

16<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Strait of Hormuz Closure – Emergency Freight Increase and Operational Update  
Between Worldwide and  
UAE, Qatar, Saudi Arabia (Dammam and Jubail), Bahrain, Kuwait, Iraq and Oman (Sohar)**  
From Maersk Logistics & Services International A/S

Dear Customer,

Due to the escalation of security risks in the Middle East region and the effective closure of the Strait of Hormuz, vessels are currently unable to safely transit the area. As a result, service flows across the Middle East corridors have been significantly disrupted.

In order to safeguard cargo and maintain continuity of service, we have implemented contingency measures across the affected routes, including alternative routings and operational adjustments. As such, it has been necessary to implement an emergency freight increase to cover these constraints and increased operating costs.

### **Operational Update**

With immediate effect we suspend any new bookings between worldwide and the Upper Gulf markets of UAE, Bahrain, Qatar, Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia (Dammam and Jubail only) until further notice.

Suspension is applicable for LCL, Buyer's consolidation and Maersk Ocean Forwarding services carried by Maersk Logistics and Services International A/S. This above suspension applies to cargo originating from, destined for, or transshipping through these countries.

As of **02 March 2026**, this freight increase will be payable by the freight paying party for **all ports**.

- All bookings that have not yet shipped
- Cargo already on the water but not yet discharged or loaded to/from UAE, Qatar, Saudi Arabia (Dammam and Jubail), Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, and Iraq.
- Shipments not yet loaded to/from the above destinations
- Applicable for all future bookings from 02 March 2026 (exception for Oman, which is 03 March 2026)
- Not applicable to cargo that is only transshipping through these ports
- Export cargo will be exempt from the Emergency Freight Increase if the **vessel's last departure from any of the impacted ports occurred before 27 February 2026**. If the vessel called multiple impacted its rotation; the determining factor will be the **final sailing date from the last impacted port**.

Below is the summary of Ocean surcharges introduced:

**1) [Emergency Freight Increase:](#)**

- **LCL service:** LCL (cfs/cfs), Buyer's Consol (cfs/cy) and MOF (cy/cy & cy/cfs)
- **Scope:** All cargo types: in-water cargo, booked shipments, cargo in CFS, new bookings and pending deliveries
- **Geo Scope:** UAE, Bahrain, Qatar, Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia (Dammam and Jubail only)

Type	Amount	Type	Valid from	Valid to
LCL	75	WM	02/03/2026	Further notice
BUYERS CONSOL	1800/3000 USD	20/40'Dry	02/03/2026	Further notice
MOF	1800/3000 USD	20/40'Dry	02/03/2026	Further notice

**2) [Emergency Bunker Surcharge – EBS](#)**

This surcharge covers the impact of fuel availability, cost and mix outside of what is covered in our Fossil Fuel Fee (FFF); this means we are better positioned to have the necessary access to fuel and the ability to move it to necessary locations. EBS will be applied as below from 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026 onwards, it will be applied on all trades worldwide

Scope	Direction	20DRY	40DRY/H DRY	LCL W/m
All Long Hauls	Headhaul	200 USD	400 USD	USD 10
All Long Hauls	Backhaul	100 USD	200 USD	USD 5
Intra Trades	All directions	100 USD	200 USD	USD 5

**3) [Emergency Contingency Surcharge – ECS](#)**

- **LCL service:** LCL (cfs/cfs), Buyer's Consol (cfs/cy) and MOF (cy/cy & cy/cfs)
- **Scope:** Relevant applicable trades as per Maersk official announcement
- **Scope:** Refer to attached ECS overview on trade basis

Due to the ongoing instability in the Strait of Hormuz, the Carrier hereby notifies that an increase to ocean freight rates will be applied under individual service contracts. This adjustment is made pursuant to Clause 22 of the Carrier's

House Bill of Lading, which permits the modification or termination of the contract of carriage under specified circumstances.

Freight levels for these shipments will be updated to reflect the increased operational costs arising from the closure of Strait of Hormuz.

In accordance with its contractual rights under **Clause 22**, the Carrier will implement this increase with immediate effect.

The revised ocean freight rates will apply to all shipments currently in the Carrier's possession or control.

We are continuing to monitor the situation closely and remain committed to keeping you informed of further developments. Your local Maersk Logistics & Services representative is available to discuss the impact on your shipments and support alternative planning where required.

We appreciate your understanding and continued partnership during this period of heightened disruption.

