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September 22, 2026

Ocean Freight Market Update #2

Temporary Surcharge Reinstatement

Dear Valued Customer:

Following our earlier freight market communication in June 2026, we want to provide an update on the continued cost pressures affecting international shipments. While we had hoped conditions would improve, market factors have intensified and now require us to reinstate the temporary freight surcharge.

What's Happening

Ocean freight conditions remain challenging. Lower water levels continue to restrict Panama Canal traffic, creating congestion and added routing pressure. The ongoing Iran War and further increases in oil and gas prices are also raising transportation and carrier operating costs.

What This Means for You

As carriers pass along these higher costs, the current market environment requires an adjustment for shipments moving after the effective date below.

Effective for all shipments leaving their origin port on or after October 1, 2026, a temporary freight surcharge of $1,500 will be applied. We understand this is an added cost and will treat it as temporary. Once market conditions stabilize enough to remove or adjust the surcharge, we will communicate that update promptly.

What We're Continuing to Do

Our team remains focused on securing capacity, reviewing routing options, and keeping you informed as conditions change.

We appreciate your understanding and continued partnership. Please don't hesitate to contact your ACR representative with any questions or to review specific orders.

Sincerely,

Lou Magnelli
Sr. VP of Corporate & Distribution Accounts