



Tri Star Metals

Delivering Stainless, Aluminum & Nickel Solutions

Dear Valued Customer,

Currently the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) is in negotiations with the United States Maritime Alliance (USMX) as their 6-year agreement expires 9-30-24. The ILA represents the dockworkers and other port employees at all the ports on the east coast and the gulf coast. These ports along the east and gulf coasts are responsible for 44% of all products imported into North America.

The impact of such a strike would be substantial. We anticipate a ripple effect on West Coast and Canadian ports due to cargo being diverted. Estimates of a strike's effect as provided by Sea-Intelligence:

- A one-day strike would take five days to clear.
- A one-week strike would cause supply chain slowdowns until mid Nov.
- A two-week strike would not clear until 2025.

Tri Star Metals uses West Coast ports primarily, although we have certain mills and materials using the East Coast as well as Canada. Our options are limited, we are re-routing when we can to Canadian ports along with west coast locations. We are already seeing higher ocean freight costs due to these moves of about .12/lb. We believe these costs will continue to rise.

As always Tri Star Metals has a large inventory of raw materials and finished items. We encourage our customers to work with their TSM Sales Professional to go over items in stock and due in.

We will continue to monitor the situation and keep you informed.

Best regards,

Jay Mandel/President & CEO

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