**Looking for more information?**

We will continue to keep you updated on the situation, via our [Red Sea / Gulf of Aden / Hormuz Strait situation page](#). Should you have further questions please do not hesitate to reach out to your local Maersk representative. Our teams are on hand to support with your planning, should you need any assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Maersk Logistics & Services International A/S

16<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Strait of Hormuz Closure – ECS surcharge Overview**  
**UAE, Qatar, Saudi Arabia (Dammam and Jubail), Bahrain, Kuwait, Iraq and Oman (Sohar)**  
 From Maersk Logistics & Services International A/S

Trade lane	Trade	16-03-2026 Version 2		
		Emergency Contingency Surcharge (ECS)		
		Actual vessel sailing date 06th March 2026		
		20 DRY	40DRY/HDRY	LCL per W/m
Middle East Jordan to North Europe (E3W - IME to NEUR)	E3W	600	600	15
Middle East Red Sea (Jeddah, King Abdullah) to North Europe (E3W - IME to NEUR)	E3W	600	600	15
Oman (excluding Sohar) to North Europe (E3W - IME to NEUR) (Effective 6th Mar, earlier this was part of the Middle East Gulf)	E3W	2400	3800	95
Oman (excluding Sohar) to West Coast South America / Caribbean / Central America Effective 6th March	B1S	3300	4500	113
Oman (excluding Sohar) to East Africa - effective 6th March	Z3NE	1800	3000	75
Oman (excluding Sohar) to East Coast North America - effective 6th March	M3W	1800	3000	75
Oman (excluding Sohar) to East Coast South America effective 6th March	X5ML	3300	4500	113
Oman (excluding Sohar) to Far East effective 6th March	F1E	1800	3000	75
Middle East Red Sea (Jordan, Jeddah & King Abdullah) to Far East effective 6th March	F2E	1800	3000	75
Oman (excluding Sohar) to India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Maldives, Pakistan and Middle East Red Sea (Jordan, Jeddah & King Abdullah) - effective 6th March	F4R	1800	3000	75
Oman (excluding Sohar) to Mediterranean - effective 6th March	E4W	2400	3800	95
Oman (excluding Sohar) to Oceania - effective 6th March	O4S	1800	3000	75
Oman (excluding Sohar) to South Africa - effective 6th March	S5S	1800	3000	75
Oman (excluding Sohar) to West Africa - Effective 6th March	W2MW	2450	3650	91
Oman (excluding Sohar) to West Coast North America - effective 6th March	M4W	1800	3000	75
Middle East Red Sea (Jordan, Jeddah & King Abdullah) to India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Maldives, Pakistan and Oman (excluding Sohar) - effective 6th March	F4R	1800	3000	75
IBS ( India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Maldives) and Pakistan into Middle East Red Sea ports (Jordan, Jeddah, and King Abdullah) - effective 6th March	F4R	1800	3000	75
IBS ( India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Maldives) and Pakistan into Oman (excluding Sohar) - effective 6th March	F4R	1800	3000	75
Middle East Red Sea (Jordan, Jeddah & King Abdullah) to East Coast North America - effective 6th March	M3W	1800	3000	75
Middle East Red Sea (Jordan, Jeddah & King Abdullah) to West Coast North America- effective 6th March	M4W	1800	3000	75
Middle East Red Sea (Jordan, Jeddah & King Abdullah) to Oceania - effective 6th March	O4S	1800	3000	75
Middle East Jordan to West Africa - effective 6th March	W2MW	2450	3650	91
Middle East Red Sea (Jordan, Jeddah & King Abdullah) to South Africa - effective 6th March	S5S	1800	3000	75
Middle East Gulf to North Europe (E3W - IME to NEUR) including Oman (but Sohar only)	E3W	600	800	20
Middle East Gulf to Mediterranean (E4W - IME to MED) including Oman (but Sohar only)	E4W	600	800	20
Middle East Jordan to Mediterranean (E4W - IME to MED)	E4W	600	600	15
Middle East Red Sea (Jeddah, King Abdullah) to Mediterranean (E4W - Med to MED)	E4W	600	600	15
Middle East/Indian Subcont. to West Africa (W2MW - IME to WAF) excluding Oman and Middle Red Sea	W2MW	400	300	8
UAE, Qatar, Oman (only Sohar) to West Africa (W2MW - UAE to WAF)	W2MW	650	650	16
Middle East Gulf (Dammam, Al Jubail , Bahrain, Kuwait, Yemen) to West Africa (W2MW - IME to WAF)	W2MW	650	650	16
Middle East Red Sea (Jeddah, King Abdullah) to West Africa (W2MW - IME to WAF)	W2MW	700	900	23
Middle East Red Sea (Jordan, Jeddah & King Abdullah) to East Africa (Z3ME to EAF)*	Z3ME	300	600	15
Middle East (excl. Red Sea ports but including Sohar/Oman)/Indian Subcontinent to Sudan (Z3ME)	Z3ME	1,000	1,000	25
Middle East (excl. Red Sea ports but including Sohar/Oman)/Indian Subcontinent to Djibouti, Somalia, Ethiopia (Z3ME - IME to HOA)	Z3ME	300	600	15

