Depth article – link to full article at end ---

When a large company loses a shipment of key components or valuable finished goods, the impact on their supply chain can be much more catastrophic... stalling manufacturing lines, disrupting promised deliveries and imposing a much greater economic risk to their business.

Companies are turning to RFID (Radio Frequency ID tags) as a means of cutting their transport risks. International shipping now accounts for over 90% of worldwide trade.

Manufacturers seek to cut production costs through production of goods in offshore factories but that makes them vulnerable to disruptions in supply lines.

The complex web of freight forwarders, shipping lines, ports, and customs and border security regulations often confound the desired simplicity and transparency sought by companies looking to streamline their supply chains.

Companies still find it difficult to get access to information about their shipments once they leave the port, not knowing exactly when their shipments will arrive or how to plan contingencies in the event that things don't go exactly as planned.

A.T. Kearney and the International Cargo Security Council (ICSC), recently conducted a survey of 200 of the biggest importing and exporting companies in the United States. These companies account for about 30% of the 21.3 million TEUs (20 foot container equivalents) moving in and out of the US each year.

As the table at right illustrates, the number one concern expressed by survey respondents related to ensuring the security of their ocean-bound shipments, while other high priority issues were also identified including preventing and locating lost containers.

Other less surprising issues on the minds of shipping managers were the more traditional supply chain optimization elements of how to reduce inventory requirements, shorten lead times and lowering the incidence of stock-outs or delayed order deliveries.

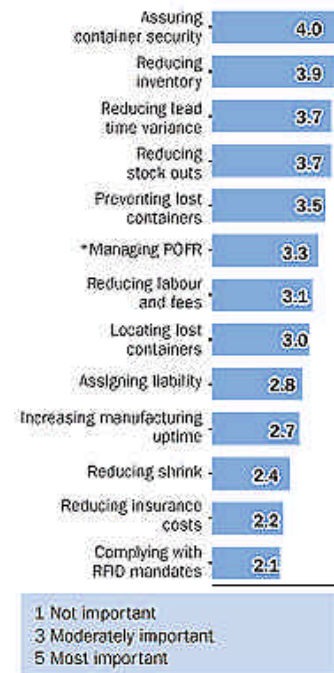
In these areas, survey respondents have a clear sense of the linkage between increased transparency of shipments and improved efficiency of the overall supply chain.

More than one third responded that stock outs continue to have a significant impact on their revenues of 3% or more. One retail executive participating in the survey commented that only 60- 65% of the data related to ocean shipments was accurate, while the remaining 35-40% was either inaccurate or altogether nonexistent.

The desire for more transparency and better information to allow logistics to find, correct or prevent supply problems is driving the move to RFID at a financial level... far more than the security implications of the technology.

MORE: http://www.bangkokpost.com/Business/30Jun2005_biz74.php

The relative importance of over-ocean supply chain challenges



Note: *POFR stands for perfect order fill rate, a measure of order accuracy, timeliness, quality and completeness.

Source: A.T. Kearney

POSTgraphics

SECURITY – NOT EVERYONE LOVES RFID: It's bad news, claims PC Magazine columnist John Dvorak. Those tiny radio transmitters that promise convenience and flexibility are just another path toward big brother domination. And it's going to get a lot worse.

MORE: <http://ct.eletters.whatsnewnow.com/rd/cts?d=181-480-1-278-261855-23183-0-0-1>

SECURITY – ROBBERS TARGET US CARGO SHIP NEAR IRAQ PORT: Thieves armed with guns have raided a US-flagged cargo ship close to Iraq's main port of Umm Qasr according to the International Maritime Bureau (IMB). IMB reports the raid, on a roll-on roll-off vessel carrying US cargo to be used in the reconstruction of Iraq, happened in the early hours of June 30.

MORE: http://www.swisspolitics.org/en/news/index.php?section=int&page=news_inhalt&news_id=5922620

SECURITY – SOMALI'S HIJACK AID SHIP: Somali gunmen who hijacked a vessel full of food aid chartered by the UN's World Food Program (WFP) deny they are demanding a ransom but admit they have yet to decide what to do with the ship and hostages. The ship was captured a week ago en route to the northern port of Bossaso. Its owner says the gunmen are demanding \$500,000 to free the crew.

