



UNIVERSAL FORWARDING OVERSEAS NEWSLETTER

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Established 1978

INDUSTRY WEATHER UPDATE

We hope this update finds all of you safe in warm in the midst of this polar vortex.

Unfortunately, this frigid weather couldn't have come at a worse time for Chicago supply chain providers. Due to the high number of imports that came into the U.S. in December to avoid the significant tariff increases in 2019, Chicago rail terminals are full of import containers waiting to be delivered. This congestion is causing some terminals to turn away both loaded and empty containers. Adding to this situation is a shortage of available chassis.

The congestion in Chicago combined with historic cold temperatures across the Midwest is causing delays affecting your freight. Many states have restricted commercial interstate travel due to the high winds. Drivers are being advised to stay off the road and many trucking companies have shut down completely. Midwest supply chain routes are seriously impacted right now.

We anticipate these delays to continue for several days. Shippers will likely experience storage and demurrage charges on containers that are delayed due to the weather and the ongoing congestion. We ask for your patience as our staff continues to track and monitor your cargo as updates become available from supply chain providers.

Stay warm. As always, please contact Marc Mugfor (mmugfor@ufoltd.com) with any questions or concerns.

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