

Take the right Route

News and Views for the clients of Universal Logistics • Spring 2001

Get clicking at www.universallogistics.ca

Interested in the status of an ocean export shipment? Need to prepare a Canada Customs invoice? Looking for the status of a customs release?

All that – and more – is now available via our web site (www.universallogistics.ca), the latest example of our ongoing effort to enhance the value added services available exclusively for Universal Logistic clients.

Book Trade "values the tradition of fine service"

For the sixth consecutive year, Canada's *Book and Periodical Council* is recommending Universal Logistics.

"Universal has earned this continued confidence on the strength of a full complement of customs brokerage services at competitive prices," says Brenda Halliday, Executive Director of the *Book and Periodical Council*. "We value the tradition of fine service Universal has provided to the book trade and look forward to working with you in the near future as we prepare this year's manual for our members."

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"We took special care to ensure our site meets client needs," explains David Glionna, Vice President – Finance, who managed the development of the site. "At the same time, there is valuable information for the first-time visitor, plus many opportunities to request assistance or offer feedback."

To enter our *Clients Only* section, you need to request a personalized access code and password. You can do that by visiting the *Clients Only* page, or you can call (905-882-4880) and ask for our web master, Kitt Jacques.

At present, Transportation clients will be able to *Track and Trace* an import or export shipment (ocean and air). For example, clients will be able to trace Inbound Freight by: *Ship Date, PO Number, Exporter* or *Origin*.

Customs clients will be able to access customs release status. They (and their vendors) will also be able to prepare Canada Customs Invoices (CCIs) and access their tariff database, including vendors, products, HS Tariff Classifications, duty rates, etc.

Additional support can be requested via our Consulting Page (under *Services*). You will find general information on Transportation, Customs Brokerage and Distribution, plus you can access our logistics experts: *Ask Brian, Ask Paul, Ask Jon*.

What about rate quotations? Just go to *Request a Quote*, where you can get a price on Distribution Services, Transportation

Emergency response to Foot and Mouth Disease

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has stepped up inspections on inbound cargo and is ready to implement the Food and Agriculture Emergency Response System (FAERS) to prevent a Canadian outbreak of the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) that has spread through the U.K., Ireland, Continental Europe and Argentina.



Services (Ocean, Air, Truck) and Customs Brokerage (Canada).

There is plenty more. For example, you could visit our *Help Centre* and request a seminar or sign up for *Email Alerts*, a fast, convenient service for clients who want to be the first to know about our latest products and services.

Coming later this year will be *Track and Trace* of truck shipments. We also plan to introduce:

- **Forms:** Canadian NAFTA Certificate, NAFTA/Proforma combination form, as approved by U.S. Customs, U.S. NAFTA Certificate, and U.S. Proforma invoice
- **Standard Reports:** Customs Audit, GST Direct Importer Statement, Vendor Activity and Freight Audit
- **Ad Hoc Reports:** Clients will be able to select information, define totals and sort sequence a collection of data.

"We encourage all our clients to visit the site and offer feedback," says David Glionna. "It's time well spent and we will be constantly upgrading and expanding the site."

The CFIA has also suspended until further notice all import permits from EU countries and Argentina for susceptible products, including live animals, embryos, semen and animal products. More recently, the CFIA

See "Strict disinfection measures" on page 2

Customs Action Plan enters Senate

Legislation has been introduced to the Senate that will allow the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA) to implement its five-year Customs Action Plan.

"This legislation provides a bold and innovative step in our plans to modernize Canada's borders and border processing", said The Honourable Martin Cauchon, Minister of National Revenue. "It promotes Canadian competitiveness and prosperity...by allowing us to do a better job of protecting Canadians"

The proposed initiatives include:

- * Customs Self-Assessment (CSA) – a program to allow for quick release of low risk goods imported by approved commercial importers
- * Carrier re-engineering – a tool to help the CCRA intercept shipments that contain contraband or pose health or safety risks
- * Administrative Monetary Penalty System (AMPS) – a system that will respond to non-compliance of CCRA rules and regulations with warnings and fines

The legislation also proposes less formal administrative reviews and extension of time limits for appealing fines; advance ruling on tariff classification of goods; harmonization of collection mechanisms and payment due dates.

The tentative implementation date is October 29, 2001. For more information, please call Brian Rowe, General Manager – Customs and Consulting (Telephone: 905-882-4880; Email: browe@universallogistics.ca)

Far East ocean freight rates increase

Conference carriers have announced rate increases for eastbound and westbound Far East services.

The increases, scheduled for implementation from April 1, 2001 to July 1, 2001, range from general rate increases to surcharges for peak season, fuel recovery and chassis usage.

For more information, please contact David Lyчек, Manager – Ocean Services (Telephone: 905-882-4880, Email: dlyчек@universallogistics.ca)

Wood packaging alert

Take special care with any freight imported from outside the continental USA that contains wood packaging.

If the packaging is made of wood that has been *cut* or *sawn*, it must be fumigated prior to export to Canada and a Phytosanitary Certificate issued by the National Plant Protection Agency of the exporting country must accompany the freight. Packaging made of manufactured wood (plywood, particle board etc) does not require fumigation or the Phytosanitary Certificate.

For more information, please contact Brian Rowe.

Look for our new ads in *Canadian Transportation and Logistics*. Our first insertion, promoting the address of our new web site (www.universallogistics.ca), appears in the May issue. We also plan to advertise in *Quill & Quire*, Canada's Magazine of Book News and Reviews.

New appointments

Natasha Harper has been promoted to Branch Manager – Montreal. At Head Office, Dodie Castro has been promoted to Manager – Accounting, and Paul Glionna has been appointed Vice-President – Operations.

Reader feedback

Sincere thanks to Jan Du Moulin of *Armatek Controls Limited* and Janice Saulnier, Director of Sales, *Powerhouse Retail Services*, for the following kind words on Route:

"I received my first copy of it today. Just wanted to let you know that it is very nicely done. It gives enough information to let you know there is a change, or it introduces you to something you didn't know before. If an article peaks our interest, we can always phone to find out more. Well done." – Jan Du Moulin

"This is exactly the look I am striving for in our Company's newsletter.' Congratulations on a fantastic job. If you have the time I would love to know any secrets that you would be willing to part with on achieving such a professional and informative end result. Congratulations once again on a fantastic job!" – Janice Saulnier

At Your Service

When you need to export or import ocean freight, get in touch with David Lyчек, who was recently promoted to the position of Manager – Ocean Services. With more than six years of experience with Universal Logistics, David is well prepared to meet your needs.



David Lyчек
Manager – Ocean Services

Strict disinfection measures (continued from page 1)

announced that farm vehicles and equipment from the UK and The Netherlands will not be allowed into Canada. In addition, there are strict disinfection measures for other vehicles and equipment coming from countries affected by FMD.

To raise awareness of FMD in Canada, CFIA has placed warnings in major newspapers, magazines and agricultural publications, and issued public service announcements for broadcast on television networks and in-flight airline presentations. The

agency has also arranged for travel information cards to be distributed to airline passengers and through travel agencies. See the CFIA web site for the latest FMD information.

FMD is not a significant threat to human health. The concern is that meat or animal products infected with the FMD virus, or raw or improperly cooked food products containing infected meat or animal products, could be fed to susceptible animals. Canada has been free of FMD since 1952.



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