

Client: American Group, LLC

Project: Blog Post

Objective: Increase website traffic and educate existing clients

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Port Delays...What causes them?

Shipment delays caused by the state of the ports can be frustrating. If you are wondering what causes these delays you are not alone. The first answer that comes to mind is contract negotiations and the related labor dispute. Unfortunately that is only part of the picture. The rest of the causes are even more complicated than that and may not be resolved for a while.

So what exactly are the causes of the port delays that hold up your shipments for weeks at a time? The following are included:

- **Contract negotiations/Labor dispute** — A tentative agreement has been reached ...
- **Truck trailer (chassis) shortage** – Shipping companies used to own and maintain the trailer chassis. They sold them to leasing companies and ... One cause of the shortage, in general, is that the chassis are being taken out of service because they are in disrepair.
- **Increased use of mammoth container vessels** – The ships that are used to transport containers today often carry more than 14,000 containers where a ship that carried 8,000 to 10,000 of the same steel boxes was considered a large ship just 2 years ago.
- **Aging port terminals** – These port terminals were sized, in some cases, decades ago for ships a quarter or a third of the size of those used today. With so many more containers coming in ... Containers that once were stacked three high now get stacked five or six high. ... more difficult and slow to extract when the owner sends a truck for them.
- **Cargo from multiple shipping lines on one ship** – Making matters worse, ...
- **A shortage of truck drivers** -- Delays in retrieving containers ... It's not unusual for a trucker to wait eight to ten hours to retrieve a container ...
- **A shortage of rail car capacity to haul cargo away from the docks.**

Although this paints a somewhat bleak picture there are solutions that are being created and implemented. In my next post solutions will be discussed.

For assistance with shipments through ports and to understand your options contact your American Group representative or simply call 866-553-6608.

Margot Howard
portfolio

