

18th December 2023

Dear Customer,

**RE: THE GREAT OCEAN LINE PTE. LTD. ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE CURRENT SITUATION
IN THE BAB EL-MANDARB STRAIT, SOUTHERN RED SEA AND THE GULF OF ADEN**

Dear Sir/Madam,

With grave concern, we have noticed the repeated and increasing missile attacks towards commercial Ocean Vessels in the Bab el-Mandarb Strait, Southern Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden which in the process is putting lives of seafarers at risk and being a security risk for cargo and Ocean Vessels. We are in contact with our various Partners and monitoring all developments on this rapidly developing situation closely. Ensuring the integrity of your supply chain movements remains our utmost priority.

Over the past few days, an increasing number of Ocean Carriers have announced a total halt or pausing of transit via the Suez Canal for security reasons. Instead, Ocean Vessels will take a deviation around Africa. We expect further announcements from Ocean Carriers to follow soon.

Please be informed that these re-routing's, caused by acts of war or terrorism beyond our control, will inevitably lead to increased transit times and further ripple effects could be an increased number of blank sailings. It is further expected that there might be equipment shortages and congestions at various Ports. There will also potential be a hike in various rates (including a potential War Surcharge being imposed).

Please be assured that you have our strongest support and commitment to keeping any disruption of your supply chain down to a minimum on a best endeavour basis. Your local DB Schenker Ocean Freight Teams will guide you and are on standby for any questions or concerns that you might have.

Yours faithfully,

Gursharan Sran

Mr. Gursharan Sran
CEO/Director
THE GREAT OCEAN LINE PTE. LTD.

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