

Newsletter for Shipments to Iraq

June 21st, 2013.

**M.G.
International
Transports GmbH**



Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Friends and colleagues,

we are pleased to provide you with our updated Newsletter for shipments to Iraq. In case of any specific request, please feel free to contact us.

I. Security Situation

Unfortunately the security situation is still very difficult all over the country. The number of incidents in the areas like Mosul and Baghdad but also recently in Basrah has again increased. On 16th June there was an attack with two car bombs in the centre of Basrah.

The security situation inside of the port of Umm Qasr is difficult too. The Port Authorities asked all agents to provide guards in order to protect their cargo.

II. Erbil Airport

The congestion at the cold store warehouses for 2°Cel and 8° Cel has been lifted on 15th June 2013. However, the airport authorities still recommend to send proper pre-alerts to ensure that sufficient space is available for temperature controlled cargo. Therefore do not send any temperature controlled cargo without our approval.

III. Ramadan

The hole month of Ramadan will start most likely on/around 10th July. Please keep in mind that during Ramadan the working hours are less. Delays in the operation will occur.

IV. Jordan Transit Route

Currently about 300 trailers per day leaving Jordan via Al Karameh (Jordanian and Iraqi trucks). The usual number is approx. 700 trailer per day in average.

The delay is caused by the short Iraqi customs working hours and intensive checkings and slow customs procedures which limits the border crossings per day.

50-70 trailers of Iraqi nationality enter Jordan per day for loading at Aqaba and Amman. Jordanian trucks are allowed to travel into Iraq, but due to the security situation, it is highly preferred to use Iraqi trucks.

The majority of the cargo get transhipped from Jordan to Iraqi trailers at the border line.

Recently a substantial amount of transit cargo was stored at the main Port and the Container Terminals in addition to other storage facility in Aqaba.

The reason was that shippers needed to update their shipping documents matching the Iraqi import regulations.

Due to the congestion at Aqaba Container Terminal most of the containers got stripped at the Aqaba Logistics Village (ALV). By the end of the year ACT is expecting to open a new berth.

V. Umm Qasr Route

Currently Umm Qasr port is working well. However particular on the private jetties the waiting time for the trucks to enter to the terminal is still very long.

In addition the private terminals charge high amounts for e.g. security charges, additional storage and additional handling beside the fees charged by IPA.

VI. Turkish Route

Currently about 750-850 trailers (mainly Turkish trucks) enter the Turkish Iraq border which is down from a quantity of 1250 trailers.

The waiting times ex Habur (Turkish border) to Ibrahim Khalil (Iraqi border) is around 1-2 days and ex Ibrahim Khalil towards Habur is around 7-8 days.

VOC inspection is still running well.

Still the Syrian crisis has no effect on the current traffic to the Iraqi border.

For cargo via Turkey Turkish trucks are only allowed to drive within Kurdish region. Only Iraqi trucks are allowed to deliver within central and southern Iraq.

Please note that the Mersin Port Authorities have issued a new tariff which is in place from 15th March 2013 onwards. Port storage charges as well as handling charges are slightly increased.



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VII. Safwan Border

The Kuwait Iraq Border at Safwan is still closed for all shipments related to the Ministry of Oil (MOO) and the Ministry of Electricity (MOE).

Also cargo needed by IOCs are not allowed to pass the border (Shipments belonging to MOO, MOE, direct or indirect are not allowed to enter).

Safwan Border can be used for the private sector.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully,

M.G. International Transports GmbH

