**Universal Forwarding Overseas, Ltd.**

# Newsletter

*February 12, 2015*  *Established 1978*

**WEST COAST PORT DISRUPTION – PMA SUSPENDING OPERATIONS**

The Pacific Maritime Association has announced that its members will suspend U.S. West Coast vessel operations for the next four or five days. Rather than provide longshoremen with holiday or weekend pay for “severely diminished productivity,” they have decided to suspend operations. UFO will continue to monitor your shipments and provide updated information as it becomes available.

**WEST COAST PORT DISRUPTION – CARGO INSURANCE**

Cargo at rest is cargo at risk. Due to port disruption, cargo will sit in place on a ship, in port or in a warehouse awaiting pickup. The likelihood of damage or theft increases significantly the longer freight is idle. Extensive delays and disruptions can lead to Shipper’s Interest Cargo Insurance being insufficient. Shippers may wish to contact their insurance providers to ensure idle cargo is sufficiently covered should damage or theft occur.

**AUSTRALIA FUMIGATION**

Australia has implemented additional fumigation requirements for all shipments containing vehicles, boats, machinery, automotive parts and tires. These changes go into effect for cargo arriving in Australia from U.S. East Coast ports starting February 23. The requirement will be extended to shipments from all U.S. ports arriving March 9 and later. UFO will contact Shippers regarding specific shipments requiring fumigation and/or additional documentation. Fumigation charges will be for the account of the Shipper.

Our Illinois office can provide air freight assistance if needed. Feel free to contact Stephanie Fahler: sfahler@ufoltd.com. As always, please contact Marc Mugfor (mmugfor@ufoltd.com) with any questions or concerns on the above information.

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