



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, Kirkuk and Baghdad but also recently in Basrah has again increased.

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.

Furthermore, we are facing curfews in certain areas of Iraq. Particular during the EID holidays we expect restrictions in the movement of trucks.

II. Import License / Cert of Origin.

The Ministry of Oil has officially announced new regulations regarding the import license and the Certificate of Origin. If you require the full instructions, please let us know, otherwise the main points are:

- no import license is required anymore
- CoO can be issued in the country of Origin / last country of contract

Particular for the CoO we are still waiting for further clarification.

III. EID Holidays.

EID holidays will be from 8th till 12th of August 2013. During this period all Ministries, Governmental Offices and Customs will be closed. The Port will continue the discharging works but with limited resources / shifts.

IV. Erbil Airport

All airfreight shipments which are planned to be import customs cleared and picked up at Erbil Airport have to be cleared and picked up latest within 07th August.

Please note that Erbil Customs will maintain the following timings during the Eid Holidays

Date Timings

08th Aug Closed
09th Aug Closed
10th Aug Closed
11th Aug Open 0800 – 1400 hrs (May extend to 1500 hrs)
12th Aug Open 0800 – 1400 hrs (May extend to 1500 hrs)

V. Jordan Transit Route

Eid Holidays will start on 8th August and work will start on 12th August again.

Currently the Container Terminal in Aqaba is congested, it takes more time to arrange for pick-up and delivery or containers, therefore longer pre-advise is required to be notified in advance about expected loading.

The Container Terminal is at over capacity, causing delays in dropping off empties and picking up full container loads, this blocks the is one reason why transport rates have yet to decrease (after the Iraqi border a couple of months back), in addition to the wait at the borders in addition to the risk premium caused by the situation in Iraq.

Regarding the border, it is taking about 24hrs to cross the Jordanian border to the Iraqi side of the border, due to the traffic at the borders.

VI. Umm Qasr Route

Eid Holidays will officially start on 08th August and work will start on 12th August. Most of the companies will close partially already on 07th August.

During Eid Holidays all authorities and operations will be fully stopped.

From 12th August on all operations will be continued as usual.

VII. Turkish Route

Eid Holidays will start on 7th August – 12.00 and work will start on Monday, 12th August again.

Currently about 1750-2000 trailers (mainly Turkish trucks) enter the Turkish iraq border which is up from a quantity of 750 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 6-7 days.

Newsletter for Shipments to Iraq

August 5th, 2013.

**M.G.
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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.

VIII. 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

