

Customer Advisory – Hurricane Harvey

Current as of 10:30 a.m. EST on September 2, 2017

A week after Hurricane Harvey made its first landfall, the affected areas continue to feel its impact. At this point, businesses are opening as they are able; however, there are reports of some businesses, such as restaurants and gas stations running out of supplies. Our C.H. Robinson Houston teammates continue to check in and are beginning to return to work as they are able. Our C.H. Robinson network has been working closely with our customers and Houston teammates and is fully operational.

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

Supporting our Customers and Carriers

We understand and are helping our customers begin to identify how best to get their supply chain back on track and moving goods into and out of the affected regions. We continue to monitor the situation in order to bring the right solutions to each individual situation.

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

Overall Market & Weather Update

Flooding in some areas of Houston has begun to recede; however, other areas continue to be affected, including in Houston and SE Texas as well as into Louisiana and beyond. As you look for locations to stage shipments, note that changes are happening quickly.

Note that while we are actively working through Hurricane Harvey impacts; we are also closely monitoring the path and potential impact of [Hurricane Irma](#), which may make landfall in the Caribbean and then potentially the East Coast in the next week.

Transportation Update by Mode

Pick-up and delivery delays as well as possible rerouting are all still common occurrences. In addition, fuel surges and cost increases are already being seen and are impacting transportation costs.

Intermodal / Rail Operations

- Some ramps are starting to open and rail companies are actively evaluating the damage. Service delays should be expected through the next week.
- Union Pacific terminals will be open limited hours on September 2 and 3, but are limited to outgates only during this time. These terminals will be closed on Labor Day, September 4.
- Rail companies will be working over the weekend to make repairs as needed with a goal of restored service by Tuesday, September 5.
- Some Mexico cross-border rail lines continue to be closed (KCSM/BNSF) - an embargo has been enacted. These rail lines are anticipated to remain closed through the end of the week.



Less-than-Truckload (LTL)

- LTL terminals in the Houston area continue to have limited operations; largely focused on relief. 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

- DAT is reporting that [truckload prices](#) are rapidly increasing on loads into Houston or other areas in the affected region.
- Carriers in the Houston area are beginning to be able to move again; though many are still addressing a number of issues including flooding and evacuations. As reported earlier this week, [truckload capacity](#) is expected to be constrained for a significant period of time.

Global Forwarding – Ocean and Air Shipping

- Houston Hobby Airport and IAH have re-opened. Freight cargo operations have also resumed with limited service on general cargo. Broader service will begin to resume beyond general, domestic cargo over the next week.
- Port Houston has also resumed operations. One shipping line has declared a force majeure; this may result in all cargo on that vessel being unloaded at a different port at this time.
- Overall, container vessels will have priority above other vessels. Of this, export vessels will get priority to load and sail out first. Vessels will be worked as they are cleared for transit.

We understand 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](#).

