

Customer Advisory – Hurricane Harvey

Current as of 10:30 a.m. EST on September 1, 2017

With Hurricane Harvey moving away from Houston and SE Texas, the area is now able to begin moving forward with cleanup and recovery efforts. Many business do remain closed, and area schools do not plan on reopening until late next week. Our local Houston offices will be fully operational next week, but our C.H. Robinson network remains fully operational 24/7/365.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the people in Houston as they endure the situation.

Supporting our Customers and Carriers

The impact on supply chains continues to increase and is being felt across North America. We are closely monitoring and communicating with customers to better understand the fluctuations in fuel prices. Our team continues to actively work to identify solutions that keep your business operating during this difficult time.

The following information is the latest we are hearing from the Houston and SE Texas area and designed to keep you informed. Reach out to your C.H. Robinson representative if you have additional questions.

Overall Market & Weather Update

The reach of the flooding has expanded beyond Houston. [Texas DOT](#) is reporting that road closures remain in the area. With the weather moving to the east, the [Louisiana DOT](#) is also reporting road closures near Lake Charles and the surrounding areas. As you look for locations to stage shipments, note that a growing area of SE Texas continues to be affected.

Transportation Update by Mode

Expect significant delays for pick-up and delivery as well as possible rerouting through the weekend and into early next week. In addition, fuel surges are likely and will impact transportation costs.

Intermodal / Rail Operations

- Rail companies are beginning to evaluate the damage as the week progresses. Several terminals are open and operating in a limited scope. Intermodal trucking companies are also open and continue to work toward a fully operational fleet of drivers. We are able to retrieve units from these terminals and deliver to customers that are open and accessible to receive the goods. Additional movements may still be delayed beyond today (Friday, September 1).
- One Mexico cross-border rail line continues to be closed (KCSM) - an embargo has been enacted. This rail lines is anticipated to remain closed through the end of the week.

Less-than-Truckload (LTL)

- LTL terminals in the Houston area are operating under limited operations and continue to focus on relief efforts first. The situation is being evaluated on a day to day basis. The closures and limited service will continue to impact the region at least through the weekend. We understand that LTL terminals in Louisiana are also beginning to have limited service due to the storm. Embargoes have been enacted and may impact your freight.



- For track and trace, contact your local C.H. Robinson representative.

Truckload

- Shipments are slowly beginning to arrive into the Houston area, but a large amount of freight continues to be diverted, refused or returned to shippers throughout the region.
- [Truckload capacity](#) is expected to be constrained for a significant period of time as assets are being prioritized to support relief efforts.

Global Forwarding – Ocean and Air Shipping

- Houston Hobby Airport and IAH have re-opened with limited domestic passenger service. Operations for freight cargo have also resumed today (Friday, September 1) with limited service on general cargo. Broader service will begin to resume beyond general, domestic cargo over the next week.
- [Port Houston](#) has resumed operations as of today (Friday, September 1). Container vessels will have priority above other vessels. Of this, export vessels will get priority to load and sail out first. Any vessels currently berthed at the terminals will be worked first.
- With the port now open, note that cargo destined for other ports may be unloaded in Houston.

As this situation continues to evolve, please do not hesitate to reach out to your C.H. Robinson account team or monitor our updates on our [Transportfolio blog](#).

