

AMERICAN SHIPPING COMPANY "News Flash"

July 20, 2023

ILWU Canada Attempts to Strike Again, Then Withdraws the Notice

After a thirteen-day strike that ended with a tentative agreement between the ILWU (Canada) and British Columbia Maritime Employers Association, the terms of the four-year agreement were rejected on Tuesday. This prompted another walkout of over 7000 ILWU dock workers with a job action late that afternoon and later deemed illegal by the Canada Industrial Relations Board.

Citing dissatisfaction of the tentative agreement driven by a federal mediator, the ILWU Canada took the correct and legal action on Wednesday morning (July 19th) by issuing the required 72-Hour notice they must provide for any strike action. This would have then legally allowed another strike to take place as early as this Sunday morning, July 22nd.

As of late Wednesday afternoon, ILWU Canada president, Rob Ashton, announced that they were withdrawing the notice immediately and calling off any threat of a strike.

More details will certainly be reported in the coming days, and what, if any, intentions the ILWU may have to either ratify their agreement or whether there is still any consideration to take action against the tentative agreement.

The situation is considered "fluid," but for now, labor will resume and continue to focus on the backlog that was created from the earlier strike that lasted from July 1st to July 13th.

We will provide any updates of significance.

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