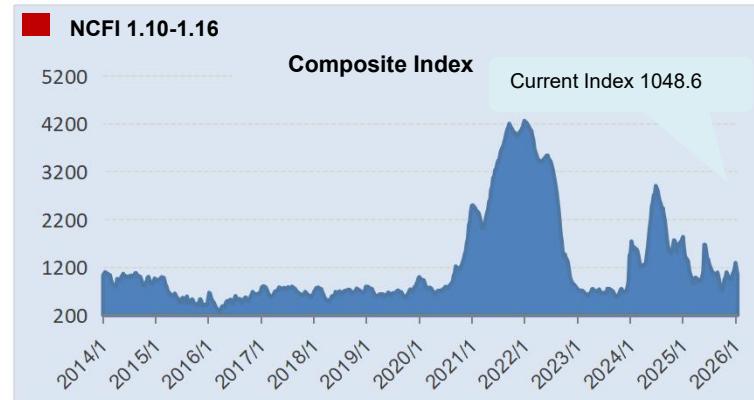


Liners Step Up Cargo Acquisition Efforts as Freight Rates Continue to Decline

In the week ending Jan-16, Ningbo Containerized Freight Index (NCFI) issued by Ningbo Shipping Exchange (NBSE) quotes 1048.6 points, slightly falling by 10.7% against last week. Meanwhile, one of the selected twenty-one routes maintain an upward trend while other twenty have fallen. In addition, according to the freight indices of the primary ports along the Maritime Silk Road, one ports appear a constant rising tendency while other fifteen are declining.



NCFI reflects the fluctuation of freight rates of international container shipping market by calculating and recording the changes of container freight rates of 21 routes departing from Ningbo-Zhoushan port, including composite index and 21 individual indices

Freight Information: NCFI selects the data of the freight in the terms of export CIF and CY-CY. The freight rate includes ocean freight and surcharges.

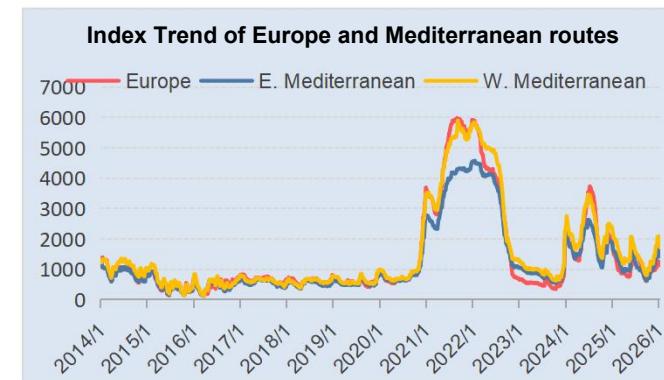
The surcharges includes:

Bunker/Fuel Surcharge, Emergency Bunker Surcharge, Low Sulphur Surcharge, Peak Season Surcharge, War Risk Surcharge, Port Congestion Surcharge, Suez Canal Transit Surcharge

The surcharges excludes:

Terminal Operation Fee, Security Charge, Origin Received Charges, Inland Point Intermodal, Booking Fee, Customs Clearance Fee

Europe and Mediterranean routes: Insufficient market cargo volume has led to a fundamental supply-demand imbalance. On some direct express services of the Mediterranean route, competitive advantages in cargo acquisition are more prominent. As shipping companies compete for cargo through bidding, overall freight rates have declined, with a larger drop observed compared to the European routes. This week, freight index in the route from Ningbo-Europe quotes 1128.6 points, down by 6.7% from one week ago. Freight indices in the routes from Ningbo to East Mediterranean and West Mediterranean quote 1414.1 points and 1712.9 points, reducing by 9.8% and 9.8% against last week

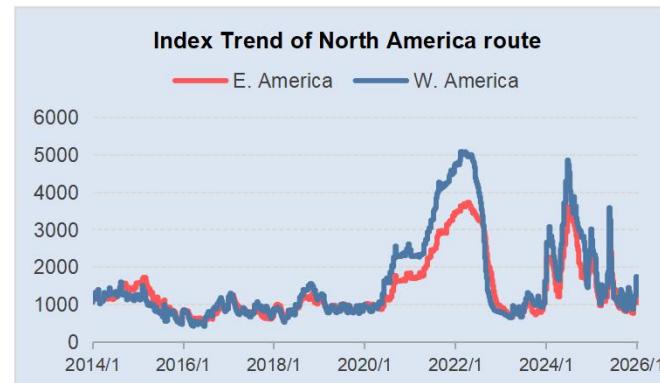


Europe -
Hamburg/ Rotterdam

W. Mediterranean-
Barcelona/ Valencia/ Genoa

E. Mediterranean-
Piraeus/ Istanbul

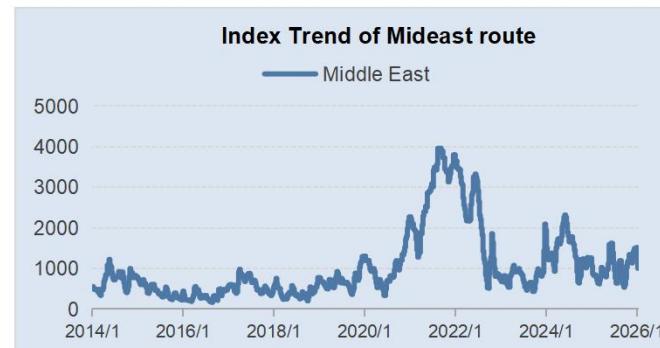
North America route: Although overall route capacity showed a contraction trend by the end of the month, capacity remained at a relatively high level during this period. The increase in the cargo volume gap led to an expanded decline in freight rates. This week, freight indices in the routes from Ningbo to East America and West America quote 1049.7 points and 1260.7 points, slipping by 11.2% and 15.6% from one week ago respectively.



W. America-
Los Angeles/ Long Beach/ Oakland

E. America-
New York/ Norfolk/ Charleston

Mideast route: With sufficient shipping capacity and the approaching Ramadan date at the destination, demand was expected to significantly decline. Liners have reduced freight rates to boost cargo bookings, resulting in a substantial drop in freight prices. This week, freight index in the route from Ningbo-Mideast quotes 1002.1 points, down by 20.7% compared with last week.



Mideast-
Dammam/ Dubai

India and Pakistan route: Reduced demand during the Ramadan period in destination countries, combined with some liners entering the Spring Festival stocking period ahead of schedule, has led to a significant decline in freight rates under these dual effects. This week, freight index in the route from Ningbo to India &Pakistan route quotes 1274.5 points, falling by 16.4% against last week.



India and Pakistan-
Nhava Sheva/ Pipavav