Trade lane	Trade	16-03-2026 Version 2		
		Emergency Contingency Surcharge (ECS)		
		Actual vessel sailing date 06th March 2026		
		20 DRY	40DRY/HDRY	LCL per W/m
West Coast South America/Caribbean /Central Americas to Middle East/Indian Subcont. (B1N - CAM/CAR/WCSA to IME) Removal of ECS for Aqaba and King Abdullah terminal from 21 Feb	B1N	300	600	15
East Coast South America to Middle East/Indian Subcont. (X5LM - ECSA to IME)	X5LM	300	600	15
Middle East Gulf to West Cost South America/Caribbean/Central America (B1S - IME to CAM.CAR.WCSA) (excluding Oman but including Sohar effective 6th Mar)	B1S	1500	1500	38
Middle East Red Sea (Jordan, Jeddah & King Abdullah) to West Cost South America/Caribbean/Central America (B1S - IME to CAM.CAR.WCSA)	B1S	700	800	20
North Europe to Middle East/Indian Subcont. (Except Red Sea ports) (E3E - NEUR to IME)	E3E	300	600	15
North Europe to Middle East/Indian Subcont. (Only to Red Sea ports) (E3E - NEUR to IME) *	E3E	300	600	15
North Europe to Middle East/Indian Subcont. (E3E - ONLY: EUR to SAJED SAKAP JOAHZ and OMSLV)	E3E			-
Mediterranean to Middle East/Indian Subcont. (Except RedSea ports) (E4E - MED to IME)	E4E	300	600	15
Mediterranean to Middle East/Indian Subcont. (Only to RedSea ports) (E4E - MED to IME) *	E4E	300	600	15
Europe/Middle East to Oceania (O4S – EUR/IME to OCE) ** excluding Oman (but including Sohar) and Middle East Red Sea	O4S	50	100	3
South and East India to East Coast South America (X5ML - IME to ECSA)	X5ML	600	400	10
Sri Lanka & Bangladesh to East Coast South America (X5ML - IME to ECSA)	X5ML	600	400	10
Middle East Gulf to East Coast South America (X5ML - IME to ECSA)	X5ML	1,500	1,500	38
Middle East Red Sea (Jeddah, King Abdullah, Jordan) to East Coast South America (X5ML - IME to ECSA)	X5ML	200	300	8
South Africa to Oman (excluding Sohar) and Middle East Red Sea Ports (Jordan, Jeddah, and King Abdullah) <b>Effective ATD 17th March 2026</b>	S5N	1800	3000	75
North America to Oman (excluding Sohar) and Middle East Red Sea Ports (Jordan, Jeddah, and King Abdullah) <b>Effective ATD 17th March 2026</b>	M3E	1800	3000	75
West Coast South America/Caribbean /Central Americas to Oman (excluding Sohar) and Middle East Red Sea Ports (Jordan, Jeddah, and King Abdullah) <b>Effective ATD 17th March 2026</b>	B1N	1800	3000	75
West Africa to Oman (excluding Sohar) and Middle East Red Sea Ports (Jordan, Jeddah, and King Abdullah) <b>Effective ATD 17th March 2026</b>	W2WM	1800	3000	75
South Africa to Khor Fakkan, UAE and Sohar, Oman <b>Effective ATD 17th March 2026</b>	S5N	1800	3000	75
West Africa to Khor Fakkan, UAE and Sohar, Oman <b>Effective ATD 17th March 2026</b>	W2WM	1800	3000	75
East Africa to Khor Fakkan, UAE and Sohar, Oman <b>Effective ATD 17th March 2026</b>	Z3EM	1800	3000	75
Oceania to Khor Fakkan, UAE and Sohar, Oman <b>Effective ATD 17th March 2026</b>	O4N	1800	3000	75
West Coast South America/Caribbean /Central Americas to Khor Fakkan, UAE and Sohar, Oman <b>Effective ATD 17th March 2026</b>	B1N	1800	3000	75
East Coast South America to Khor Fakkan, UAE and Sohar, Oman <b>Effective ATD 17th March 2026</b>	X5LM	1800	3000	75
North Europe to Khor Fakkan, UAE and Sohar, Oman <b>Effective ATD 17th March 2026</b>	E3E	1800	3000	75
Mediterranean to Khor Fakkan, UAE and Sohar, Oman <b>Effective ATD 17th March 2026</b>	E4E	1800	3000	75
North America to Khor Fakkan, UAE and Sohar, Oman <b>Effective ATD 17th March 2026</b>	M3E	1800	3000	75
West Coast North America to Khor Fakkan, UAE and Sohar, Oman <b>Effective ATD 17th March 2026</b>	M4E	1800	3000	75

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