MORE: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L0747369.htm>

HURRICANE / STORM PREPARATIONS – HURRICANE DENNIS

Allcovered.net helps you get ready for storms... track the storms... keep your cargo and employees safe. Checklists... storm links and more.

YOU DESERVE IT – WE DELIVER IT

www.allcovered.net We have logistics Allcovered

TRADE – US SUES LONGSHOREMEN: Federal authorities have sued for control of the International Longshoremen's Association, seeking "once and for all to end mob domination" of the labor union, said a US prosecutor, Roslynn Mauskopf. The ILA represents 45,000 dockworkers and other employees at ports from Maine to Texas.

MORE: http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2005/07/07/us_sues_to_control_longshoremen_union/?rss_id=Boston+Globe+--+National+News

MORE: <http://www.joc.com/20050706/sections/ocean/w31876.asp>

MORE: <http://feeds.bignewsnetwork.com/?sid=a7e50e28d5ac9800>

TRADE – ILA DISSIDENTS WANT ELECTIONS: International Longshoremen's Association dissidents say they hope the government's civil racketeering lawsuit against the ILA will lead to direct elections of top union officers. "Unfortunately, there has been corruption, and the membership of our union has suffered," says Leonard Riley, an ILA member from Charleston and co-chair of the Longshore Workers Coalition, an intra-ILA reform group. "The members are the only ones who can rid our union of corruption and chart a course for the future. If we get an impartially run membership vote for top officers, we will clean up this union."

MORE: <http://www.joc.com/20050707/sections/ocean/w92961.asp>

TRADE – SUIT WILL NOT AFFECT ILA CONTRACT: The Justice Department's civil racketeering lawsuit against the International Longshoremen's Association does not affect the union's six-year coastwide master contract covering dockworkers in Atlantic and Gulf ports. The six-year master contract has a no-strike clause. The contract took effect last October and extends to Sept. 30, 2010.

MORE: <http://www.joc.com/20050708/sections/ocean/w4492.asp>

TRADE – VANCOUVER TERMINALS & DRIVERS TALK: Container terminal operators at the Port of Vancouver met with striking truckers Friday as the protest over higher pay approached its third week. At the same time, the Canadian government was poised to intervene in the strike, but only if the approximately 1,000 drivers and their employers agree to get back to work while resuming stalled negotiations.

MORE: <http://www.joc.com/lede/20050708/sections/logis/w38319.asp>

TRADE – VANCOUVER DRIVERS MAKE OFFER: Striking truck drivers have made a one-year proposal to end their work stoppage that is causing containers to pile up at Vancouver-area port terminals. Under the proposed deal, the truck owner-operators would be paid a minimum of \$75 per hour with a minimum call-out time of four hours. It also calls for a fuel surcharge of at least 15%. Several transport companies filed lawsuits against the truckers for harassment. Although the port remains open and containers continue to move by rail, the flow of container trucks moving roughly \$30 million worth of goods every day has been on hold for more than a week after about 1,000 truckers parked their rigs.

MORE: <http://www.cbc.ca/cp/business/050708/b0708112.html>

TRADE – STRIKE IN TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: The Trinidad and Tobago Hauliers Association (TTHA) is now on strike after its members walked out of a two-hour meeting that reached a stalemate Thursday at the Port Authority. Hundreds of containers and cars remain at the Container Examination Station (CES) at the Port-of-Spain Port after protest action brought activities to a halt.

MORE: <http://www.newsday.co.tt/morenews.php?p=1#27525>

TRADE – CYPRUS AIRPORT STRIKE: Airports in Cyprus came to a standstill on Friday in a wildcat strike by staff after the government assigned administration of the terminals to the private sector. Witnesses said up to 3,000 passengers and 15 flights were grounded at Larnaca Airport, the island's main air terminal.

MORE: <http://news.airwise.com/story/view/1120829363.html>

TRADE – US POST OFFICE TRACKING ALL LETTERS: “The check’s in the mail.” It's one of the biggest "white lies," and if a new Post Office experiment with bar codes works, it will be obsolete. Yes, that envelope with the check in it will be tracked, along with other personal correspondence. That tracking system, which starts this month, is one way the Postal Service is making first-class mail such as bills and personal correspondence more valuable, in a world full of e-mail and electronic documents. Believe it? Read the story about how the Post Office is adding trackbacks, and when it will come to you, along with details on what else the old PO is doing to remain viable.

