



The American Companies

"NEWS-UPDATE"

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ILWU SLOWDOWNS ARE RECOGNIZED AS NEGOTIATIONS AND PROGRESS CONTINUE

As reported by many sources, slowdowns continue at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach while both the International Longshore and Warehouse Union and Pacific Maritime Association report "progress" in their contract negotiation efforts.

The reported slowdowns are based on "unit breaks" that the dock workers take, which are traditionally staggered. During the negotiation process, it is being reported that the breaks are now being taken all at once by the dock workers and thus shuts down the terminals for about 15 minutes each morning and again for 15 minutes in the afternoon.

"The cumulative impact of the unit breaks has been reported to reduce cargo-handling productivity by about 10 to 15 percent at each facility that is affected," according to the PMA.

It is also being noted by the PMA that their analysis is indicating further impact on the productivity of other ports such as Oakland, Seattle and Tacoma as job actions may have started to spread further north.

There still does not appear to be any major impact on container handling and movement that should be alarming just yet and negotiations are set to continue taking place this week at the PMA headquarters in San Francisco, so there is optimism that progress is taking place.

We will continue to keep you advised as to the progress of these negotiations and any further developments.

Sincerely,

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