

BARGE TRANSPORTS TO/FROM ROTTERDAM AND ANTWERP: CONGESTION SURCHARGE

CUSTOMER ADVISORY

Hamburg, 7th July 2017

DE-2017-07-003

The congestion situation in the seaports Rotterdam and Antwerp has worsened dramatically during the last weeks. The average delays due to congestion are reaching 40 hours, peaking at over 120 hours.

Barge operators are forced to charter additional tonnage in order to try and maintain their present schedules.

In order to cover the extra charges incurred by being forced to charter this additional tonnage, a congestion surcharge is implemented for all barge transports (full and empty) to and from the ports of Rotterdam and Antwerp.

Effective date is: **7th July 2017**

The applicable quantum is: **EUR 19,50 / TEU**

For manifest purposes, whether TBL or locally collected in case of IHC, the charge code: TCS (Traffic Congestion Surcharge).

Please also note that in case of abnormal disruptions of the barge operations, as being experienced now, barge operators, according to article 412 and 419 of the German Commercial code (HGB) and in conjunction of the German Inland Waterways Act, are entitled to discharge containers at other terminals than the ones ordered by the cargo interests.

In such cases, the shunting of the containers from the alternative terminal to the nominated terminal will be for account and responsibility of the cargo interests, not the barge operators.

In this scenario, the congestion surcharge will no longer be applied however as stated before, the shunting cost will be for account of the cargo interests.

It goes without saying that under the present circumstances it has become impossible to maintain the service level the cargo has grown accustomed to.

Closings or timely deliveries can no longer be guaranteed.

Should, due to the congestion situation, closings be missed or delivery dates not be reached, no liability with regard to, but not limited to storage, demurrage/detention ..., in any way or form will be accepted.

For further information, please contact your local MSC office.