MORE: <http://ct.eletters.whatsnewnow.com/rd/cts?d=181-484-1-278-261855-23315-0-0-0-1>

MORE: <http://www.baselinemag.com/article2/0,1540,1834656,00.asp>

TRADE – UPS OFFERS NOTIFICATION OF ALL INBOUND SHIPMENTS: United Parcel Service has introduced technology that automatically notifies customers of every package in the UPS system moving toward them. Quantum View Inbound provides proactive notification of UPS air express, ground and international packages that are en route to the receiver's location. The technology helps businesses better prepare for delivery activities in such areas as staffing, accounting, stocking and customer service.

MORE: www.UPS.com/qvdemo

MORE: http://www.truckinginfo.com/news/news-detail.asp?news_id=55065

FOCUS LONG-TERM - PREPARING FOR THE “BIG ONE”

FedEx ships over 40% of all overnight packages in the US.

What would happen if... overnight... FedEx disappeared?

Sooner or later it could happen.

When you think earthquakes in the US you usually think of California... but the central US has a fault line that could cause far more damage.

Two-thirds of the way between St. Louis and Memphis, between the towns of Tiptonville, Tennessee and New Madrid, Missouri, the Mississippi River makes an outrageous loop northward, like it's avoiding something.

The river's levees dead-end at a bulge in the landscape. For decades, geologists have studied this gentle swell in the cornfields.

They have a name for it: the Reelfoot fault... also referred to as the New Madrid fault.

CLICK FOR MAP: http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.showme.net/~fkeller/quake/images/newmadrid_off&imgrefurl=http://www.showme.net/~fkeller/quake/topoo.htm&h=311&w=307&sz=82&hmid=111&itbs=113&itow=111&itbn=10&prev=/images%3Fq%3Dnew%2Bmadrid%2Bfault%2Bmap%2Bvym%3D10%26hl%3Den%26lr%3DhCUdndYJ:8itbs=113&itow=111&itbn=10&prev=/images%3Fq%3Dnew%2Bmadrid%2Bfault%2Bmap%2Bvym%3D10%26hl%3Den%26lr%3D

In the winter of 1811-12, this is where two blocks in the earth wrenched apart so savagely - the western block up, the eastern block down - that the Mississippi River pooled backward into the sunken block. The river flowed backward for five hours. Church bells were rung by the force of the earthquake as far away as Boston and Philadelphia... 1300 miles / 2200 kilometers away.

The 1811 quakes were felt over an area at least seven times as wide as the great 1906 San Francisco earthquake. That's because seismic waves travel farther and do more damage in the hard rock of the eastern United States than in the busted up rocks of the West.

No one much lived in the hardest hit region then. Now 70-million people do... In cities like St. Louis, Louisville (where UPS sorts its overnight air packages), and Memphis... home of FedEx.

And it's not just FedEx. A major quake now could cripple transportation routes, collapse all bridges across the Mississippi River, snap pipelines and snarl supply chains for the entire country.

For the first time geologists now know the Reelfoot fault is building up a pressure that could make it buckle again. There is a 10% chance it will happen in the next 50 years.

--- SO WHAT? ---

How would you move your shippers' freight?

Do you have a “disaster plan” for this or other disasters?

MORE: <http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/newswatch/story/6A40147DF12326E78625703200672EF7?OpenDocument>

AIR – NWA MECHANICS TO BEGIN STRIKE VOTE: Northwest Airlines mechanics and related workers, citing the carrier's "continuing refusal to take current contract negotiations seriously," will begin a strike vote, according to the Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association. The two sides have been negotiating since October 2004. In a letter included with voting materials sent to members, AMFA National Director O.V. Delle-Femine said the union offered a 16.1% pay cut and other concessions that would have saved the airline more than \$140 million a year, and that NWA's rejection of the proposal "leave[s] us little choice but to prepare for a strike." The vote is expected to end on July 19.
MORE: <http://www.atwonline.com/news/other.html?issueDate=7%2F4%2F2005>
MORE: <http://news.airwise.com/story/view/1120653086.html>

AIR – UNITED FLIGHTS ATTENDANTS SAY THEY CAN STRIKE: United Airlines flight attendants, represented by the Association of Flight Attendants, say they now have the right to strike after the carrier began to terminate their pension plan. AFA had warned several times that any unilateral change to the flight attendants' contract, in this case termination of the pension plan, would violate the Railway Labor Act, setting the stage for legal work stoppages by the group.

