

Safcor Panalpina's bulletin to our valued partners

13 April 2011

Durban Delays Update

Problems with the new traffic management system at Durban harbour continue to cause delays, which have now begun to impact both importers and exporters at other South African ports. Clients are asked to note that the Maersk Varna will be omitting Port Elizabeth on her current voyage. Import containers for Port Elizabeth will be transhipped at Durban to the Maersk Dryden, ETA Port Elizabeth 1st May. The Maersk Varna will also bypass Cape Town on the inward leg of her current voyage. Cape Town import containers will be retained on board and only discharged at Cape Town on this ship's return journey.

Transnet says that it has brought in outside service providers to help employees understand and become proficient in using the new systems and that IT system challenges are being addressed and processes re-written where necessary.

The company also says that truck turn around times within the port are improving as is cargo handling and rail move rates, although these are still not at the required levels.

Strong South-easterly winds are expected at the port in the next few days, becoming North-easterly early next week. These could possibly affect port operations.

Safcor Panalpina will continue to monitor the situation and advise clients of any new developments.

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