

13 September 2019

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1. Tariff Amendments – 13 September

Please note that no relevant tariff amendments have been published today.

2. Update: Durban Port delays

We are currently seeing an increase in traffic through Durban port with trucks taking on average 24 hours to be loaded and released.

We would like to remind our clients that as we are approaching the festive season we do expect the delays to continue and possibly worsen. Planning at this time of year is key and we encourage all of our clients to discuss upcoming shipments with us so that we can proactively work to minimise the delays.

3. Update: Durban Port Management Intervention

Source: Freight & Trading Weekly

The attached article refers.

Pravin Gordhan and Popo Molefe have recently intervened and suspended TPT Chief Executive, Nosipho Sithole. Sithole failed to deliver on her mandate to improve efficiencies at the port to address the ongoing delays. In May, the port obtained an interdict against trucking companies whose drivers had blockaded the port after becoming frustrated with the ongoing delays. The trucking companies asserted that they were in fact victims of the actions themselves, as the blockades were organised by the drivers independently.

Additionally, it became very concerning that the local offices of several shipping lines have advised of the possibility of their principals closing their South African routes, as the delays experienced meant that the routes were no longer commercially viable.

We are hopeful that this intervention at the highest level will yield results and that the situation will begin to improve.

4. Reminder: Upcoming Holidays in the East

1 – 7 October: Golden Week

During this time, businesses as well as the ports will be closed. Air freights will move but operations will be very limited.

As always, we try to minimise the delays experienced by our clients over this time. Please discuss your upcoming shipments with us so that we can plan accordingly.

We thank you for your continued support and partnership

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