



Current market situation sea freight import from Far East

Dear business partners,

A very **strong demand for sea freight** from Asia to Europe, combined with insufficient capacities of the shipping companies, leads to a **high capacity utilisation rate** for shipments in these days. Combined with **equipment bottlenecks** especially in China, Thailand, Vietnam as well as in Korea and partly in India FCL shipments have to be planned and booked in time in the coming weeks.

We expect the situation to remain unchanged until at least Chinese New Year 2021 (mid-February). Rising rates in the form of a GRI (General Rate Increase) or a PSS (Peak Season Surcharge) are to be expected.

We therefore recommend:

- Booking of FCL shipments at least **four weeks in advance**.
- Smaller quantities can be also arranged as **LCL shipment**.
(We offer weekly departures from all major ports in Asia.)
- Alternatively: Goods ex China can be loaded **by rail** (e. g. with *a. hartrodt Stars on Rails*) (advanced booking deadline: at least three weeks) or transported **by truck** via the "New Silk Road" (partial or complete loads possible).
- For urgent shipments, (partial) orders can be organized **by air freight** (e. g. via our *Golden Services* ex Greater China).

Please contact your a. hartrodt contact person in time to plan your shipments together. We support you in the disposition of your flow of goods with the various modes of transport in these turbulent times. In the short term, it is unfortunately unlikely that the shipping companies will be able to provide additional capacity.

We are available at any time to answer your questions.