

Customer Advisory – Hurricanes Harvey and Irma

Current as of 10:30 a.m. EST on September 8, 2017

As [Hurricane Irma](#) nears landfall in Southern Florida, we are preparing for a major disruption. Note that our offices in Miami are now closed, and mandatory evacuations are in place across several major cities in Florida; however, our network is fully operational and ready to assist 24/7/365. We will continue to provide updates into next week.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with those affected by Hurricane Harvey and those whom have already endured or are preparing to endure Hurricane Irma.

As always, reach out to your C.H. Robinson representative if you have questions.

Hurricane Irma: Florida Transportation Update by Mode

Across all modes, you can expect changes and delays for pick-up and delivery as well as likely rerouting through the remainder of the week and into early next week.

Truckload

- As we saw during Hurricane Harvey, once the storm hits, we anticipate that flooding will be a major issue and will impact all modes of transportation, including truckload. Congestion is already an issue and will continue to be for some time.
- Staging areas outside of the impacted region are beginning to be identified; for assistance, contact your C.H. Robinson account manager.

Intermodal / Rail Operations

- Intermodal providers have suspended or embargoed service into and out of Florida, Charleston, and Savannah depending on route.
- There may be additional impacts to drayage capacity in surrounding areas due to evacuations. Additional updates will be provided as the railroads work through contingency plans.

Less-than-Truckload (LTL)

- LTL terminals in South Florida have closed, additional terminals in Florida are beginning to suspend services. The closures and limited service will continue to impact the region into next week. Additional service limitations are possible into Georgia and South Carolina as well.
- For track and trace, contact your local C.H. Robinson representative.

Global Forwarding – Ocean and Air Shipping

- The terminal gates at the Port of Miami are closed and not receiving exports. Port Everglades remains open today; however, changes are anticipated as the storm nears. Port Canaveral has ceased all non-hurricane port operations as of midnight last night (Thursday, September 7).
- The Georgia Ports Authority will cease operations at the Ports of Savannah and Brunswick, effective Saturday, September 9, through Tuesday, September 12. Truck gates will close at 6 p.m. in Savannah and at 5 p.m. today (Friday, September 8) at Colonel's Island and Mayor's Point terminals in Brunswick.



Vessel operations in Savannah will end at midnight. The Port of Savannah will not be accepting empty container returns today (Friday, September 8).

- With regards to air shipping, there are weekend flight cancellations occurring; most airline cargo operations in Miami and Ft. Lauderdale will be closed Friday and likely through Monday.
- The majority of airlines have also placed embargoes on cargo shipments to/from/through locations within the Caribbean and Florida. The affected airport locations include:
 - **Caribbean:** Antigua, Nassau (Bahamas), Providenciales (Turks and Caicos), San Juan (Puerto Rico), Saint Kitts, St Thomas (US Virgin Islands), Saint Maarten
 - **Florida:** Fort Lauderdale, Fort Myers, Melbourne, Orlando, Palm Beach, Sarasota, Tampa
- One airline has also placed an embargo on truck freight originating in Atlanta outbound to locations in Florida.

SE Texas & Houston Transportation Update

Recovery efforts from Hurricane Harvey continue throughout the regions that endured the storm. At this point, businesses are reopening and recovery efforts will continue in the weeks ahead. Our C.H. Robinson Houston offices are fully operational.

Pick-up and delivery delays as well as possible rerouting are all still common occurrences. In addition, fuel surges and cost increases continue to be seen and are impacting transportation costs. The biggest concern in the affected areas continue to be the quickly changing landscape as well as significant congestion around ports, terminals and beyond.

- Rail terminals are open and rail companies continue to make improvements to return to normal operating conditions. Service delays should be expected into the coming week.
- DAT is reporting that [spot market freight rates](#) are continuing to increase on loads in a variety of areas including lanes into and out of the affected region. Inbound and outbound shipments are beginning to increase, however road congestion continues to be a challenge in the area.
- LTL terminals in the Houston area are continuing to work towards being fully operational; the focus remains to be on relief efforts. The limited service will continue to impact the region at least through the remainder of the week.
- Houston Hobby Airport and IAH have re-opened. Freight cargo operations have resumed beyond general, domestic cargo.
- Port Houston has 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.

We understand the potential impact of Hurricane Irma and the situation in Texas continues to evolve. We are also closely monitoring the earthquake and impact in [Mexico](#), and will provide updates as they develop. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your C.H. Robinson account team or monitor our updates [here](#).