AIR – ASIANA PILOTS STRIKE –AND SAY WILL AGAIN: Asiana Airlines was hit by a 24-hr. strike by many of its unionized pilots Wednesday. Around 300 of the 527 union pilots participated. Pilots threaten a general strike within ten days.
MORE: <http://www.atwonline.com/news/other.html?issueDate=7%2F7%2F2005>
MORE: http://www.koreaherald.co.kr/SITE/data/html_dir/2005/07/07/200507070032.asp

AIR - KAL PILOTS GO-SLOW: Korean Air pilots began staging a go-slow last week, driving planes at half-speed to and from runways to back their demand for better working conditions. Airport officials in Korea say pilots halved their speeds on taxiways at the country's two main airports in Incheon and Kimpo. Pilots usually taxi at speeds of up to 54 kilometers per hour.
MORE: http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/afp_asiapacific/view/156056/1.html

AIR – CONTINENTAL AIR CARGO DOWN 0.8% IN JUNE:
MORE: <http://www.americanshipper.com/frm2001.asp?Target=NewsFrame.asp?news=21659>

AIR – AF-KLM CARGO WEAK: "Cargo activity continued to suffer from the weakness of European exports," Air France KLM says. Cargo traffic fell 1.1%. Capacity was up 4.3%. Load factor fell 3.5% to 64.7%.
MORE: <http://news.airwise.com/story/view/1120735357.html>

AIR – CATHAY & DHL TIE-UP: Sales contributions from Cathay Pacific Airways' cargo partnership with logistics giant DHL could almost triple by 2007 as demand expands in the Asia Pacific. Cathay, which is the majority 60-40 partner with DHL in the all-cargo airline, Air Hong Kong (AHK), said DHL's growing appetite for space on AHK flights might generate annual sales as high as \$ 2 billion by 2007, compared with an estimated \$ 715 million last year. The international express delivery specialist uses AHK's seven-strong freighter fleet to connect a network of Asian cities - from Shanghai to Singapore - to its US\$ 100 million central Asia hub at Chek Lap Kok.
MORE: <http://www.logisticsmgmt.com/index.asp?layout=articleXml&xmlId=291859448>

AIR – SIA CARGO ADDS S. AFRICA: Singapore Airlines Cargo has started a twice weekly one-way service connecting Johannesburg, South Africa with Europe, the United States and Asia using a Boeing 747-400 Mega Ark freighter.
MORE: <http://www.americanshipper.com/frm2001.asp?Target=NewsFrame.asp?news=21684>

AIR – BOEING TO DECIDE SOON ON 747-ADV: Most analysts believe it's a "Go." Boeing executives at the recent Paris Air Show said the company had secured enough orders to carry 747 production through to the first 747-ADV in 2009. Boeing executives say they have seen widespread interest in the 747-ADV for both the passenger and cargo version.
MORE: <http://www.atwonline.com/news/story.html?storyID=1611>

AIR - EC & US GIVE TENTATIVE OK TO LUFTHANSA-SWISS MERGER:

MORE: <http://www.atwonline.com/news/story.html?storyID=1624>

YOU DESERVE GREAT PARTNERS

You work to give your clients the very best service.

At Allcovered.net we do too.

With this weekly Allcovered News newsletter... with our www.allcovered.net website and its thousands of tools... step-by-step help for common problems... ways to protect yourself that cost nothing... training videos... and our constant efforts to give you more...

We are available nights and weekends when you need us. An "Online Indicator" at www.allcovered.net shows you when our UK or US offices are online.

We want to earn your business.

YOU DESERVE IT – WE DELIVER IT!

www.allcovered.net We have logistics Allcovered!

OCEAN – ASIA-US CONTRACT RATES FLAT EXCEPT EAST COAST: 2005-2006 transpacific service contract negotiations have resulted in no change or marginal increases in rates for shipments from Asia to the US West Coast. New contracts covering all-water shipments to the US East Coast contain small rate rises. Typical increases in US East Coast all-water rates were \$200 to \$300 per 40-foot container. For containers shipped by mini-landbridge to the interior, typical rate increases were \$100 per box according to reports. The peak season surcharge of \$400 per FEU began 15 June.

