

Ramadan 2013!

Dear friends and colleagues,

may the divine blessings of ALLAH, fill yours and all our friends life with peace, happiness, prosperity, warmth and light!

Ramadan Kareem

All the best,

YOUR MGIT TEAM



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 Qassr 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 15^{th} 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 and without any pre-alert.





July 15th, 2013.

III. Ramadan

The holy month of Ramadan has started on 10th July. Please keep in mind that during Ramadan the working hours are less. Delays in the operation are already occurring particularly.

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 transshipped 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 as per Ramadan schedule. 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.

The working hours at Umm Qassr Port are as follows:

- Port Authorities are working from 08.00 to 13.00
- Private Terminal are working from 08.00 to 14.00
- Customs offices are working from 08.00 to 13.00
- South Oil Umm Qasr office is working from 08.00 to 12.00
- Port gate opening hours are from 09.00 to 16.00

During this time empty/full trucks are allowed to enter / leave the port.

VI. Turkish Route

1. <u>New Regulation for shipments via Turkey:</u>

Turkey's General directorate of Highways have announced new regulations for transportation on "lowbed" via Turkey immediately as follows:

*The main rule is : Only 1 unit or 1 pc can be loaded onto 1 lowbed.

**Second unit or second pc can be loaded for the cargoes provided lowbed trailer + truck head + Cargo total weight can not exceed 40 tons.

Please note that lowbed trailer + truck head generally calculates approx 21 tons then the total weight for 2 pcs / units which will be loaded on 1xlowbed can be max 18/19 tons.

At Mersin Port, the customs also follow up the same rule application and do not complete the transit/export/import customs unless the lowbed load total weight is same as or less than 40 tons incl lowbed + truck head weight.

2. <u>New Regulation for shipments via Turkey</u> concerning documentation

1. From now on he Commercial invoice should cover each item / commodity name and HS Code loaded in the container or breakbulk shipment.

The copy Commercial invoice needs to be received by email attachment 1 or 2 working days before cargo arrival Turkish Ports in order to make preliminary preparation of customs declaration.

This will avoid the delay for transit arrangements due to this reason.

The ORIGINAL Commercial invoice signed and stamped need to be received before cargo arrival Mersin as usual.

2. The Related Packing list should cover the same items / commodity names matching the Commercial invoice with;

• EACH COMMODITY NAME / ITEM SHIPPING NAME



2



July 15th, 2013.

- EACH HS CODE PER COMMODITY NAME (pls take utmost care that HS Code is as true as the commodity name; matching each other)
- EACH WEIGHT PER COMMODITY NAME AND HS CODE

IMPORTANT : At Mersin Port or at any Turkish Border during transit customs, if any item found in the container rather than declared according to the packing list then double of the said item's Commercial value is paid to customs as administrative fine due to wrong declaration therefore pls be sure that all container content is valued on the Commercial invoice and declared on the packing list one-to-one.

In the event that transported commodities from abroad to the Customs Territory of the Republic of Turkey under the transit regime is identified noticeably different than the declared, the administrative fine as double the amount of the wrongly declared item value on the Commercial invoice is applied.

A Translation of the official customs announcement can be provided by our team upon request.

Border situation:

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.

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*

3