

Green Freight and Logistics in Asia News Digest

Volume 2, Issue 7 - 30 April 2012



Green Freight and Logistics

This digest provides the latest news, information, statistics and events on green freight and logistics in Asia.

To subscribe: Send an email to green_freight@cai-asia.org

For more information, visit: www.greenfreightandlogistics.org

The Green Freight and Logistics in Asia News Digest is prepared fortnightly by the Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CAI-Asia).

www.cleanairinitiative.org

EVENTS

Seamless Transport: Making Connections
2-4 May 2012

Leipzig, Germany

<http://2012.internationaltransportforum.org/>

DHL Resilient Urban Logistics Forum at
the ICLEI Resilient Cities 2012 Congress
14 May 2012

Bonn, Germany

<http://www.greenfreightandlogistics.org/events/dhl-resilient-urban-logistics-forum-at-the-iclei-resilient-cities-2012-congress/>

3rd Workshop on Green Freight/
SmartWay in Asia

22 May 2012

Singapore, Singapore

<http://cleanairinitiative.org/portal/node/8373>

IN FOCUS:

China's Ministry of Transport launches China Green Freight Initiative

18 April 2012

China's Ministry of Transport (MOT) and the China Road Transport Association (CRTA) launched the China Green Freight Initiative (CGFI) today in Beijing. The CGFI aims to improve fuel efficiency and reduce emissions of China's truck fleets. "This initiative strongly supports China's 12th Five Year Plan priorities on energy efficiency and reduction of carbon emissions and air pollution from transport." said Mr. Li Gang, Director-General, Department of Road Transportation, MOT. "Improving fuel efficiency and reducing empty loads are also critical to a competitive road freight sector in China, and thus our economy." The initiative results from a concerted effort by MOT, CRTA, and the Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CAI-Asia), with financial support from the Energy Foundation, to establish a national program that meets the strong need from China's freight transport sector and government's request.

For more information:

Press Release: <http://cleanairinitiative.org/portal/node/8335>

China Green Freight Initiative Launching Ceremony:

<http://cleanairinitiative.org/portal/node/8352>

FREIGHT STATISTICS IN ASIA:

China's freight logistics value to hit 19.8 trillion USD

19 April 2012

The value of China's freight logistics is expected to reach 125 trillion yuan (19.84 trillion U.S. dollars) in 2012, according to the organizers of the Ninth Automotive Logistics China Conference held in Beijing on 18-20 April.

Currently, the country's logistics costs account for around 18 percent of its gross domestic product, far above the levels seen in the United States and European countries. Although strong growth is expected to continue, China is facing challenges such as high automotive logistics costs and low efficiency, said Martin Thaysen, executive vice president of the China branch of CEVA Logistics, a leading global supply chain management company.

Source: http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2012-04/19/c_131536275.htm

LATEST NEWS ON GREEN FREIGHT AND LOGISTICS

- **Paving the Way for Sustainable Freight Transport**

25 April 2012

Government, private sector and civil society gathered together in Doha on 25 April for a special session on sustainable freight as part of the 13th UN Convention on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) that was co-organized by UNCTAD and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). In view of the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+ 20) and the designation of the year 2012 as the International Year of Sustainable Energy, the event provided an interactive platform for discussion and experience sharing on how best to enable a paradigm shift towards sustainable freight transport.

CAI-Asia prepared an article on this event (an excerpt is provided below) and UNCTAD will post an official meeting summary report on its website: www.unctad.org/ttl.

Mr. Petko Draganov, UNCTAD Deputy Secretary-General, pointed to the need to reshape investment in support of sustainable freight, which requires long term thinking. Ms. Anne Miroux, Director of UNCTAD's Division on Technology and Logistics, added that sustainable transport and freight must be integrated in national development plans because these systems and its underlying infrastructure have long life-cycles, thus locking countries in an emissions pattern for many years...

Read more at <http://www.greenfreightandlogistics.org/news/paving-the-way-for-sustainable-freight-transport/>

- **Green Freight India Seminar Summary Report: There is a strong interest from the private sector, government & civil society to make freight sector more efficient and reduce its environmental impact**

22 April 2012

The Summary Report of the first Green Freight India Seminar which was held on 9 January 2012 in Delhi, India, is now available online: <http://cleanairinitiative.org/portal/node/7765>. This includes next steps on how to advance green freight efforts in India.

HIDDEN GEMS:

Sustainable Transportation Ecosystem: *Addressing sustainability from an integrated systems perspective*

A new report by the World Economic Forum in collaboration with A.T. Kearney, provides guiding principles for achieving environmental sustainability in transportation across five dimensions: policy, financing, energy, infrastructure and customers.

The full report available here:

http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_MO_SustainableTransportationEcosystem_Report_2012.pdf

FACT OF THE WEEK:

How volatile oil prices will rock the supply chain:

In an excerpt from Operations Rules: Delivering Customer Value through Flexible Operations, author David Simchi-Levi explains why unstable fuel prices should lead companies to rethink the way they manage inventory, production, customer service, and supply chain integration.

Since mid-1990s, many corporations have tried to reduce operational costs and achieve a lean supply chain by emphasizing manufacturing outsourcing, offshoring, plant rationalization, and facility consolidation. The underlying rationale behind these trends was cheap oil. Indeed, in many industries, transportation costs accounted for just a few percentage points of total operational costs. Hence, more emphasis was given to reducing manufacturing costs through offshoring or outsourcing, rationalizing plants to take advantage of economies of scale in production costs and reduce capital investment, and consolidating distribution centers and warehouses to reduce inventory levels and fixed facility costs. The recent increases in oil prices are starting to reverse this trend. As crude oil prices increase, transportation costs become more important relative to inventory, production, and facility fixed costs.

Read the full article here: http://supplychain.mit.edu/system/files/cscmp_scquarterly_req_reading.pdf

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