MORE: <http://www.americanshipper.com/frm2001.asp?Target=NewsFrame.asp?news=21686>

OCEAN – COMPUTER BUGS JAM LONG BEACH: The International Transportation Service terminal in Long Beach is working around the clock this weekend to clear a container backlog that was triggered by a computer glitch. ITS, the terminal operator for "K" Line and several other carriers, upgraded its computer system over the July 4 weekend to prepare for the peak shipping season. The upgrade produced some "bugs" in the system that ITS seems to have corrected by Friday, according to Carolyn Martin, director of customer service.

MORE: <http://www.joc.com/lede/20050708/sections/ocean/w74631.asp>

OCEAN – SO-CAL SO FAR SO GOOD: The ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach are coping with early peak-season box volumes with no signs of congestion so far, providing hope that the costly port delays experienced last year may not recur this summer and fall.

MORE: <http://www.americanshipper.com/frm2001.asp?Target=NewsFrame.asp?news=21674>

OCEAN – COSCO TO START ADRIATIC FEEDER: COSCO Container Lines will start a weekly Adriatic Sea feeder service from mid-July. The port rotation will be Naples, Koper, Venice, Ancona.

MORE: <http://www.americanshipper.com/frm2001.asp?Target=NewsFrame.asp?news=21664>

OCEAN – X-PRESS CONTAINER LINE STARTS NORTH EUROPE FEEDER: X-Press Container Line has started a weekly North Europe feeder service between Tilbury, Rotterdam and Le Havre.

MORE: <http://www.americanshipper.com/frm2001.asp?Target=NewsFrame.asp?news=21663>

OCEAN – MAERSK & CP END SLOT SWAPS: Maersk Sealand and CP Ships have terminated their slot exchange deal in the transpacific market. The latest "World Liner Supply" second-quarter report, to be published by ComPair Data, shows Maersk Sealand has increased its transpacific capacity 10%, or about 168,000 TEUs in annual one-way capacity.

MORE: <http://www.americanshipper.com/frm2001.asp?Target=NewsFrame.asp?news=21668>

OCEAN – CHINA SHIPPING TOPS 2-MILLION TEUS: China Shipping Container Lines says it handled more than 2 million TEUs in the first five months of the year, a 31.3% increase over 2004.

MORE: <http://www.americanshipper.com/frm2001.asp?Target=NewsFrame.asp?news=21667>

OCEAN – YACHTS HIGH AND DRY ON THIS SHIP

Owning a multimillion-dollar mega-yacht can be such a headache. After all, who wants to idle away weeks of a trans-Atlantic crossing, pampered by steward and chef, when you could always fly to that exotic Mediterranean destination and hire a superboat to ferry your yacht there for you?

The secret? The ship sinks.

Captain Mykola Bulgaru, master of the Fort Lauderdale-based, 521-foot-long transport vessel Explorer, has sunk his ship about 20 times. Mega-yachts, sailboats, even more humble vessels of sport fishermen then coast into the Explorer's embrace through its open stern, where they bob in the water like children's toys in a tub. Divers secure them to the deck, and the entire boat is raised back up by pumping out thousands of cubic meters of water ballast.

"This is a self-propelled dry dock," Bulgaru said of the vessel he has commanded for a year. The captain, who is Ukrainian, has a crew of fellow countrymen, Russians and Dutch.

The Explorer is one of four similar vessels owned by the company.

Transport prices reflect the target market. Depending on season and destination, Dockwise can charge \$1,200 per foot, with a minimum of \$10,000.

MORE: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/local/broward/sfl-cyachtjul04.0.1374294.story?coll=sfla-news-broward>

OCEAN – PANAMA SEES POST-PANAMAX SHIP: Manzanillo International Terminal became the first Panamanian port at the Atlantic end of the Panama Canal to be called by a post-Panamax 6,000-TEU containership June 30, when a Maersk Sealand vessel called at the terminal. By definition, the post-Panamax ship, the "Kirsten Maersk," could not transit the Panama Canal. It discharged about 1,800 containers, mainly reefer boxes due to be transhipped to South America, and loaded 390 containers, mainly empties that will be repositioned to Asia.

MORE: <http://www.americanshipper.com/frm2001.asp?Target=NewsFrame.asp?news=21651>

OCEAN - MUMBAI PORT GROWTH: High growth in steel imports helped Mumbai Port Trust (MbPT) to register 23.37% growth in traffic handled during first quarter of current fiscal year.

MORE: <http://sify.com/finance/fullstory.php?id=13888643>

>>>>>>>>>> JUST FOR FUN <<<<<<<<<<<

(These are shared by readers – Please share yours. Thanks. Mike)

OLDER EXERCISES

For those of us getting along in years, here is a little secret for building your arm and shoulder muscles.

You might want to adopt this three days a week.

Begin by standing straight, with a 5-LB. potato sack in each hand.

Extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute. Relax.

After a few weeks, move up to 10-LB. potato sacks, and then 50-LB. potato sacks, and eventually try to get to where you can lift a 100-LB. potato sack in each hand and hold your arms straight out for more than a full minute.

After you feel confident at that level, start putting a couple of potatoes in the sacks.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPLAINTS

Extracts from actual letters sent to various councils and housing associations throughout the UK .
Logged by the Housing Association.

1. I want some repairs done to my cooker as it has backfired and burnt my knob off.
2. and their 18-year-old son is continually banging his balls against my fence.
3. I wish to report that tiles are missing from the outside toilet roof. I think it was bad wind the other night that blew them off.
4. My lavatory seat is cracked, where do I stand.
5. I am writing on behalf of my sink, which is coming away from the wall.
6. Will you please send someone to mend the garden path. My wife tripped and fell on it yesterday and now she is pregnant. We are getting married in September and we would like it in the garden before we move into the house.
7. I request permission to remove my drawers in the kitchen.
8. 50% of the walls are damp, 50% have crumbling plaster and the rest are plain filthy.
9. I am still having problems with smoke in my back passage.
10. The toilet is blocked and we cannot bath the children until it is cleared.
11. Will you please send a man to look at my water, it is a funny colour and not fit to drink.
12. Our lavatory seat is broken in half and is now in three pieces.
13. Would you please send a man to repair my spout. I am an old age pensioner and need it badly.
14. Our kitchen floor is damp. We have two children and would like a third so please send someone round to do something about it.
15. I am a single woman living in a downstairs flat and would you please do something about the noise made by the man I have on top of me every night.
16. Please send a man with the right tool to finish the job and satisfy my wife.
17. I have had the clerk of the works down on the floor six times but I still have no satisfaction.
18. This is to let you know that our lavatory seat is broken and we can't get BBC2.

If you have curious or interesting or funny or thoughtful items that might be good in "Just For Fun", Email them to mike.miller@allcovered.net . Thanks.

AllCovered-NEWS is a weekly service for clients and friends of Allcovered.net. It is intended to help our clients be more effective and better informed than their competition. If you have not received AllCovered-NEWS before, you are receiving today either because you signed up, or a friend recommended you. We hope AllCovered-NEWS is a valuable resource for you. If you wish not to receive AllCovered-NEWS, please hit the "return" button of your browser. In the "Subject" line type "UNSUBSCRIBE" followed by your email address.

Information for this week's AllCovered-NEWS was gleaned primarily from:

Air Transport World = <http://www.atwonline.com>
AirWise = <http://news.airwise.com/index.html>
American Shipper = www.americanshipper.com
Business Times of Asia = <http://business-times.asia1.com.sg/>
The Economist = <http://www.economist.com>
Financial Times of London = <http://www.ft.com>
Journal of Commerce = <http://www.joc.com>
Logistics News = <http://www.logisticsnews.com>
Trucking Info = <http://www.truckinginfo.com>
The Trucker = <http://www.thetrucker.com>
eTrucker = <http://www.etrucker.com>
Yahoo Business News = <http://news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=index&cid=749>
Additional information comes from our own and other sources.

This information has been edited for length and to make it more relevant for our clients.

Links to full source material is at end of all stories when available.

We thank these news sources for allowing us to use their material and urge you to support them.

This information is believed accurate but is not guaranteed.

Copyright 2005 – Allcovered.net & The Allen Insurance Group
All Rights Reserved